

Contemporary Birthdays.

- September 4, 1845. Sir Thomas Barlow, Bart., K.C.V.O., F.R.S.
 September 6, 1870. Prof. Frederick G. Donnan, C.B.E., F.R.S.
 September 6, 1876. Prof. J. J. R. MacLeod, F.R.S.
 September 7, 1877. Sir John Cadman, K.C.M.G.
 September 9, 1867. Mr. Robert Ludwig Mond.
 September 10, 1859. Prof. J. Norman Collie, F.R.S.
 September 11, 1877. Dr. J. H. Jeans, Sec. R.S.

SIR THOMAS BARLOW, to whom congratulations are due on the anniversary of his eighty-first birthday, is Physician Extraordinary to H.M. the King. President of the Royal College of Physicians, 1910-15, he was also president of the International Medical Congress of 1913.

Prof. DONNAN, occupant of the chair of general chemistry in the University of London, was educated at Queen's University, Belfast, and at Leipzig and Berlin. From 1904 until 1913 he was professor (the first to be elected) of physical chemistry in the Muspratt Laboratory of the University of Liverpool. Prof. Donnan is a Longstaff medallist of the Chemical Society.

Prof. MACLEOD, Nobel laureate in physiology and medicine in 1923 (jointly with Dr. F. G. Banting), was born at Cluny, Perthshire. He was educated at the Grammar School of Aberdeen and the University there. Six and twenty years ago he was demonstrator in physiology, and afterwards lecturer in bio-chemistry, at the London Hospital, and for a time he was working with Dr. Leonard Hill on the physiological effects produced on animals by compressed air. From 1901 until 1903 he was Mackinnon research student under the Royal Society, taking up afterwards the chair of physiology in the Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. In 1918 he was elected to a similar post in the University of Toronto. The Nobel prize was awarded for the discovery of insulin.

SIR JOHN CADMAN was born at Silverdale, Staffordshire. He was educated at the High School, Newcastle-under-Lyme, and Armstrong College. Formerly a mining engineer and colliery manager, he established a practical acquaintance with all branches of the mining industry. Sir John is professor of mining and petroleum technology in the University of Birmingham, and technical adviser to the Anglo-Persian Oil Company. He is an Officer of the Legion of Honour.

Mr. ROBERT L. MOND was born at Farnworth, Lancashire, and educated at Cheltenham and Peterhouse, Cambridge. He is honorary secretary of the Davy-Faraday Laboratory. In recent years Mr. Mond has rendered signal service as a student of Egyptology and conductor of excavations.

Dr. NORMAN COLLIE has been, since 1902, professor of organic chemistry in the University of London. A past president of the Alpine Club, he is an ardent mountaineer.

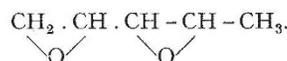
Dr. JEANS, one of the secretaries of the Royal Society, was educated at Merchant Taylors' School and Trinity College, Cambridge. Second wrangler in 1898, he was Smith's prizeman in 1900, and sometime Isaac Newton student. From 1905 until 1909 he was professor of applied mathematics in the University of Princeton. In 1919 the Royal Society allotted him a Royal medal for researches in applied mathematics; in 1922 the Royal Astronomical Society awarded him its medal for his contributions to the theories of cosmogony.

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Societies and Academies.

PARIS.

Academy of Sciences, July 12.—Charles Moureu, Charles Dufraisse, and C. L. Butler: Rubrene peroxide: new experiments. Rubrene peroxide, when dissociated by rise of temperature, emits light. In an earlier note it was shown that light was essential to the combination of oxygen with rubrene.—Miécislas Biernacki: The theorem of Lucas and its generalisations.—J. Neyman: A property of the law of probability which obeys the coefficient of variation.—Jules Drach: The integration of partial differential equations of the second order and the explicit use of the characteristic variables of Ampère.—Decros, Rebuffet, and J. Villey: An electrometric recording dynamometer.—N. Gunther: The movement of a liquid filling a domain with multiple connexion which is displaced.—Ernest Esclançon: The asymmetry of sidereal space and the phenomenon of tides.—Marcel Laporte: The measurement of the mobility of ions in gases.—R. Forrer: The structure of the atomic magnet. Its normal position with respect to the network and residual magnetisation.—A. Bogros: The resonance of lithium vapour. The resonance line of the alkali metals is known to be the first doublet of the principal series. Direct experimental proof of this has been given for sodium and caesium (Wood): the author now gives experiments proving it for lithium.—J. Heyrovský and B. Souček: The electrolytic potential of iron amalgam. From measurement of the electrolytic potentials of iron amalgam, it is concluded that this amalgam should be metastable and decompose spontaneously, with liberation of energy, into a mixture of solid iron and mercury.—J. Consigny: The stopping power of some metals for α rays.—A. Hamy: The absorption of iodine by precipitated magnesia. Studies in the amount of iodine absorbed as a function of time, concentrations of iodine and of potassium iodide.—J. Dumont: The separation of the finer particles and colloidal constituents of the soil by centrifugation. The solid matter remaining in a clay suspension in water after standing for a day can be separated into two portions by a high velocity centrifuge, the portion remaining in suspension being considered as a true colloid.—Marcel Bouis: The synthesis of allene hydrocarbons. In an earlier communication a method was given for preparing ethylallene starting from vinyl ethyl carbinol. It is now shown that the method is generally applicable, the vinylalkyl carbinol, $\text{CH}_2 : \text{CH} . \text{CH}(\text{OH}) . \text{R}$, leading to the allene $\text{R} . \text{CH} = \text{C} = \text{CH}_2$.—Charles Prévost: A new erythrite. The glycols (*cis* and *trans*) $\text{CH}_2 . \text{OH} . \text{CH} : \text{CH} . \text{CH}(\text{OH}) . \text{CH}_3$ were converted into the ether oxides



Only from the *trans* glycol was sufficient ether oxide obtained to convert by hydration with water into the corresponding erythrite.—E. Rothé: The nature of the maxima inscribed in seismograms.—Albert Baldit: The periods of constancy of temperature at a station of medium altitude.—J. Beauverie: The modes of degeneration of the chloroplasts, particularly in parasitism.—Mlle. H. Popovici: Contribution to the cytological study of the laticifers.—A. L. Guyot: Some parasitic fungi of the roots of Phanerogams.—A. Rizzolo and A. B. Chouchard: The quantitative study of the action of morphine on the cerebral cortex.—G. A. Nadson and N. Meisl: The mechanism of the action of chloroform on the protoplasm, the nucleus and the