

Contemporary Birthdays.

- Oct. 31, 1872. Sir E. J. Russell, F.R.S.
 Nov. 1, 1857. Prof. John Joly, F.R.S.
 Nov. 1, 1876. Capt. Henry P. Douglas, R.N.
 Nov. 4, 1855. Prof. Frederick Orpen Bower, F.R.S.
 Nov. 5, 1876. Prof. Harold B. Fantham.
 Nov. 5, 1848. Dr. James W. L. Glaisher, F.R.S.

Sir JOHN RUSSELL was born at Frampton, Gloucestershire, and educated at Aberystwyth and the Victoria University, Manchester. Head of the chemical department, Wye Agricultural College, from 1901 until 1907, he afterwards joined the staff of the Rothamsted Experimental Station (Lawes Agricultural Trust), succeeding Sir Daniel Hall in 1912 as director. Sir John is the author of important works on general agricultural science, and on soil biology.

Prof. JOHN JOLY's scientific career has throughout been connected with the University of Dublin. Early he was a demonstrator there of civil engineering and afterwards of experimental physics, while for the past twenty-nine years he has occupied the chair of geology and mineralogy. Since 1901 Prof. Joly has been one of the editors of the *Philosophical Magazine*. President of Section C (Geology) at the British Association's Dublin meeting in 1908, he gave an address on "Uranium and Geology." The Royal Society awarded him a Royal medal in 1910 for his researches in physics and geology. Later the Geological Society allotted him its Murchison medal in recognition of his inquiries respecting the thermal properties of minerals, the relations of radioactivity to geology, and age correlations of the earth. Prof. Joly has made important contributions to the subject of colour photography; also to the theory of biological processes, such as the ascent of sap in vegetation. He is Hon. LL.D. Michigan University.

Capt. DOUGLAS, hydrographer of the Navy since 1924, was engaged in Admiralty survey work from 1897 until 1910; afterwards he was Superintendent of Charts. He is the inventor of various appliances used in navigation.

Prof. BOWER, emeritus professor of botany in the University of Glasgow, was born at Ripon. Educated at Repton, he graduated at Trinity College, Cambridge. Following teaching work in botany at the Royal College of Science, South Kensington, lasting until 1885 (the courses were held in Huxley's laboratory), Prof. Bower removed to Glasgow. In 1909 he was awarded the Linnean Society's gold medal, and in the following year the Royal Society allotted him a Royal medal, both in recognition of distinctive and unremitting services to botanical science.

Prof. FANTHAM was educated at King Edward's School, Birmingham, the Mason College there, University College, London, and Christ's College, Cambridge. Sometime lecturer in parasitology at the School of Tropical Medicine, Liverpool, he became demonstrator in biology at St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, London, and afterwards went as assistant to Prof. Nuttall at Cambridge. In 1917 he was appointed to the chair of zoology in the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa.

Dr. GLAISHER was born at Lewisham. Educated at St. Paul's School, he passed into Trinity College, Cambridge (of which he is a fellow), graduating second wrangler. Author of many original papers in pure mathematics, and editor of two mathematical journals, the Royal Society awarded him its Sylvester medal in 1913. Dr. Glaisher has been twice president of the Royal Astronomical Society.

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Official Publications Received.

BRITISH AND COLONIAL.

Western Australia. Annual Progress Report of the Geological Survey for the Year 1925. Pp. 37+7 plates. (Perth: Fred. Wm. Simpson.)

Publications of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, Victoria. Vol. 3, No. 9: The Velocity Curves of 12 Lacertae and the Radial Velocities of 48 Stars. By William H. Christie. Pp. 209-223. Vol. 3, No. 10: Four Double-Lined F-Type Spectroscopic Binaries. By W. E. Harper. Pp. 225-245+1 plate. Vol. 3, No. 11: Three Spectroscopic Binary Orbits. By J. S. Plaskett. Pp. 247-264. Vol. 3, No. 12: The Orbits of Two Double-Lined Spectroscopic Binaries. By W. E. Harper. Pp. 265-273. (Victoria, B.C.)

Report of the Council of the Natural History Society of Northumberland, Durham and Newcastle-upon-Tyne, intended to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society, 21st October 1926. Pp. 42. (Newcastle-upon-Tyne.)

India: Live-Stock Statistics, 1924-25. Report on the Second Census of Live-Stock, Ploughs and Carts in India, held between December 1924 and April 1925. Pp. 8. (Calcutta: Government of India Press.) 2 annas; 3d.

Report and Balance Sheet of the National Botanic Gardens of South Africa, Kirstenbosch, Newlands, Cape (and the Karoo Garden, Whitehill, near Matjesfontein), for the Year ending 31st December 1925. Pp. 24. (Kirstenbosch, C.P.)

Animal Breeding Research Department, the University, Edinburgh. Report of the Director for the Year April 1st 1925 to March 31st 1926 (being the 6th Annual Report). Pp. 28. (Edinburgh.)

The National Institute for Research in Dairying: Its Work and Needs. By the Staff of the Institute. Pp. 52. (Shinfield, Reading.)

The Scientific Proceedings of the Royal Dublin Society. Vol. 18 (N.S.), No. 25: Photo-electric Measurements of Illumination in relation to Plant Distribution, Part 1. By Dr. W. R. G. Atkins and Dr. H. H. Poole. Pp. 277-298. (Dublin: Royal Dublin Society; London: Williams and Norgate, Ltd.) 2s.

FOREIGN.

Sitzungsberichte der Physikalisch-medizinischen Sozietät zu Erlangen. Herausgegeben im Auftrag der Sozietät von Oskar Schulz. 56 und 57 Band, 1924, 1925. Pp. xx+494. (Erlangen.)

Journal of the College of Agriculture, Hokkaido Imperial University, Sapporo, Japan. Vol. 17, Part 2: Contributions to the Knowledge of Abscission and Exfoliation of Floral Organs. By Prof. Isawo Namikawa. Pp. 63-131. Vol. 18, Part 2: Erster Beitrag zur Ichneumoniden Japans. Von Toichi Uchida. Pp. 43-173+Tafeln 6-10. (Sapporo.)

Department of Commerce: U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey. Serial No. 350: Report on the Readjustment of the First-Order Triangulation Net of the Western Part of the United States. By Oscar S. Adams. Pp. 9. (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office.) 5 cents.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers. List of Corporate Members, and of Non-Corporate Members (Graduates, Students and Associates) of the Institution, including a List of Names arranged Geographically. (Corrected to 1st September 1925.) Pp. 367. (London.)

List of Members of the Institution of Civil Engineers. Addresses corrected to 1 July 1926. Pp. 315. (London.)

The Institution of Mechanical Engineers. List of Members, 1st May 1926. Pp. 433. (London.)

Publication No. 586: Recent Improvements in the Design and Construction of Surveying Instruments. Pp. 11. (London: Cooke, Troughton and Simms, Ltd.)

Wild-Barfield High-Temperature Electric Furnaces for the Heat Treatment of High Speed Steel and General Purposes requiring Temperatures up to 1400° C. (Section K.) Pp. 8. (London: Automatic and Electric Furnaces, Ltd.)

Photo-micrographic Apparatus and Accessories. (Reference: Mikro 401.) Pp. 107. (London: Carl Zeiss (London) Ltd.)

Publication No. 1: Astronomical and Optical Instruments. A History of the Foundation of the Company and of its Achievements in the British Optical Industry. Pp. 48. (Newcastle-on-Tyne: Sir Howard Grubb, Parsons and Co.)

Diary of Societies.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30.

INSTITUTE OF METALS (North-East Coast Local Section, jointly with Institute of British Foundrymen) (at Neville Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne), at 6.15.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE (Study of Disease in Children, Section) (at Children's Hospital, Birmingham).

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1.

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN, at 5.—General Meeting.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, at 5.—C. E. Shattock: Demonstration of Scrotal Tumours.

SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS (at Geological Society), at 5.30.—Miss A. Ashberry: Some Products of a Small Machine Shop.

CHILD-STUDY SOCIETY (at Central Hall, Westminster), at 6.—Sir M. E. Sadler: Sandford and Merton.

INSTITUTION OF AUTOMOBILE ENGINEERS (Bristol Centre) (at Merchant Venturers' Technical College, Bristol), at 6.45.—G. F. Mucklow: The Effect of Reduced Intake-Air Pressure and of Hydrogen on the Performance of the Slow-speed Solid Injection Engine.

ARISTOTELIAN SOCIETY (at University of London Club), at 8.—Prof. C. Lloyd Morgan: Objects under Reference (Presidential Address).

SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY (London Section) (at Chemical Society), at 8.—Dr. H. Drake-Law: Artificial Colours used in Foodstuffs.

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS, at 8.30.—Presidential Address.