

The following doctorates have been conferred:—*D.Sc. in Botany* on Mr. T. G. Hill, University reader in plant physiology, for a thesis entitled "The Water Economy of Maritime Plants"; *D.Sc. in Physics* on Mr. S. C. Roy (King's College), for a thesis entitled "On the Total Photo-electric Emission of Electrons from Metals as a Function of Temperature of the Exciting Radiation"; *D.Sc. (Engineering)* on Mr. L. B. Pfeil (Imperial College, Royal School of Mines, and Battersea Polytechnic), for a thesis entitled, (1) "The Deformation of Iron, with particular reference to Single Crystals," and (2) "The Effect of Cold Work on the Structure and Hardness of Single Iron Crystals, etc."; *D.Sc. in Chemistry* on Mr. T. H. Durrans, for a thesis entitled "The Preparation of Sulphuryl Chloride and the Chlorination of Substances of the Aromatic Series"; together with subsidiary contributions.

Dr. Percival Hartley has been awarded the William Julius Mickle Fellowship for 1927 in respect of the work which he has carried out during the past five years on special problems in connexion with diphtheria and other problems of a more general character in connexion with serology and immunity. The Fellowship this year is of the value of about 280*l.*

THE Educational Commissioner with the Government of India in his Report for 1924-25 gives a new and very convenient summary of statistics showing totals of 88,750 students, 5700 teachers and 7500 graduations in arts and science of the fifteen universities. 52 per cent. of the students, 50 per cent. of the teachers, and 48 per cent. of the graduations belonged to the two universities of Calcutta and Madras; Bombay and the Panjab account for 25 per cent. of the students, 21 per cent. of the teachers, and 20 per cent. of the graduations; leaving 29 per cent., 23 per cent. and 32 per cent. respectively as the share of the remaining eleven universities. These eleven, namely, the recently reconstituted Allahabad University and the ten new universities of Aligarh, Benares, Dacca, Delhi, Hyderabad (Osmania University), Lucknow, Mysore, Nagpur, Patna, Rangoon, had in the aggregate not much more than two-thirds of the number of students of the single university at Calcutta. An act constituting a new "Andhra" university was passed in 1926. Every one of the universities had a faculty of arts; all except the Osmania University of Hyderabad (Deccan) had a faculty of science; all except Aligarh and Mysore a faculty of law; all except Aligarh, Allahabad, Benares, Dacca, Delhi, Nagpur, and Osmania, a faculty of medicine. There were faculties of education at Aligarh, Madras, Nagpur, Patna, and Rangoon; of theology at Aligarh, Benares, and the Osmania University; of agriculture at Madras and the Panjab; of forestry at Rangoon; of engineering at Calcutta, Madras, Mysore, Patna, and Rangoon; of economics at Allahabad and Rangoon; of commerce at Allahabad, Lucknow, and the Panjab. The total expenditure on universities, arts colleges, professional colleges, and intermediate colleges in India in 1924-25 was Rs. 83,76,000, Rs. 1,06,28,000, Rs. 65,16,000, and Rs. 28,00,000 respectively; in all Rs. 2,83,20,000 or, say, 2,124,000*l.* The sources from which the expenditure was met were: Government funds Rs. 1,43,29,000, district board and municipal funds Rs. 76,000, fees Rs. 1,08,43,000, other sources Rs. 30,73,000. Universities, notably Bombay and Calcutta, have received in recent years substantial additions to their resources through the generosity of private donors, but it will be seen that they are in the main dependent on Government funds and fees.

### Contemporary Birthdays.

December 26, 1838. Sir W. Boyd Dawkins, F.R.S.  
 December 26, 1881. Sir Thomas Lewis, F.R.S.  
 December 28, 1882. Prof. A. S. Eddington, F.R.S.  
 December 28, 1853. Dr. Alexander Scott, F.R.S.  
 December 30, 1850. Dr. William Garnett.  
 December 31, 1849. Prof. Sydney H. Vines, F.R.S.

Sir WILLIAM BOYD DAWKINS, honorary professor of geology and palæontology in the University of Manchester, celebrates his eighty-eighth birthday to-morrow. We offer our very hearty congratulations. A fellow of the Geological Society for sixty-five years, he will, next year, attain diamond jubilee fellowship of the Royal Society. He is the author of two classical works, "Cave Hunting" and "Early Man in Britain."

Sir THOMAS LEWIS, born at Cardiff, was educated at Clifton College; his medical training was conducted at University College Hospital, London. Eminent in long-continued developmental studies relating to the mechanism and clinical disorders of the mammalian heart-beat, he has established conclusions of prime importance in physiology and practical medicine. Sir Thomas was Croonian lecturer at the Royal Society in 1917, delivering an address on "The Excitation Wave in the Heart."

Prof. EDDINGTON was born at Kendal. A student at Owens College, Manchester, he graduated at Trinity College, Cambridge, as senior wrangler, and was Smith prizeman. He was chief assistant at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, from 1906 until 1913, leaving this post to become Plumian professor of astronomy in the University of Cambridge. Prof. Eddington was president of the Royal Astronomical Society, 1921-23; in 1924 he received its gold medal for his work on star-streaming, on the internal constitution of a star, and on generalised relativity. In the same year he was awarded the Henry Draper medal of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States.

Dr. A. SCOTT, a native of Selkirk, and educated there at the Grammar School, graduated at the University of Edinburgh, and also at Trinity College, Cambridge. From 1896 until 1911 he was superintendent of the Davy-Faraday Research Laboratory, Royal Institution. Dr. Scott was president of the Chemical Society, 1915-17, after many years of service to the Society in various administrative capacities.

Dr. GARNETT, born at Portsea, was educated at the City of London School and Royal School of Mines. Proceeding to St. John's College, Cambridge, he graduated fifth wrangler, becoming later a fellow of his college. Entering the Cavendish Laboratory, he had the distinction of being the first demonstrator of physics there under James Clerk Maxwell. After teaching at University College, Nottingham, he did valuable work as principal of the Durham College of Science. The advancement of technical education in London and elsewhere claimed earnest attention at his hands; from 1904 until 1915 he was educational adviser to the London County Council. Dr. Garnett is Hon. D.C.L., Durham.

Prof. VINES, distinguished as a botanist, is a Londoner. Educated privately, he graduated at Christ's College, Cambridge. For many years he was Sherardian professor of botany in the University of Oxford. He was president of Section K (Botany) at the Bradford meeting of the British Association in 1900, when he gave, in his address, a conspectus of botany in the nineteenth century. Prof. Vines was president of the Linnean Society, 1900-4.