

development on the Prairie River, near Montreal, by The Montreal Island Power Co.; a 50,000 h.p. development at Spicer Fall, on the St. Francois River, by the Southern Canada Power Co.; a 40,000 h.p. plant at Mountain Fall, on the Rouge River, by the Canadian International Paper Co.; a 50,000 h.p. addition to the Ottawa River Power Company's installation at Bryson, and a number of lesser calibre.

The Quebec Streams Commission continues a very useful and beneficial work in fostering water-power development in the Province. The Commission has extensive storage reservoirs established on the St. Maurice and St. François Rivers, Kenogami Lake, Ste. Anne de Beaupré and Mitis Rivers, all of which are at present reported as filled to capacity, the various plants in connexion therewith being thus assured of an ample supply of water during the winter season. The Commission now has under its supervision the construction of the Baskatong reservoir on the Gatineau River, which is at the point of completion. This reservoir is formed in part by Baskatong Lake, and has a capacity of 94 billion cubic feet; it serves to regulate the flow to 8000 cubic feet per second. Other work of the Commission includes surveys and investigations of likely projects, some of which will materialise in due course.

The Province of Ontario includes, of course, the world-renowned Falls of Niagara, or, at any rate, the Canadian portion of them. The Ontario Hydro-Electric Power Commission recently completed two large stations, the Queenston on the Niagara River with 550,000 h.p. development, and the Cameron Falls on the Nipigon River with 75,000 h.p. development. The Queenston Station is now fully loaded, and for the further supply of the Niagara system the Commission has entered into a contract with the Gatineau Power Company for the delivery of from 230,000 to 260,000 h.p. over a 220,000 volt line, commencing next year.

In Northern Ontario, the Abitibi Power and Paper Co. has completed the transmission line from its 48,000 h.p. plant at Island Falls to the mills at Iroquois Falls. The town of Cochrane is also served from this line. A short distance to the west, the Spruce Falls Co. has in hand the

construction of works at Smoky Falls on the Mattagami River, which will result in the obtaining of 70,000 h.p., which will be utilised to supply energy to the Company's pulp and paper mills in the district.

In the extreme west of the Province, a 17,000 h.p. development at the western outlet of the Lake of the Woods has been achieved by the Keewatra Power Co. In the same district, the Bachus Brooks Co. has undertaken the construction of three power sites on the Seine River, which will have an aggregate capacity of 37,620 h.p. It is expected that all three will be completed and in use by the end of the current year.

Important developments are in progress in British Columbia and Manitoba, but as these are much farther afield than the writer's ambit, only very brief allusion will be made to them. In the former Province there are works in hand on the Kootenay and Powell Rivers, while the British Columbia Electric Railway Company's dam at the Alouette lakes, eight miles north of the Fraser River and about 25 miles due east of Vancouver, has proved a valuable addition to the supply at Stave Falls. A project promoted by the same Company at Bridge River is designed for an initial capacity of 54,000 h.p., which may ultimately reach a total of from 550,000 to 700,000 h.p. In Manitoba, the City of Winnipeg and the Manitoba Power Company have made notable additions to their respective installations.

There is not, however, quite the same inducement in the Western Provinces of Canada to exploit water-power as in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario. Coal is procurable, and although not of high quality, yet the power situation is not so compulsory or so drastic as if no alternative source were available. It is therefore in the Eastern Provinces, with their conspicuous lack of coal-mines, that the greatest and most sustained effort is being made to develop water-power, and the foregoing notice of the steps which are being taken to remedy a striking deficiency in the natural fuel resources of the country, so obviously prejudicial to the development of its industry and commerce, can scarcely fail to interest those whose duty it is to survey the field of Nature and exploit it in the interest and service of mankind.

The British Association at Leeds.

IN the phraseology of our transatlantic cousins, the Handbook for the Leeds meeting may have 'said a mouthful when it describes the area visited this year by the British Association as a 'conurbation,' but behind the word a very important feature of this year's meeting is struggling, if clumsily, for recognition. Proximity of population, and the interlacing of road and rail communication, make the area of the West Riding of Yorkshire one urban unit with a population between one and a quarter and one and a half millions. At the same time, local civic spirit proclaims its divisibility into independent units every whit as

strenuously as the physicist splits up the chemist's atom. The uninitiated visitor must not confound Dewsbury with Batley, or (as the provisional issue of the time-table did!) Halifax with Huddersfield; his crime is as great as that of the visitor to the Western States who assumes that Los Angeles and San Francisco are much the same thing.

The Englishman may pay about the same high price for grape fruits from California and Florida, but this is a mistake condemned on entirely different grounds, and equally emphatically, by both these States; similarly, local championship individualises the products of the local looms, and in its own

way has nothing to learn from the Florida story of the turtle masquerading in the Californian visitor's blankets as a bed bug, to demonstrate the scale of things in Florida. These civic rivalries key up the pace of life in the West Riding, both in industry and in sport. Local league cricket is in a different world from the country cricket of the west of England, and the Whitsuntide rival counties of the White and the Red Rose are credibly reported on that occasion to say "How do" on their first morning, afterwards nothing but "How's that!"

In such an area, visits to works and to educational and civic institutions by interested Sections, can be almost indefinitely continued, each city or borough having its own lesson to teach. Similarly, the Association's meeting is characterised by a very large extension of the list of citizens and childrens lectures, an experiment which will be watched with interest. These lectures are still somewhat a new development, and there is sometimes a difficulty in utilising the favourable opportunity to attract a general audience to listen to science which is created by the general publicity associated with the meeting.

The Handbook has a very interesting chapter by the editor, Dr. C. B. Fawcett, upon the location of Leeds, which began as a foothill town on the eastern edge of the Pennines. Its central position, halfway between the south coast and the Highlands, between London and Glasgow, and between North and Irish Seas is naturally emphasised. Leeds citizens at present consider themselves centrally placed also for the dissolution of the series of depressions which follow in melancholy succession

from the Atlantic and apparently disperse in rain down the flanks of the Pennines. At the same time, from the north of Scotland, from Ireland and the Isle of Man, and from the Riviera, holiday makers return with tales of days spent in sunshine.

August has had an exceptionally heavy rainfall record, and the visitors when in the gardens of their hosts are asked to remember that for most days of the last month it has been quite impossible to work upon the sodden land. Certain excursions have of necessity been altered. Section K (Botany) which always enjoys splashing about a swamp, as it did with success both at Southampton and in Canada, had arranged to visit the interesting marsh at Askham, near York, referred to by Mr. Sledge in his botanical notes in the Handbook. This marsh was quite inaccessible a few days before the meeting, and the Yorkshire papers still record flood conditions in various parts of the three Ridings that are quite remarkable for the season. This year the adventurous visitor to Gaping Ghyll should certainly find the 340-foot waterfall descending this pothole an impressive if damp experience.

The inaugural meeting was held in the Majestic Cinema, which possesses a very large auditorium. The overhead lighting was strengthened specially for the occasion, so that the audience should both be able to see and be seen.

On Tuesday, Sept. 6, the R. W. Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire, the Viscount Lascelles, K.G., will attend a meeting at the Masonic Hall, Great George Street, to welcome visiting members who are Freemasons. H.R.H. Princess Mary will also attend the Civic Reception to be held at the City Art Galleries on Thursday night, Sept. 1.

The Stone Age in Kenya.

THE brief reports which have reached England from time to time of the discoveries relating to the stone age in Kenya by Mr. L. S. B. Leakey (see NATURE, July 16, p. 85) have pointed to the possibility that evidence of great importance for the early history of man in this part of Africa might be brought to light at any moment. The announcement, therefore, that a preliminary report on the excavations recently carried out by Mr. Leakey and Mr. B. H. Newsam, with the advice and co-operation on geological points of Dr. Nilsson and Mr. E. J. Wayland of Uganda, would be presented to Section H (Anthropology) at the meeting of the British Association at Leeds had been received with considerable interest. In the absence of the authors, who will return to England later in September, the report was communicated to the Section by Dr. A. C. Haddon.

The work covered by the report is in the nature of a preliminary survey and deals with the results of excavations in two areas, one in the neighbourhood of Lake Nakuru on the floor of the Rift Valley, the second at Upper Elmenteita.

Before dealing with the present discoveries, it may be recalled that ever since 1893, implements and obsidian flakes, some accompanied by pottery,

have been found in Kenya. Some of these were surface finds, others were situated at a depth of two to three feet. Some, again, were obtained from the high level beaches of the Rift Valley. Among them also were implements comparable to the palaeolithic implements of Europe, and in some cases they were associated with the remains of extinct animals. Similar finds have been made in Uganda, and Mr. Wayland has classified these implements into three divisions. Reference may also be made to the skeleton found in the Oldway Gorge in 1914 which was associated with fauna now extinct.

Turning now to the results of Mr. Leakey's first year's work on the Nakuru site evidence was found for at least two periods of high lake-level reaching to 6604 ft. above sea-level as against the present 5768 ft. In relation with these high levels there was evidence for falls to a point below the 200-ft. level. It is suggested that these high levels represent pluvial periods to be correlated with the glacial epochs of Europe. This suggestion awaits further examination in the light of evidence to be furnished by fossil bones and shells collected from the various horizons in the lake deposits.

The archaeological site at Nakuru is situated