

Geological Society Elections

THE following have been elected foreign members and foreign correspondents of the Geological Society of London: Prof. R. A. Daly, Sturgis Hooper professor of geology in the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College, an authority on igneous rocks and mountain building and on coral reefs; Prof. Paul Niggli, University of Zurich, distinguished for his work on ore deposits and crystallography; and Prof. Bailey Willis, Stanford University, known for his work on geological structures, to be foreign members of the Society. Prof. C. P. Berkey, Columbia University, New York City, secretary of the Geological Society of America, who has carried out geological studies in Mongolia and elsewhere; Prof. H. A. Brouwer, University of Amsterdam, known for his work on the geology and petrology of the Dutch East Indies; Prof. Hans Cloos, University of Bonn, an authority on the tectonics of igneous intrusions; Prof. W. K. Gregory, curator in the American Museum of Natural History, New York City, distinguished for his studies on fossil vertebrates; and Dr. Victor Van Straelen, director of the Natural History Museum in Brussels, distinguished for his work on fossil Crustacea, to be foreign correspondents of the Society.

Beilby Memorial Awards

AWARDS are made from time to time from the interest on the Beilby memorial fund to British investigators in science for original work, preference being given to the investigation of problems connected with fuel economy, chemical engineering, and metallurgy. The administrators of the fund have just awarded £105 each to Mr. W. J. Rees, of the Department of Applied Science in the University of Sheffield, and Dr. W. R. Schoeller, metallurgist, Messrs. D. C. Griffith and Co., London. Mr. Rees was educated at George Dixon Technical School, Birmingham, and at the Royal College of Science, London. In 1901, he became assistant to Dr. Walter Rosenhain, in the laboratories of Messrs. Chance Bros. and Co., Ltd., at Birmingham; in 1906-17, he was chief chemist to the same company, and since 1917 he has been lecturer in charge of the Department of Refractory Materials in the University of Sheffield. He is an honorary member of the British Cast Iron Research Association, to which he was elected in recognition of services rendered in connexion with research on moulding sands; and hon. secretary of the Refractories Association of Great Britain. Dr. Schoeller was born at Antwerp and educated in Belgian State schools at Antwerp and Tournai. He studied chemistry at the Polytechnic Institutes at Darmstadt and Stuttgart, and at the University of Greifswald, where he obtained the degree of Ph.D. in 1902. In the following year, he joined the staff of Messrs. D. C. Griffith and Co., assayers to the Bank of England, and in 1909 was naturalised as a British subject. After experience in the United States, South America, China, and elsewhere, he rejoined Messrs. D. C. Griffith and Co., specialising in rare metals. From 1913 onwards, he has devoted much of his spare time to original research work, especially on tantalum and niobium.

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He is joint author with Mr. A. R. Powell, of "The Analysis of Minerals and Ores of the Rarer Elements".

The Peking Man

At a meeting of the Geological Society of China on June 28, Prof. Davidson Black made the first public reference to the discovery of parts of *Sinanthropus* other than the skull—an unguis phalanx of the foot found more than two years ago, a clavicle and a semi-lunar bone (wrist) found last season. The announcement of these discoveries was withheld until the close of the present season's excavations at Chou Kou Tien in the hope that other parts of the limbs might be recovered. This hope has not been realised. Hence an account is now given of the small fragment that seems to demonstrate that the Peking man's hand "differed in no essential respect from our own", of the peculiar obliquely-directed toe-bone, which "makes it probable that the feet differed much more widely from ours than the hands", and of the robust clavicle. On July 5 Prof. Davidson Black left Peking for England to deliver the Croonian Lecture to the Royal Society next December; he is visiting fossil beds in India and Egypt on the way. Before leaving China, he made casts of the five jaw fragments, the complete skull of the youth found in 1929, and of the endocranial cast of *Sinanthropus*, for transmission to London for reproduction, and completed his report on the endocranial cast and its significance. Its capacity is not more than 900 c.c. It reveals the asymmetry claimed to be distinctive of right-handedness. The cast displays many primitive features of exceptional interest, which shed important light on the distinctive characters of the earliest human brain.

Women Graduates in Modern Life

At the annual reunion on June 30 of the University of Edinburgh Graduates' Association, held in the Women's Union, Sir Josiah Stamp referred to the alumni associations in America as constituting one of the strongest sides of American university life, and said that he hoped the graduates of Edinburgh would similarly endeavour to make the University a real and active part in themselves, letting its influence remain with them and helping it in every way they could. Speaking more particularly to the women graduates, he reflected upon the gravity of the times in which we live and the tremendous importance and value of the collective mental training represented by the graduates who had just been 'capped', mobilised and conserved for the future. While it may be said that the careers of many of these women will be cut short and some people may say all they have done at the University would so be wasted, he considers that a wrong view. Why should not man and wife act together in the great task of thinking out the world's problems, thus making for a higher standard of civic and individual judgment than we have to-day?

The Universities and Civilisation

SIR JOSIAH was emphatic that civilisation is at the crossroads; it may go one way under the influence of mass desire and mass impression, or the other way under the influence of intellectual and moral leader-