

the early recognition of uterine cancer, the treatment of fractures, the question of rheumatic heart disease in childhood, maternity and child welfare work, tests for drunkenness, the causation of puerperal morbidity and mortality, psychoanalysis and mental deficiency. The subjects chosen for collective investigation have been chloroform, pneumonia, chorea, rheumatism, diphtheria, puerperal fever, the incidence of cancer and the history of its after-treatment.

As regards the work of the local units, it is noteworthy that whereas previously the formulation of a medico-political policy occupied most of their attention, of recent years they have devoted most of their energies to the consideration of scientific and clinical matters.

An important part in the scientific work of the Association is played by the library originally started by Mr. Ernest Hart, a former editor of the *British Medical Journal*, who made a nucleus collection of books from those sent him for review. Until fourteen years ago the library was available only for reference purposes, but since 1918 members have been allowed to borrow books and periodicals.

Although the account of the work of the Association in relation to medical reform, contract practice, and national health insurance may appear somewhat wearisome to the profane and even to some members of the profession not engaged in general practice, it should be borne in mind that it was mainly by the agency of the Association that not only the status and dignity of the profession in

Great Britain were established, but also the interests of the general public were safeguarded.

Among other matters with which Mr. Muirhead Little deals are the work done by the Association on behalf of its members in the Services; its organisation of the profession in the War of 1914-18; its campaign against quackery, in which the publication of "Secret Remedies" and "More Secret Remedies" with their analyses of expensive but worthless nostrums was an important event; schemes of medical benevolence, and medical ethics. Short biographical sketches are included of some of those who devoted their energies to the growth and welfare of the Association, among the most notable being the two eminent surgeons, Sir Victor Horsley and Mr. Edmund Owen; the last two editors of the *British Medical Journal*, Mr. Ernest Hart and Sir Dawson Williams; Dr. Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, who took a large part in the admission of women to membership of the Association, and Prof. W. E. Dixon, the well-known pharmacologist, whose death we have recently had to deplore.

Mr. Muirhead Little has also included numerous excellent portraits of those who have deserved well of the Association during the last hundred years, including two of the founder, and views of the different buildings occupied by the Association in London and elsewhere. A list of the places of the annual meetings of the Association, with the names of the presidents and other principal officers, forms a useful appendix.

Obituary

BARON G. J. DE FEJÉRVÁRY

THE death at Budapest of Baron de Fejérváry from heart-failure on June 2, after an operation for gall-stones on May 28, too early deprives zoological science of a worker rich in both accomplishment and promise, and his colleagues of a charming and helpful friend. He is mourned above all by a widow and two young children.

Geza Julius Fejérváry de Komlós-Keresztes was born at Budapest on June 25, 1894. On the completion of his university course, he entered the Hungarian National Museum in October 1916, and took up the study of reptiles and amphibians; in 1923 he was made curator of the herpetological section in the department of zoology, a post which he held until his death. Taking the degree of Ph.D. at Budapest in 1917, he became *privatdozent* for zoogeography at the R. Elizabeth University, Pécs, in 1921, and in February 1930 was appointed professor extraordinarius of zoology in that University. When the International Congress of Zoologists was held at Budapest in 1927, he served as recording secretary and afterwards edited its proceedings, tasks for which he was eminently fitted by his knowledge of the world, his courteous manners, and his facility in languages, which extended beyond the five world-tongues to Russian, Latin, and Greek. His own writings appeared in

Hungarian, German, English, French, and Swiss publications.

While based naturally on his herpetological studies, Fejérváry's contributions to science, with their clearness and precision of statement, gave evidence of a wide philosophical outlook and a keen insight. He was interested in various problems of evolution and particularly in the question of its reversibility; thus in 1920 he published "Observations sur la loi de Dollo, . . ." (*Bull. Soc. Vaud. Sci. Nat.*); in 1924, "Remarks on Nopcsa's paper on Reversible and Irreversible Evolution" (*Arch. Naturgesch.*); in 1925, "Über Erscheinungen und Prinzipien der Reversibilität, . . ." (*Paläont. Z.*); also, in 1929, he criticised Sir Arthur Keith's presidential address to the British Association (*Biol. generalis*). Among the more important of his systematic and morphological papers were: "Contributions to a monograph on fossil Varanidæ and Megalanidæ" (*Ann. Mus. Nat. Hungar.*, 16; 1918), "Die phyletische Bedeutung des Præhallux und vergleichend-osteologische Notizen über den Anuren-Tarsus" (*op. cit.*, 22; 1925), ". . . on the primary and secondary dermal bones of the skull" (*Arch. Naturgesch.*, 90, A; 1924).

In 1928, Fejérváry organised an expedition to Malta and the neighbouring islands to study questions of zoogeography; his report on this investigation was left incomplete, as also was an

extensive work on general zoology. It is to be hoped that some of the large mass of notes that remain may be in a state capable of publication.

BARON ERLAND NORDENSKIÖLD

WE regret to record the death of Baron Nils Erland Nordenskiöld, the Swedish ethnologist and explorer, which took place at Göteborg on July 5. Baron Erland Nordenskiöld, who was fifty-five years of age, was a member of a family already distinguished in the annals of exploration. He was the son of Baron Adolf Nordenskiöld, who discovered the North-East Passage, and a cousin of Prof. Otto Nordenskiöld, who led the Swedish Antarctic Expedition of 1902-3. He himself specialised in the investigation of the aboriginal cultures of America, and had travelled extensively among the native tribes, especially the less well-known, of both Central and South America, upon whom he had for long been recognised as the first authority.

The results of Nordenskiöld's investigations were embodied mainly in a series of "Comparative Ethnographic Studies", published in English, of which the first nine volumes, some in two parts, had appeared and others were in course of preparation. Of these, the most important was "The Copper and Bronze Ages in South America". Yet in dealing with the origin of American cultures and the problems of diffusion, the essential quality of his mind and its strict insistence on logical proof based upon a meticulous examination of the detailed evidence were best seen in his later publications, such as vols. 8 and 9 in the series, "Modifications of Indian Culture through Inventions and Loans" and "Origin of the Indian Civilizations of South America", the latter published in February last, in which he effectually vindicated the indigenous origin of certain important elements in Indian culture. He dealt with other aspects of the same problem in the Huxley Memorial Lecture delivered to the Royal Anthropological Institute in 1929, for which he received the Institute's Huxley Memorial Medal.

MR. G. H. HALLAM

THE death is announced of Mr. George Hanley Hallam, which took place at Tivoli on July 12. Mr. Hallam, who was in his eighty-sixth year, was a brilliant classical scholar. He was educated at Shrewsbury School and St. John's College, Cambridge, where he was bracketed Senior Classic in 1869, was Craven scholar, and won the Browne medals for a Greek ode twice and for a Latin ode. He was thereupon elected to a fellowship at St. John's College, and was appointed a master at Harrow in the following year. He retired in 1906.

Mr. Hallam had lived in Italy for many years and was keenly interested in the work of the British Schools of Archæology in Athens and in

Rome, keeping in close touch with the latter through his friendship with the former director, the late Dr. Thomas Ashby, and the present director, Mr. Ian Richmond. He himself had a profound knowledge of the antiquities and topography of the Roman Campagna, and was a contributor to the *Journal of Roman Studies*. His most recent communication to that journal dealt with the tomb of a vestal virgin discovered at Tivoli in 1930; while another discovery, also at Tivoli, a fresco found in an underground tomb, was made the subject of interpretation in a contribution dealing with the cult of Hercules. Mr. Hallam's own residence at Tivoli was itself of considerable interest to archæologists, for it was a convent erected on the site of a Roman villa, reputed to be the actual villa which was a gift from Mæcenas to the poet Horace. On excavation, however, it proved to be more extensive than had been thought, and is now generally held to be the villa of Mæcenas himself.

Mr. Hallam's continued interest in Harrow and his belief in the educative value of a knowledge of Italian and Roman culture were recently shown by the foundation of an annual prize to enable an Harrovian to spend a few weeks in Italy.

MR. THOMAS BAT'A

THOMAS BAT'A, the distinguished and enlightened Czechoslovak manufacturer who met a tragic death in a flying disaster on July 12, just as he was leaving his aerodrome at Otrokovice in Moravia on a journey to Germany and England, was a leading Central European personality. From humble beginnings he built up one of the largest and most progressive leather goods concerns in the world. Through hard work, skill, and a thorough knowledge of all the details of the industry, he evolved the model establishment at Zlín, which has grown tenfold since the War, in order to accommodate his ever expanding undertakings. He was also responsible for the new educational buildings for the young and adult employees, and also for the up-to-date hospital and clinics which were at the disposal of townsfolk and others. Whilst he expected his workers to give their best service, he studied their interest in every way. He limited their duties to five days a week and encouraged them to improve their knowledge in their leisure, and anyone who showed ability or initiative obtained rapid promotion. He believed in strict discipline, but never expected anything from a worker that he was not prepared to accept himself.

Although Mr. Bat'a's energies seemed to be wholly devoted to industry, he found time for cultural pursuits and was an expert linguist. Czechoslovak educational and scientific institutes frequently received handsome donations from Mr. Bat'a, and he provided funds for the excavations in Moravia which, a few years ago, revealed relics of a prehistoric settlement. Mr. Bat'a was fifty-six years of age.