

The chief researches conducted by Sollas in later years were concerned with early man. He definitely assigned the Gibraltar skull to Neanderthal man, explored the Paviland Cave with its relics of Cro-Magnon man, dealt with *Pithecanthropus* and *Eoanthropus*, and applied the use of sagittal sections of the skull to a critical study of most of the Palaeolithic skulls that have attracted recent attention.

Wide as is the range of work thus briefly outlined, Sollas's many activities included others of which only the barest mention is possible. Such are his application of the idea of evolution in place of uniformitarianism to geological history, his study of the geology of Bristol, Dublin, Oxford, and the Silurian Inlier of Rhymney near Cardiff, his ingenious method of studying tidal movements and their effect on the estuarine sediments of the Severn, his philosophical explanation of the origin of freshwater faunas, his study of a bog-flow in Kerry, his attempt to bore through a coral reef in the Ellice Islands, afterwards carried to success by Edgeworth David and his colleagues, his addresses and books on the age of the earth and on ancient hunters in comparison with those of to-day, and the fostering care with which he watched the translation by Miss Hertha Sollas of Suess's great work "Das Antlitz der Erde", a remarkable service to British geology for which we are deeply indebted to both father and daughter.

Sollas was awarded the Bigsby Medal and the Wollaston Medal by the Geological Society, of which he became president in 1908, a Royal Medal by the Royal Society, and the Huxley Medal by the Royal Anthropological Institute. He was made an honorary fellow of the Imperial College, and received honorary doctorates from the Universities of Bristol, Dublin, Christiania and Adelaide. His death leaves, with his associates, pupils and successors, the memory of a lovable and constant friend, a gallant and doughty foe, a sprightly debater and formidable controversialist, a daring climber and diver, an omnivorous reader, a writer of clarity, vigour and humour, an investigator of untiring energy and unimpeachable accuracy, and, whether as host or guest, a genial and most courteous gentleman.

W. W. WATTS.

An anthropological correspondent writes as follows :

Although Sollas entered upon active study of the problems of early man late in life, he rapidly became an outstanding authority. His training and experience as geologist and palaeontologist inspired confidence in his balanced judgment in the discussion of chronological and morphological problems relating to early man; while his originality and constructively critical attitude of mind, which refused to be dominated by traditional methods or accepted opinion, found ample opportunity for exercise in his studies of the various types of fossil man, in which his development of the method of craniological investigation by sagittal sections showed a remarkable grasp of the morphological and metrical problems involved in comparative study.

One of Sollas's earliest archaeological investigations to attract widespread interest was his exploration of

the Aurignacian site in the Paviland cave of the Peninsula of Gower, South Wales, in which a prehistoric skeleton, known as the "Lady of Paviland", was found. Here Sollas discovered painting in red on the wall, which, notwithstanding counter-argument—to be anticipated in the circumstances—that it was the recent work of a fisherman, remains the only example of cave-painting in Great Britain for which the claim of palaeolithic age makes any showing.

Sollas published in scientific periodicals a number of papers on early man, which are of permanent value; but his most considerable contribution to the literature of the subject is—and will continue to be notwithstanding later discovery and development in method and classification—his "Ancient Hunters" (third edition, 1924). Sollas had been much impressed by the Bushman tribes he had seen in the Kalahari, when the British Association visited South Africa in 1905. The influence of that experience is to be seen in the degree to which he made use of the cultural complexes of modern hunting peoples in the interpretation of the archaeological evidence bearing upon the cultures of the hunting peoples of the Old Stone Age. As a general principle the method was not new to archaeology, but Sollas gave it scientific precision. His references to Bushman art and associated custom and belief in certain respects anticipated later studies and discovery; while in his comparisons of Magdalenian culture with that of the Eskimo he directed attention once more to matters from which interest had been diverted. It was in this connexion that he entered into one of the most strenuous controversies of his later life when he produced his study of the late Palaeolithic Chancelade skull and affirmed its affinities to that of the modern Eskimo.

We regret to announce the following deaths :

Prof. J. T. Cash, F.R.S., emeritus regius professor of materia medica in the University of Aberdeen, on November 30, aged eighty-two years.

Sir Edwin Deller, principal of the University of London since 1929, as the result of an accident, on November 30, aged fifty-three years.

Prof. E. H. Kettle, F.R.S., professor of pathology, British Postgraduate Medical School, University of London, and consulting pathologist to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, on December 1, aged fifty-four years.

Mr. W. H. Macaulay, fellow of King's College, Cambridge, author of "The Laws of Thermodynamics" and "Solid Geometry", on November 28, aged eighty-three years.

Lady Ramsay, widow of Sir William Ramsay and affectionately associated with many friends at University College, London, and other scientific circles, on November 26, aged eighty-two years.

Prof. Wilhelm Schmidt, professor of physiography in the University, and director of the Central Institute for Meteorology, Vienna, on November 27, aged fifty-four years.

Dr. Lilian Veley, an original woman fellow of the Linnean Society of London, known for her work in entomology and microscopy, on November 27, aged seventy-five years.