

how the extremities of man are to be derived from those of the pig, but perhaps he would include the Devil amongst men.

#### Sir C. V. Raman, F.R.S.

IN 1928, Sir Venkata Raman published an account of the new radiation effect now generally known as the Raman effect, and the Indian Academy of Sciences, of which he is president, has had the happy idea of celebrating this and Sir Venkata's fiftieth birthday by the issue of a special commemorative volume. This volume, which contains thirty-eight papers, submitted from various parts of the world, opens with a brief biography of Sir C. V. Raman. The writer of this, whilst referring to the fact that Sir Venkata received his early training in physics at the Presidency College, Madras, unfortunately omits to mention how much the future Nobel prizewinner owed to the then head of the department of physics, the late Prof. R. Ll. Jones, who carried to India the traditions of the Cavendish Laboratory.

THE contributions to the commemorative volume deal with the many aspects of physics with which Raman has been associated. Only two papers have been submitted by workers in Great Britain: Sutherland contributes a theoretical paper establishing the connexion between the force constant, the inter-nuclear distance, and the heat of dissociation of a diatomic linkage, whilst Angus gives a valuable critical survey of the Raman spectra of terpenes. From Prof. K. W. F. Kohrausch's laboratory at Graz, which has played so prominent a part in the application of the Raman effect to chemical problems, there are ten papers dealing *inter alia* with asymmetrical phthalyl chloride, dimeric keten, *cyclobutane-1:2-dicarboxylic acid* and its derivatives, tetrolic acid and the nitro-group. Papers on analogous subjects have been sent by Bonino and Manzoni-Ansidei, Murti and Seshadri, Mizushima and Moreno. Hibben provides a striking statistical analysis of the trend of Raman effect research during the ten years since its discovery; he shows how the fuller theoretical understanding of the effect (1932-34) gave an impetus to experimental investigation and discusses the types of organic and inorganic substances which have received attention. The remaining papers are concerned chiefly with the other aspects of optics to which Raman and his students have devoted attention. The volume forms a noteworthy tribute to one who has done so much to further original research in India.

#### A New "Nomenclator Zoologicus"

THE preparation of a new "Nomenclator Zoologicus", announced in 1935, is now approaching completion. It constitutes an attempt to bring together the names of all the genera and subgenera in zoology that have been described from the tenth edition of Linnaeus, 1758, up to the end of the year 1935, with a bibliographical reference to the original description of each. It will also include the great majority of alternative spellings that have appeared during that period. Another feature that will, it is thought,

be found valuable for systematists relates to cases where a new name has been proposed for a homonym. In these instances a cross-reference is given under the homonym to the new name. It is estimated that the work will comprise some 225,000 entries, of which about 5,000 appear to have been omitted from all previous publications of this character. It is proposed to publish the work in four volumes of nearly 1,000 pages each, which it is hoped it will be possible to issue at intervals of about six months. The Zoological Society of London has already borne the whole cost of preparation (approximately £1,800), but the Council of the Society does not feel justified in incurring further expenditure in respect of this enterprise, which would involve an additional £3,600. However, with the aid of various grants from outside sources, the editor, Dr. S. A. Neave, has now been able to arrange for the printing and publication of the work. It is proposed to publish it at the low advance subscription rate of six guineas, postage included, for the four volumes, provided that a sufficient number of undertakings to subscribe can be obtained. If these are adequate, it is hoped to issue the first volume during the coming summer. Subscriptions should be sent to Dr. S. A. Neave, Imperial Institute of Entomology, 41 Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7.

#### 'Modern Man' from Choukoutien, China

SKELETAL remains of 'modern man' of Upper Palaeolithic age have at last been found in material from the Choukoutien caves, near Peking, the now world-famous site of discovery of Peking man. This latest find is no more than was to be anticipated from the discovery here some few years ago of relics of palaeolithic man; and indeed it is overdue. The new material, it is stated in a dispatch from the Peking correspondent of *The Times* in the issue of February 21, is from the Upper Cave, and consists of the remains of seven individuals, who, it would appear, had belonged to one family—an old man, estimated to be more than sixty years of age, a younger man, two relatively young women, an adolescent, a child of five, and a new-born baby. Such a varied assemblage should in the ordinary course provide adequate material for arriving at a fairly close approximation to the racial character of the group; but it would appear that these skeletal remains are remarkably, and indeed unusually, diverse in character for so closely associated a group.

THE brain case of the old man points to a very primitive type, not far removed from Neanderthal man, although in other attributes he approaches European man of the Upper Palaeolithic period, while the facial characters suggest recent Mongolian types, without, however, being identical with them. Of the two women's skulls, one presents resemblances to the Melanesian type of New Guinea, while the other is similar to that of the modern Eskimo woman. No features, however, occur among the modern population of North China which would justify attribution of an ancestry leading back to this population of the Upper Cave. Prof. F. Weidenreich is