

In one or two instances the animals are painted with their tongues out—reminding one of certain paintings of the eastern Spanish rock-shelter art, as also does the way in which some of the Lascaux animal horns are depicted. These two circumstances back up the contention that a part at any rate of the eastern Spanish art is palaeolithic in date. Altamira is the site where the finest Magdalenian paintings have been preserved. Lascaux can claim the same title in respect to the earlier Aurignacian art.

The All-Russian Mineralogical Society

THE Russian Mineralogical Society is celebrating its hundred and thirtieth anniversary during January 19–25, 1947, in Leningrad. This anniversary is being specially marked, because it was not possible to celebrate appropriately either the centenary or the hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary, since these occurred in 1917 and 1942 respectively. The Society is the oldest mineralogical society in the world—the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland was founded in 1876 and the Société Minéralogique de France in 1878. Before the founding of the Geological Committee in 1881 in Russia, the Mineralogical Society was almost the only institution conducting regular geological and mineralogical exploration in that country. It thus became a centre for the collection of information concerning discoveries in little-known Russian regions. Among its most active members have been such brilliant scientific men as N. I. Koksharov, E. E. Chernyshev, E. E. Fedorov and A. Karpinsky. The present chairman of the Council is Academician S. S. Smirnov.

The Society has substantially influenced the development of the science of mineralogy through its publications, which began in 1830; they were issued at irregular intervals under various titles until 1866, when publication commenced of the periodical *Notes of the All-Russian Mineralogical Society* (*Zapiski Vserossiiskogo Mineralogicheskogo Obshchestva*). This was the first specialized mineralogical journal in the world; the *Mineralogical Magazine* commenced publication in 1877, *Bulletin de la Société Minéralogique de France* in 1878 and the *American Mineralogist* in 1916. Later Russian publications were the *Bulletins* and the *Memoirs of the Geological Committee* published departmentally (1883) and the *Transactions of the Geological and Mineralogical Museum of the Academy of Sciences* (1906). The discoveries of Russian mineralogists embodied in the *Notes* form an essential contribution to the world science of mineralogy. They include such classic memoirs as those by N. I. Koksharov and V. P. Yeremeyev reporting the measurements of minerals, the announcement by A. Gadoin of the discovery of 32 classes of symmetry, E. Federov's work on the discovery of the 230 space groups and many other important papers. The chief tasks of the Society are the exploration of the mineral wealth and soils of the U.S.S.R.; the spreading of mineralogical, geological and palaeontological information within the U.S.S.R.; the establishment of closer contact among Russian men of science working in these fields and facilitating their relations with scientific institutions abroad.

A Monument to Darwin in Uruguay

IN *Nature* of July 24, 1937, p. 138, it was recorded that Prof. Karl Walther, of Montevideo, had erected a stone on the Cerro de los Claveles to commemorate

Darwin's visit to the locality in 1833. The project matured during the years of war, and Walther's original suggestion has now resulted in the erection of a monolith to the memory of Darwin on the summit of the Cerro. The Cerro was Darwin's 'farthest north' in Uruguay, to which he travelled on horseback from Montevideo. Nowadays it is easier to approach it by rail from Montevideo to Mercedes, the capital of the Department of Soriano, and thence by road to the Cerro 50 km. or more to the north-east on the high southern bank of the Río Negro at its confluence with the Arroyo Perico Flaco. The nearest village, formerly Saca Chispas, about 5 km. to the south of the Cerro, has been renamed Darwin in honour of the great master. It is a source of much gratification to note how, after more than a hundred years, Darwin's name and fame are still being honoured and acclaimed in Uruguay.

Zoological Society of London: Anatomical Research Fellowship

THE Council of the Zoological Society of London has decided to re-establish a research fellowship in order to encourage investigations on the comparative anatomy of the animals brought to its prosectorium. The appointment offers unrivalled opportunities for work in this subject, in view of the wealth of material available, amounting during the course of an average year to approximately a thousand mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians. Some of these animals belong to species likely to become extinct in the near future, and it is most important that some record of their anatomy should be preserved for the benefit of posterity. Also, contrary to the impression sometimes found among professed zoologists that comparative anatomy is an exhausted subject, little is known of the internal structure of any but the commonest animals. The prosectorium of a large zoological gardens offers the only opportunity of helping to fill these gaps in our knowledge. Such investigations are all the more urgent, since the extensive comparative anatomy collection of the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, built up mainly by Sir William Flower and his successors, was destroyed during the air raids—probably the worst single scientific loss of the War. It is hoped that the appointment will attract a student to a branch of zoology which, although rather out of fashion in recent times, remains the framework on which its many activities ultimately depend. Further information concerning the fellowship can be obtained from the Secretary, Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park, London, N.W.8.

War Industries and Town Planning

Two articles, by A. Shenfield and Prof. P. Sargant Florence, reprinted from the *Review of Economic Studies* (1944–45), have a bearing on the siting and development of new towns. The first article, "Labour for the War Industries: the Experience of Coventry", points out that the really important effect of the War upon Coventry is to be seen, not in the physical injuries which the city suffered, but in the conversion of its industries to war purposes and in their expansion to that end. Analysing the character and growth of the population of the city, Mr. Shenfield and Prof. Sargant Florence direct attention to the very high proportion of the workers of Coventry who at the beginning of the War were without roots in the city. This proportion was greatly increased