

Frage" (1905). The last was translated into sixteen languages, and the year of his death witnessed the publication of a sixteenth edition. It was described by Havelock Ellis as "without doubt the most comprehensive, and taking into account its many-sidedness, perhaps the ablest work which has yet appeared on the sex question". When he was fifty, Forel gave up teaching and devoted himself to the pursuit of his bewildering variety of interests. In 1912 he had a stroke, which resulted in permanent paralysis of his right hand. To the literature of auto-pathography he contributed an interesting account of his dysphasia in the *Journal für Psychologie und Neurologie*, of which he was founder and editor. His autobiography "Out of My Life and Work" (English translation, 1937) is a frank and fascinating self-portrait of one of the most picturesque scientific figures of modern times. He died in 1931.

### The *Philosophical Magazine*: 150th Anniversary

THE *Philosophical Magazine* was first published in 1798, and the board of directors and the editorial board have every reason to be proud of the journal's record during its long life of a hundred and fifty years. The title-page to the first volume indicates a breadth of interest "comprehending the various branches of science, the liberal and fine arts, agriculture, manufactures and commerce". Succeeding volumes of the *Magazine* have achieved for it an international reputation as a scientific journal in the realm of physical and mathematical science. David Brewster, John Tyndall, William Thomson, Oliver Lodge, J. J. Thomson are names to be found in the list of editors who succeeded Alexander Tilloch and Richard Taylor, and it is not surprising that such men of science have been responsible for the publication of important papers by research workers in various fields, including those of relativity and atomic physics. The traditionally high standard of the *Philosophical Magazine* has been well maintained, and we wish the periodical every success on the journey towards the two hundredth anniversary of its foundation.

To mark the hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the *Philosophical Magazine*, a special commemoration number has been edited by Dr. Alan Ferguson under the general title "Natural Philosophy through the Eighteenth Century and Allied Topics" (Pp. viii+164. London: Taylor and Francis. 15s.). This is a most useful survey, and includes articles on astronomy through the eighteenth century by Sir H. Spencer Jones, physics by Prof. Herbert Dingle, chemistry by Prof. J. R. Partington, and mathematics by Dr. J. F. Scott. An appropriate review by Engineer-Captain Edgar C. Smith provides interesting material on the achievements of civil engineering. Among the allied topics dealt with are: scientific instruments by Mr. Robert S. Whipple, the scientific periodical from 1665 to 1798 by Dr. Douglas McKie, and the teaching of the physical sciences at the end of the eighteenth century by Dr. F. Sherwood Taylor. The whole volume is both interesting and instructive, containing a wealth of information which enhances its value as a book of reference.

### The Night Sky in September

NEW moon occurs on Sept. 3d. 11h. 21m., U.T., and full moon on Sept. 18d. 09h. 43m. The following conjunctions with the moon take place: Sept. 4d. 18h., Mercury 3° S.; Sept. 6d. 22h., Mars 0.7° S.; Sept. 10d. 13h., Jupiter 4° N.; Sept. 29d. 13h., Venus

6° S.; Sept. 30d. 05h., Saturn 4° S. In addition to these conjunctions with the moon, the following conjunctions take place: Sept. 9d. 10h., Saturn in conjunction with Regulus, Saturn 0.8° N.; Sept. 20d. 16h., Mercury in conjunction with Spica, Mercury 0.2° S. Mercury sets at 19h. 15m., 18h. 45m. and 17h. 52m. at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively, and is too close to the sun for favourable observation. The planet reaches its greatest eastern elongation on Sept. 25. Venus is a morning star, rising at 1h. 15m., 1h. 30m. and 1h. 55m. at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively; it has a stellar magnitude of approximately -3.8 throughout most of September, and can be observed with phase a little more than half moon most of the time. The planet attains its greatest western elongation on Sept. 3. Mars sets at 20h. 10m. and 18h. 50m. at the beginning and end of the month, respectively, and is too close to the sun for favourable observation. Jupiter can be seen for some time after sunset, the times of setting being 22h. 25m. and 20h. 40m. on Sept. 1 and 30, respectively, but the planet lies rather low for good observation in northern latitudes. Saturn rises at 4h. 10m. and 2h. 35m. at the beginning and end of the month, respectively, and can be seen as a morning star, stellar magnitude 0.9. One occultation of stars brighter than magnitude 6 occurs as follows: Sept. 27d. 01h. 43.5m., 47 Gemi. (*R*), where *R* refers to reappearance; the latitude of Greenwich is assumed. Autumnal equinox commences on Sept. 23d. 03h.

### Announcements

DR. G. H. S. BUSHNELL has been appointed curator of the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology in the University of Cambridge.

Mr. B. C. Clayton and Mr. V. D. O. Smyth have recently been appointed advisory officers at the Research Station of the Board of Greenkeeping Research, St. Ives Research Station, Bingley, Yorkshire.

UNDER the auspices of the Society of Chemical Industry, a conference on "Dust in Industry" will be held at the University of Leeds during September 28-30. Further information can be obtained from the General Secretary, Society of Chemical Industry, 56 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

A CONFERENCE on "Modern Applications of Liquid Fuels" will be held at the University of Birmingham during September 21-23, under the joint auspices of the Institute of Petroleum and the Institute of Fuel. The president will be Mr. J. A. Oriel. Further information can be obtained from Mr. R. W. Reynolds-Davies, General Secretary, 18 Devonshire Street, London, W.1.

A CONVENTION on "High Vacua" will be held at Gleneagles, Perthshire, during October 12-13, under the presidency of Sir Charles Darwin. Further information can be obtained from Mr. L. L. Maitland, British-American Research, Block E.2, Hillingdon North, Glasgow, S.W.

A DISCUSSION on "Meteors" will be held in the Physical Laboratories of the University of Manchester on September 9. It will be opened by Dr. F. L. Whipple of Harvard University; other speakers will include Mr. J. P. M. Prentice, Dr. J. G. Porter, Mr. N. Herlofson and Dr. A. C. B. Lovell. Further information can be obtained from Dr. Lovell at the above Laboratories.