

being offered as a gift to the University by Mr. Lewis Evans, F.S.A. The new museums in Oxford have regretfully declined the offer, owing to lack of space. The upper rooms of the Old Ashmolean are standing empty. Mr. Evans's gift is conditional upon his instruments being properly displayed. Their acquisition, in addition to those instruments which are already in the possession of the colleges, would certainly put Oxford in a preeminent position.

When it is remembered that, in the fourteenth and again in the seventeenth centuries, Oxford was the principal home of British science, and that the Ashmolean was a child of the Scientific Renaissance, and for a century and a half the center of the scientific life of Oxford, there is a greater appropriateness in these Oxford collections of early scientific instruments and specimens going there than anywhere else in the world.

#### THE NATIONAL OFFICE OF EUGENICS IN BELGIUM

ACCORDING to the *Eugenical News*, there was inaugurated at Bruxelles a Belgian National Office of Eugenics. This occupies one of the small rooms of the Solvay Institute of Sociology, situated in the charming Parc Léopold of that city. The director of the new Eugenics Office is Dr. A. Govaerts, who is assisted by Mr. W. Schraenen, an anthropological assistant to Dr. L. Vervaeck, physician of the prison. It is understood that the Institute Solvay has made an appropriation of 10,000 fr. and that Mr. Armand Solvay will make a personal gift of 7,000 fr. Among those who have been instrumental in the establishment of the office may be mentioned, first of all, Dr. M. F. Boulenger, director of the School of the Feeble-Minded at Waterloo and president of the Société Belge d'Eugénique; M. Berryer, Minister of the Interior and of Hygiene; the surgeon general of the Belgian Army, Willemaerts; Col. Noterman, head of the Army Institute of Physical Military Training; H. Velghe, director general of hygiene in the Department of the Interior; M. Dom, director general of justice; M. Vandervelde, Minister of State; M. Wittemans, senator; M. Gheude, senator of the Province of Brabant; Dr. Bayet, member of the Royal Academy of Medicine; M. Brunet, president of the House of Representatives; Professor Demoor, delegate of the Academy of Medicine; M. Hostelet, director of the Sol-

vay Institute of Sociology. Others who participated in social affairs connected with the congress were Dr. and Mrs. Leclerc-Dandoy, of the University; Professor Ley; Dr. Péchère, Dr. R. Sand and the Rev. Père Fallon. At the meeting of the International Commission in Antwerp the mayor of the city announced that an appropriation had been made for a branch office of the National Office of Eugenics, to be located at Antwerp.

#### SIR EDWARD SHARPEY SCHAFER, F.R.S.

SOME time ago the suggestion was made that the meeting of the British Association in Edinburgh in 1921 would form a fitting occasion for the presentation to Sir Edward Sharpey Schafer of some token of their esteem from his present and past demonstrators and fellow research workers first in London and afterwards in Edinburgh.

As so many of those who had been trained under him now occupy posts in distant lands it was found impossible to make the necessary arrangements for the presentation at that early date, but Professor Halliburton made a statement at one of the largely attended meetings of the Physiology Section, expressing the desire of all who had been associated with their old master in the prosecution of physiological research to present him with some mark of their esteem and affection, and indicating the form it would probably take. It was appropriate that the announcement should be made in Edinburgh, for Sir Edward Sharpey Schafer has been professor of physiology there since 1899.

It was decided that the presentation should consist of a life-size portrait plaque, and that a medal reproducing the portrait and inscription should be offered to each of the many subscribers. The plaque and the medal are the work of Mr. C. d'O. Pilkington Jackson, A.R.B.A., and the portrait is excellent. The obverse bears in bold relief the bust of Sir Edward Sharpey Schafer and the reverse contains a dedicatory inscription. The plaque itself is of bronze and has been mounted on stone with the inscription shown on the reverse of the medal underneath it. At Sir Edward Sharpey Schafer's desire it will eventually be placed within the University of Edinburgh, but at present it remains in the sculptor's