

tution. The opportunity to acquire this collection was recognized by the director of the New York Botanical Garden, Dr. N. L. Britton, as one of the kind that comes but once in a lifetime. The offer was tentatively accepted by him at once and arrangements begun for acquiring the collection, which is now rapidly being incorporated into the library of the garden.

The collection of about 5,000 bound volumes, and still unaccounted thousands of pamphlets, is noteworthy in several respects. It contains many rare works, much used in botanical study, but difficult to secure. A large number of the books are in fine bindings, the majority of the bindings as good as new. There are complete sets of many periodicals, which form the backbone of any scientific library.

### THE TORONTO MEETING OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION

THE preliminary program of the annual meeting of the British Association in 1924, to be held in Toronto, Ontario, on August 6-13, under the presidency of Sir David Bruce, has been issued and is abstracted in *Nature*. This will be the second occasion on which the association has visited Toronto, the first being in 1897, under the presidency of Sir John Evans, the second of the three meetings previously held in Canada (Montreal, 1884; Toronto, 1897; Winnipeg, 1909). Active measures are being taken, both in Toronto and at home, with the object of ensuring that the meeting shall afford an exceptional opportunity for intercourse between British, Canadian, American and European workers in science, and, to visiting members, a unique occasion for acquainting themselves with the manifold scientific interests of the Dominion. The University of Toronto, which ranks with its affiliated colleges as one of the largest in the British Empire, will be the principal center of the meeting.

The association will meet in thirteen sections as follows, the names of the president and recorder of each being given, together with the address of the latter: A (Mathematics and Physics): Sir William Bragg; Professor A. O. Rankine, Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, S.W. 7; B (Chemistry): Sir Robert Robertson; Professor C. H. Desch, University, Sheffield; C (Geology): Professor W. W. Watts; Professor W. T. Gordon, King's College, Strand, London, W.C. 2; D (Zoology): Professor G. Elliot Smith; Professor R. D. Laurie, University College, Aberystwyth; E (Geography): Professor J. W. Gregory; Dr. R. N. Rudmose Brown, University, Sheffield; F (Economic Science and Statistics): Sir William Ashley; Professor H. M. Hallsworth, Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; G (Engineer-

ing): Professor G. W. O. Howe; Professor F. C. Lea, 36 Mayfield Road, Moseley, Birmingham; H (Anthropology): Dr. F. C. Shrubbsall; Mr. E. N. Fallaize, Vinchelez, Chase Court Gardens, Enfield, Middlesex; I (Physiology): Dr. H. H. Dale, Professor C. Lovatt Evans, Physiological Laboratory, St. Bartholomew's Medical College, London, E.C. 1; J (Psychology): Professor W. McDougall; Dr. Ll. Wynn Jones, 7 St. Mary's Avenue, Harrogate; K (Botany): Professor V. H. Blackman; Mr. F. T. Brooks, 31 Tenison Avenue, Cambridge; L (Educational Science): Principal Ernest Barker; Mr. D. Berridge, 1 College Grounds, Malvern; M (Agriculture): Sir John Russell; Mr. C. G. T. Morison, School of Rural Economy, Oxford.

The inaugural general meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 6, in the Convocation Hall of the University of Toronto, when Sir David Bruce will deliver his presidential address. In the sections, addresses will be delivered by the respective sectional presidents, and papers will be read, on and after Thursday, August 7, until the conclusion of the meeting (Wednesday, August 13).

A preliminary program of excursions after the meeting is also being arranged. For those able to devote the maximum time, an excursion across Canada to Vancouver, and possibly also to Prince Rupert and Victoria, is contemplated.

### CHARLES W. ELIOT

ON behalf of the Harvard Alumni Association its Secretary, J. W. D. Seymour, announces that in honor of the ninetieth birthday of Charles W. Eliot, president emeritus of Harvard University, a public tribute will be paid in Cambridge, Mass., on March 20. The event will be attended not only by representatives of the 45,000 Harvard Alumni, but also by leading citizens from all over the country who have shown their desire to honor the president emeritus in recognition of his services as "a citizen." A Citizens Committee is now in the process of organization; its membership, which will consist of many national figures, will be announced later.

Charles W. Eliot was president of Harvard University for forty years—from 1869 to 1909; he was born in Boston in 1834, and graduated from Harvard in 1853. His election as president was considered remarkable, both because of his youth—he was only 35—and because he was a layman and scientist.

While president, Mr. Eliot led in the development of graduate schools and the elective system in undergraduate work. The Harvard Medical School and the Harvard Law School largely grew to their present importance and influence under his administration.