

classification—for which Engelmann had marked the way. Occasionally, as of Canby in 1904 and Greene in 1916, he wrote appreciative sketches of botanists whom he had known.

It is chiefly through his comprehensive handling of the difficult succulents, tuberoses-like Amaryllids and Umbelliferae that his memory will be kept fresh in science; but those who knew him well will remember him also as a devoted public servant and a sympathetic and helpful friend, whom the last call found still active at the end of a long and successful professional career.

WM. TRELEASE

### SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

#### THE GLASGOW MEETING OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION

THE British Association for the Advancement of Science has issued the preliminary program of its meeting to be held in Glasgow from September 5 to 12, under the presidency of Sir William Bragg, who in his address will deal with modern developments of the physical sciences and their relation to national problems. The subjects of the presidential addresses and discussions in the various sections include the reflection of electrons by matter, the photography and measurement of radiation, ancient geography in modern education (by Professor J. L. Myres), the nature of skill (by Professor T. H. Pear), the influence of engineering on civilization (by Sir William Ellis), the archeology of Scotland (by Sir George Macdonald) and increasing returns and economic progress (by Professor Allyn Young). Dr. Cyril Norwood will give the presidential address in the education section, which also will hold a discussion on broadcasting in the service of education, opened by Sir John Reith.

One of the customary evening discourses will be given by Professor E. A. Westermarck, on the study of popular sayings; this will be the Frazer lecture in social anthropology, which is due for delivery in Glasgow, and to which members of the association will, by the courtesy of the university authorities, be admitted. The other evening discourse will be given by Professor F. G. Donnan under the title of "The Mystery of Life," the subject being considered from the viewpoint of physical chemistry. The delegates of corresponding societies, under the presidency of Dr. Vaughan Cornish, will discuss the preservation of scenic beauty in town and country. All the meetings, except those in the evening, will be held in the university, an unusually convenient arrangement. The Lord Provost and Corporation of Glasgow will give a reception and dance in the city chambers, and the local committee a reception in Kelvingrove Art Galleries.

Ample opportunity will be provided for visits to places of scientific interest in the country around Glasgow, and for studying the manifold economic interests of the city and the Clyde area, with their many outstanding examples of the value of applied science in industry and social conditions. Saturday, September 8, is, as usual, devoted entirely to excursions, but in addition there will be numerous half-day and afternoon excursions during the week. Many of these will be of special sectional interest, or will be devoted to visits to particular works and industrial centers. The Port of Glasgow, with its quays and docks and shipyards, will be of special interest to many visitors, and to facilitate its inspection the Clyde trustees are proposing to place their steamer *Comet* at the service of members of the association.

#### CENTENARY OF THE LONDON ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE Zoological Society of London will celebrate the completion of its hundredth year of work next year, as it received its royal charter in 1829. The *London Times* gives the following details of the early history of the society:

As is often the case with an institution which came into existence by stages, there are several dates on which a centenary celebration might have been justified, but, as the council has announced in its annual reports for some years, 1929 was selected as the most appropriate.

The first possible date was 1822, for in November of that year some fellows of the Linnean Society, meeting at the house of William Kirby, the entomologist, gratified their discontent with the disproportionately small attention given to zoology by the Linnean Society by deciding to form a Zoological Club. They were still tied by loyalty to their parent society, and when they drafted the rules of the new body they limited membership to fellows of the Linnean Society, and arranged that their scientific work should be published by that society. The work they contemplated and for some time carried out did not include the maintenance of a living collection. There is still uncertainty over the transition from the Zoological Club of the Linnean Society to a Zoological Society with the chief object of establishing a zoological garden, and there is reason to believe that the latter had an independent origin, largely at the instigation of Sir Stamford Raffles, who, although a fellow of the Linnean Society, does not appear to have been a member of the Zoological Club.

The first known prospectus of the Zoological Society was issued in 1825 and announced as its object the formation of a society that should have the same relations to zoology and animal life that the Horticultural Society bore to botany and the vegetable kingdom. There were 77 original subscribers, among whom may be mentioned Sir Stamford Raffles, Sir Humphry Davy, president of the Royal Society, the Duke of Bedford, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Robert Peel and Alexander Baring, M.P. In this prospectus there was no suggestion of the existence