

The day of the discovery was August 29, 1831. On that day Faraday, as his diary shows, working in his laboratory at the Royal Institution, wound two coils of wire on to opposite sides of a soft iron ring, connected one coil to a battery and the other to a galvanometer, and at the "make" and "break" of the battery circuit observed the deflections of the galvanometer connected in the other circuit. From this simple experiment and the variations made in it by Faraday in subsequent trials has grown in the past one hundred years the science of electrical engineering. The Royal Institution, in a preliminary announcement of the proposed celebrations, says: "No other experiment in physical science has been more fruitful in benefit for mankind. August 29, 1931, is, then, the centenary of one of the great events in the history of the world."

The Royal Institution and the Institution of Electrical Engineers have joined forces in making plans for the celebrations, and a number of other societies and organizations are cooperating. The Royal Society will entertain the delegates; the British Association has arranged the dates for its centenary meeting in London, also in 1931, to coincide with the Faraday celebrations; the Federal Council for Chemistry will participate in the arrangement of a Faraday Exhibition, for Faraday's chemical researches—his isolation of benzene and his establishment of the laws of electro-chemistry—are hardly less remarkable than his purely electrical discoveries, and government, university and scientific interests have joined in offering their assistance to make the celebrations worthy of the occasion.

The provisional program includes a Faraday Commemorative Meeting at the Queen's Hall on Monday, September 21, 1931, at which addresses will be given on Faraday's work. On Tuesday the summer meeting of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, with joint conference of allied associations, will be held; on Wednesday morning there will be the opening of the Faraday Exhibition to the public at the Albert Hall, and in the evening the opening meeting of the British Association will be held at the Central Hall, Westminster.

Faraday kept a careful diary, in his own hand, of all his experimental work, which was bequeathed to the Royal Institution and for over sixty years has been its most treasured possession. The Royal Institution has resolved to publish the diary in full. It is intended to have two or more of the six or eight volumes in which the work will ultimately be completed ready by September, 1931. It will be issued by Messrs. G. Bell and Sons, Limited, York House, Portugal-street, W.C.2.

EXPLORATIONS IN AFRICA

A WIRELESS to the *New York Times* dated from London states that data and relics of the African explorations of David Livingstone and Sir Henry Stanley have been found by Colonel Charles Wellington Furlong, an American explorer, artist, author and lecturer, who arrived in London on August 13 *en route* to the United States following a seven months' expedition into the heart of Africa.

While the chief purposes of the expedition, which covered 7,000 miles in Kenya, Tanganyika, Uganda, the Belgian Congo and the West Nile Provinces, were an ethnological study of African tribes and big game hunting as well as a study of political, economic and social conditions, Colonel Furlong was desirous of finding whatever traces remained in Africa of Livingstone and Stanley.

In a Belgian Congo village he found Chief Godoy, a son of Chief Matibu, the most important native associate of Sir Henry Stanley, from whom he learned many facts of considerable interest about Stanley and the others of his expedition and about Chief Matibu himself. Chief Godoy had carefully preserved many of his father's relics, including his favorite spearhead, carried when he was with Stanley, a remarkable letter of appreciation written to Chief Matibu by Lady Stanley in 1911, an elaborate gold headdress which she sent therewith and a bracelet given to Chief Matibu by Sir Henry. All these things Colonel Furlong bought from Chief Godoy.

"Precious as they were to him," said Colonel Furlong, "I was able to convince him that in some museum they would better preserve for posterity the record of Chief Matibu's association with Stanley, whereas in the jungles they could easily be lost. He sold them on the condition that I return to him framed photographs of Lady Stanley's letter and other relics to be hung on the walls of his hut where all the natives could admire them."

In South Mombasa Colonel Furlong located a native about ninety years of age who is the only surviving member of Livingstone's expedition. He was one of five who went into the interior with Livingstone when he died and bore on his shoulders the explorer's mummified body from the jungles of Africa. Colonel Furlong spent six hours getting this man's story, the details of which, as well as the Stanley data, he intends to publish on his return to the United States.

THE FOURTH WORLD POULTRY CONGRESS

THE Fourth World Poultry Congress, which was opened at the Crystal Palace by the Duke of York on July 22, closed on July 30. The *London Times* reports that during the congress 2,400 delegates and members registered from 61 countries, and about 80,000 people passed the turnstiles.

At the final assembly of delegates and members, presided over by Mr. F. C. Elford (Canada), president of the World Poultry Science Association, an address was sent to the King expressing appreciation of the manner in which the government and departments of state had organized the congress and exhibition, and of the hospitality accorded to them.