

inch mirror at Mt. Wilson, the McDonald telescope will have an eighty-inch mirror made of glass with a low coefficient of expansion and will therefore be suitable to a climate where appreciable changes of temperature during one night are usual.

#### THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE British Association for the Advancement of Science will meet in Leicester from September 6 to 13. The inaugural general meeting will take place at 8:30 P. M. on Wednesday evening, September 6, when Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins, also president of the Royal Society, will deliver the address of the president on the chemical aspects of life.

The presidents of the sections and the titles of their addresses are as follows:

Section of Mathematical and Physical Sciences, Sir Gilbert T. Walker, "Seasonal Weather and its Prediction"; Section of Chemistry, Professor R. Robinson, "Natural Coloring Matters and their Analogues"; Section of Geology, Professor W. G. Fearnside, "Structures of Some British Coal-fields"; Section of Zoology, Dr. J. Gray, "The Mechanical View of Life"; Section of Geography, The Right Honorable Lord Meston, subject to be announced; Section of Economic Science and Statistics, Professor J. H. Jones, "The Gold Standard"; Section of Engineering, R. W. Allen, "Some Experiences in Mechanical Engineering"; Section of Anthropology, the Right Honorable Lord Raglan, "What is Tradition?"; Section of Physiology, Professor E. D. Adrian, "The Activity of Nerve Cells"; Section of Psychology, Professor F. Aveling, "The Status of Psychology as an Empirical Science"; Section of Botany, Professor F. E. Lloyd, "The Various Door Mechanisms of *Utricularia* and *Polypompholyx* and their Method of Action"; Section of Educational Sciences, J. L. Holland, "The Development of a National Educational System"; Section of Agriculture, Dr. A. Lauder, "Chemistry and Agriculture."

There will be a large number of symposia and discussions.

Evening discourses to the members will be delivered on Friday, September 8, and Monday, September 11, by Sir Josiah Stamp, general treasurer of the association, on a subject in economic science, to be announced; and by Professor Jocelyn F. Thorpe, on "The Work of the Safety in Mines Research Board." A reception will be held by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of the City of Leicester (Councillor Arthur Hawkes, J.P., and Mrs. Hawkes), on Thursday evening, September 7; a garden party will be given by the University College on Monday afternoon, September 11; a reception will be given by the Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society in the Museum

and Art Gallery on Tuesday evening, September 12. The usual excursions to points of interest, to industrial establishments and to educational institutions have been arranged.

This is the second meeting of the association to be held at Leicester. It met there in 1907, when Sir David Gill, the astronomer, was president, and the occasion was notable as the last on which Lord Kelvin attended and addressed the association of which he had long been an active supporter. The meeting of the association in 1934 will be held in Aberdeen.

#### THE ROYAL INSTITUTION AND SIR WILLIAM BRAGG

WE learn from the London *Times* that at the annual meeting of the members of the Royal Institution, which was held on May 1, with the president, Lord Eustace Percy, in the chair, it was announced that the payments in connection with rebuilding had been completed. During the years 1929-32 the managers had been successful in collecting the sum of £96,300 for the rebuilding and research endowment.

The institution's Friday evening discourses and afternoon lectures had crowded the lecture theater on many occasions during the year, and the privilege of free attendance at afternoon lectures by *bona fide* students in London had been much appreciated and used. Professor G. Elliot Smith had succeeded Professor J. B. S. Haldane as Fullerian professor of physiology. On the research side the x-ray investigations under the direction of Sir William Bragg showed steady progress. Lord Eustace Percy was again elected president for the ensuing year, with Sir Robert Robertson treasurer and Major Charles E. S. Phillips secretary.

At the conclusion of the meeting a portrait of Sir William Bragg, the director, by William Nicholson was presented to the institution, where it is to be hung, by the honorary secretary, Major Phillips, on behalf of a group of friends. In a brief speech, as reported in the *Times*, Major Phillips paid a tribute to the artist and expressed the respect and admiration which the members of the Royal Institution felt for the great scientific achievements of their director and their appreciation of the manner in which he upheld its great traditions. All of them regarded him with affection, and it was fitting that his portrait should be hung on their walls with those of the other men who had made the Royal Institution what it was. He read a letter from Sir James Crichton-Browne apologizing for absence and remarking that the portrait showed "the face and figure of a real man, an embodiment of vital and intellectual vigour, a great discoverer, a brilliant expositor and a genial friend."

Lord Eustace Percy, accepting the gift on behalf