

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

CONGRESS OF THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL AND ETHNOLOGICAL SCIENCES¹

A PRELIMINARY program of the first session of the International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences to meet in London under the presidency of the Earl of Onslow from July 30 until August 4 next is now available. The headquarters will be at University College, Gower Street, W.C.2. The inaugural meeting will take place in the Great Hall of the College on July 30 at 3 p. m., when H.R.H. the Duke of York will receive the delegates and declare the Congress open, and Lord Onslow will deliver his presidential address. On the same day at 10 p. m. H. M. Government will hold a reception of the members of the Congress at Lancaster House, St. James's, S.W. The business of the congress will be conducted in general and sectional meetings. At the first of the general meetings, which will be held on July 31 at 8:30 p. m., Sir Aurel Stein will deliver the Huxley Memorial Lecture of the Royal Anthropological Institute and will receive the Institute's Huxley Memorial Medal for 1934. At subsequent general meetings in the evenings of the following days, the congress will be addressed by Dr. R. R. Marett, Professor T. C. Hodson and Professor J. B. S. Haldane, each of whom will deal with some one aspect of present tendencies in anthropological studies. Communications addressed to the congress by its members will be submitted to meetings of the sections, of which there will be eight, each one dealing with a major division of the studies with which the congress is concerned.

So far as it is possible to judge from this preliminary outline, the proceedings of the sections will be of the greatest interest. In each section topics of inquiry are suggested, although members are not thereby necessarily precluded from submitting communications on other matters. In the Anatomical and Physical Section, which will meet under Professor Elliot Smith, for example, the central theme will be man's place among the primates. In most sections, however, the range is sufficiently wide to cover all points which members are likely to have time or desire to discuss. Joint meetings between two or more sections occupy a prominent place in the program. The Section of Ethnography, which, naturally, is expected to have the heaviest list of communications, will meet in three divisions, General Ethnography under Dr. A. C. Haddon, African Ethnography under the Rev. E. W. Smith and American Ethnography under Capt. T. A. Joyce. The last named sub-section has been specially arranged with the view of welcoming American workers on their way to attend the International Congress

of Americanists to be held later at Seville. It will take as its central theme of discussion the interrelation of pre-Spanish American culture centers and their possible connection with extra-American influences, affording, it is hoped, a welcome opportunity for placing on record the results of the most recent developments in research. In the African Section current problems impinging on questions of administration and the future development of the African will be kept well in view.

THE NEW TELESCOPE AT GREENWICH OBSERVATORY

ACCORDING to the London *Times*, appointed visitors of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, met on June 2 to receive the report of the Astronomer Royal and, this being a special occasion, to take part in the formal inauguration by the First Lord of the Admiralty, Sir Bolton Eyres-Monsell, of the new telescope made possible by a gift of £15,000 from W. Johnston Yapp.

The company included, as members of the official board, Sir Frederick Hopkins, president of the Royal Society; Professor F. J. M. Stratton, president of the Royal Astronomical Society; Sir William Bragg, Professor Alfred Fowler, Sir James Jeans, Sir Joseph Petavel, Sir Napier Shaw, Professor Sydney Chapman, Sir Gerald Lenox-Conyngham, Professor H. F. Newall, Professor H. H. Plaskett (Oxford University Observatory), Sir Arthur Eddington and others well known in astronomical and official circles. They assembled outside the building that houses the new telescope, which is not within the boundary of the observatory proper, but in an enclosure of the Park, about 350 yards from it, towards the top of Maze Hill, that was added to the domain of the Astronomer Royal in 1898 for the purposes of magnetic work.

Owing to the extended use of electricity near Greenwich, it was found advisable some years ago to establish a magnetic observatory at Abinger, Surrey, as an adjunct to the Royal Observatory, leaving the space in Greenwich Park available for the new telescope. There is enough room also in the enclosure for a reversible transit circle that is being made by Messrs. Cooke, Troughton and Simms for the observatory, the housing for which, semi-cylindrical in shape, constructed by the Cleveland Bridge Company, was on view.

In his speech, as reported in the *Times*, the Astronomer Royal, Dr. H. Spencer Jones, said:

that they were celebrating 259 years of the Royal Observatory. It was some 40 years since the observatory last had a gift of a large telescope, but never before had it had the gift of a telescope and a building ade-

¹ From *Nature*.