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EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE Editors have no doubt that readers would attribute to its true cause the remarkable lateness in appearance of the October number of the Magazine. The reason, of course, was the railway strike, which upset the mails at the period of the month most critical from the editorial point of view. One set of proofs took no less than nine days in transit from printer to editor and after that had to be sent to the authors and returned. Besides the delay, another consequence followed, namely, that the final contents of the number were not at all what the Editors originally designed them to be. After much waiting for delayed proofs, it was finally decided to make up the number from what material was ready, regardless of the traditional plan; this accounts for the absence of any Reports and Proceedings or Reviews in that number. It was hoped to give abstracts of papers read at the British Association and a portion of the Presidential Address to Section C, but fate willed otherwise and the final result was a number almost entirely composed of original papers, which is quite contrary to the usual practice. This procedure will not, it is hoped, be taken as a precedent, and every endeavour will be made in future to maintain the established features of the Magazine, so far as the disturbed conditions of the time allow.

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HEARTY congratulations to Sir Norman Lockyer, K.C.B., F.R.S., who on November 4 will, as editor, issue the "Jubilee" Number of *Nature*, which he commenced in 1869. The Editor of the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE was present amongst his numerous friends at the "sending off" dinner given by Mr. Macmillan, the publisher of this worldwide serial, which will on November 4, 1919, issue its 2,600th weekly number. This journal embraces in its pages information on every branch of natural knowledge during the past half-century. Long may *Nature* flourish, and may its editor and publisher still share the continued prosperity of this cosmopolitan and successful scientific weekly.

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WE feel sure that all those geologists who make use of the library of the Geological Society will hear with much regret that Mr. C. P. Chatwin has resigned his post as Librarian to the Society in order to take up a teaching appointment at Liverpool University. Mr. Chatwin came to Burlington House in May, 1913, and soon won golden opinions in every quarter, both on account of his wide

knowledge of geological literature and his unfailing courtesy and helpfulness to those in search of information. During the War, owing to the depletion of the staff he took on his shoulders the principal weight of the Society's business, attending to many of the duties which ordinarily devolve on other officials, in addition to heavily increased work in the Library, largely owing to the demands of the naval and military authorities for maps and publications dealing with the geology and geography of the various theatres of war. Mr. Chatwin leaves Burlington House with the hearty good wishes of his colleagues and friends for his future prosperity in his new sphere of work, which will doubtless give him opportunities of continuing and extending the researches in palæontology on which he has long been engaged.

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THE annual course of twelve lectures on geology under the direction of the Swiney Trustees and in connexion with the British Museum (Natural History) will be given by Dr. J. D. Falconer, the subject being the Geology and Mineral Resources of the British Possessions in Africa. The lectures will be given in the Theatre of the Imperial College of Science (Royal College of Science, Old Building), Exhibition Road, South Kensington, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 5.30 p.m., beginning Monday, November 10, and ending Friday, December 5. The lectures will be illustrated by lantern slides and admission is free. We cannot afford space to reproduce the whole of the interesting syllabus, but the following dates and titles of the lectures may be found useful. November 10, The Continent of Africa. November 12, 14, and 17, The Union of South Africa. November 19, Bechuanaland and British South-West Africa. November 21, Rhodesia and Nyasaland. November 24, Uganda, British East Africa, and Somaliland. November 26 and 28, Egypt and the British Sudan. December 1 and 3, British West Africa. December 5, Summary and Conclusion.

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Two important geological collections of more than local interest have recently been acquired by the Hull Municipal Museum, viz. the Drake and Bower Collections. The first was formed by the late H. C. Drake, F.G.S., who spent many years in the Scarborough district, and also collected largely among the Saurian and other vertebrate remains of the Oxford Clay in the Peterborough area. Mr. Drake was an exceptionally keen and patient collector and was very successful in extracting difficult specimens from their matrix. From the Oolites of the Scarborough and Malton districts he obtained a remarkably fine series of fish and reptilian teeth and bones, some being of altogether exceptional interest. He also carried out original work among the Cephalopods. Many additional records to the fauna of these rocks have been made as a result of Mr. Drake's researches. He was also successful in securing many important vertebrate remains from the Chalk of North Lincolnshire, which have been described in the Palæontographical Society's memoirs, the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, the *Naturalist*, and other

publications. Some years ago he considerably augmented the geological collections in the Hull Museum, several cases being entirely occupied by his gifts. He also assisted in preparing the catalogues of this collection. The specimens recently obtained will be shown with his other fossils in due course. The other collection was formed by the Rev. C. R. Bower. Many of the specimens are described and some figured in his paper on "The Zones of the Lower Chalk of Lincolnshire" in the Proceedings of the Geologists' Association for 1918. This collection consists of over a thousand excellently cleaned Chalk fossils, carefully labelled and localized, including many of those which have been figured in his paper, as well as one of the two known examples of *Actinocamax Boweri*, the other specimen being in the British Museum. The collections are largely from the Lower Chalk of Lincolnshire and from the Chalk of Yorkshire, and there is an interesting series from the Upper Cretaceous of Dover, Folkestone, Kent, and Norfolk. Most of these specimens have been examined and verified by Dr. A. W. Rowe and Mr. C. Davies Sherborn.

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THE Cambridge University Press will shortly publish a new work by Mr. J. Y. Buchanan, whose earlier volumes of scientific and other papers are well known. It is entitled *Accounts Rendered of Work done and Things seen*, and consists of a variety of papers on geographical, oceanographical, and other subjects, such as "The Colour of the Sea", "The Sperm Whale and its Food", "Air-tight Subdivision in Ships", "The Daintiness of the Rat", etc.

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MR. FREDERICK CHAPMAN, A.L.S., has been appointed part-time lecturer and demonstrator in paleontology at the University of Melbourne. He will take up his duties in March, 1920.

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#### IMPERIAL MINERAL RESOURCES BUREAU.

WITH reference to the announcement of the Minister of Reconstruction that the Imperial War Conference, after considering the report of a Committee of which Sir James Stevenson, Bart., was chairman, had made a recommendation in favour of the constitution of an Imperial Mineral Resources Bureau, this body was set up and charged with the duties of collecting information regarding the mineral resources and metal requirements of the Empire, and of advising the various Governments and others concerned from time to time what action might appear to be desirable to enable those resources to be developed and made available to meet the requirements of the Empire.

In accordance with this recommendation the Governors of the Bureau were appointed, one by the Home Government (whose representative is the Chairman of the Bureau), one by each of the five self-governing Dominions, one each by the Government of