

News and Views

L Abbe Breuil

M. L'ABBÉ BREUIL, professor in the Institut de Paléontologie Humaine and of prehistory in the Collège de France, has been elected a member of the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres. This signal honour is conferred in recognition of his work in prehistory and more especially of his studies of the art of the palæolithic age. The Abbé has now been recognized for nearly a generation as the foremost authority on prehistoric archæology not only in France, but also in the whole world; and his opinion on any disputed point is universally regarded as a court of final appeal. His election to the Academy is a matter of peculiar gratification to his colleagues in France, as it is the first occasion on which the study of early man and his culture has been honoured officially in this manner; for although de Quatrefages was a member of the Académie des Sciences and Hamy of the Académie des Inscriptions, while Cartailhac was a corresponding member at Toulouse of the latter body, they received these honours, as the editor of *L'Anthropologie* points out in the current issue (48, 1938, p. 391), not in virtue of their eminence in anthropological studies, but on the ground of other qualifications—de Quatrefages as zoologist, and Hamy for his work on the history of geography and geographical exploration.

Dr. Leo Jolowicz

ON August 12, Dr. Leo Jolowicz will celebrate his seventieth birthday. For many years he has occupied an outstanding position in the German scientific book and publishing business, and has done very much to foster and promote the development and diffusion of the results of scientific research. About fifty years ago, he took over the book business of Gustav Fock in Leipzig, which under his leadership became the largest and best-known 'Antiquariat' of scientific books. Dr. Jolowicz founded the famous publishing house, the Akademische Verlagsgesellschaft. This firm publishes a large number of well-known scientific journals, including, for example, the *Zeitschrift für physikalische Chemie*, and many important standard works and reviews, among which may be mentioned the "Handbuch der Experimentalphysik", "Handbuch der Radiologie", "Rabenhorst Kryptogamen-Flora", "Bronns Klassen und Ordnungen des Tierreiches", "Ergebnisse der Enzymforschung", "Ergebnisse der Vitamin- und Hormonforschung", etc. Among the world's famous publishers who through their deep interest in, and knowledge of, science and learning and their enterprise and imagination do so much to promote the advance of civilization, Dr. Jolowicz occupies a prominent and honoured position.

George James Symons, F.R.S. (1838-1901)

ON AUGUST 6, occurs the centenary of the birth of the distinguished meteorologist George James Symons, in whose honour the Symons Medal of the Royal Meteorological Society was founded. Born in Queen's Row, Pimlico, he was educated at St. Peter's School, Eaton Square, London, and at Thornton Rectory, Leicestershire, and passed through the Royal School of Mines. Having joined the British Meteorological Society in 1856, the following year he undertook the duties of meteorological reporter to the Registrar-General, and these he continued to discharge until his death. For three years, 1860-63, he also served under Rear-Admiral Robert FitzRoy in the Meteorological Department of the Board of Trade, which had been inaugurated in 1857. His services to meteorological science were many and varied. In 1860 he published the first volume of his "British Rainfall", which gave rise to the British Rainfall Organization, the work of which was transferred to the Meteorological Office in 1919, and in 1866 he founded *Symon's Meteorological Magazine*, which in 1920, with the *Meteorological Office Circular*, was incorporated with the *Meteorological Magazine*. For two periods he served as honorary secretary to the Royal Meteorological Society, and in 1880 and 1900 was the president. So early as 1876 he received a Telford premium from the Institution of Civil Engineers for a paper on floods and water economy, and in 1897 he was awarded the Albert Medal of the Royal Society of Arts for the service he had rendered engineers engaged on water supply problems. His death took place on March 10, 1900, and he was buried in Kensal Green Cemetery. The following year a fund of more than £700 was subscribed for founding the Medal bearing his name.

Sir James Barrett's Reminiscences

SIR JAMES BARRETT, chancellor of the University of Melbourne, has contributed to *The Herald* (Melbourne) during April and May of this year a series of reminiscences which deal with the history of old Melbourne and its University and Hospital, early days in London and on the Continent, recollections of the Great War, and education and university extension in Great Britain and the United States. Born and spending his boyhood in old Melbourne, when there were toll gates on the St. Kilda Road, Sir James entered the University there when he was fifteen years old, and graduated in the medical faculty in 1881. He recalls the kindly assistance given to students by Prof. Halford, who taught anatomy, physiology and pathology, at a time when the University had only two hundred students with five professors to teach them, and describes medical