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W. K. C. PARLEE,
Manager.
L. O. MACNUTT,
Editor.

DAILY HERALD.

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SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS.

The address at the opening of the seventy-fifth meeting of the British Association was delivered by the president of the association, Dr. E. Ray Lankester, an Aug. 1. The London Times devotes nearly a full page to this address without comprising the whole of it. It is of great value to all scientific students, as well as to all who take an interest in scientific progress, because it is a competent, lucid and it may almost be said a fascinating retrospect of the field of scientific progress during the last quarter of a century. The first annual meeting of the British Association was held at York seventy-five years ago. The present meeting is the fourth in the fine old city which may be called its birthplace. Its half-century jubilee was held there, when Sir John Lubbock, now Lord Avebury, delivered the president's address. He is still living, and was present at the seventy-fifth meeting. Dr. Lankester, in the opening of his address, said that he had personally known several of the founders of the association, mentioning Prof. John Phillips, Sir Charles Lyell, Sir Roderick Murchison, Sir David Brewster and Dr. Whewell, thus happily linking its beginning with the present anniversary.

The progress of the knowledge of nature in the last twenty-five years, he said, had consisted in "the amplification and fuller verification of principles and theories already accepted and in the discovery of hitherto unknown things which either have fallen into place in the existing scheme of each science or have necessitated new views, some not very disturbing to existing general conceptions, others of a more startling and, at first sight, disconcerting character." But however "exciting and entrancing" some of these new discoveries have been, he believed that there had been nothing really revolutionary, nothing to show that science had hitherto been "on the wrong path." There had been "continuity and healthy evolution." "Science has not come to the end of her work—has, indeed, only as yet given mankind a foretaste of what she has in store for it; her methods and her accomplished results are sound and trustworthy, serving with perfect adaptability for the increase of true discovery and the expansion and development of those general conceptions of the processes of nature at which she aims." The most notable advance of the last quarter-century which would make it stand out forever in human history was the discovery of new chemical elements, "not of an ordinary type, but possessed of truly astounding properties." However interesting others of these discoveries may be, by far the most important achievement is the discovery of radio-activity and of the element radium. "We may well account it a supreme privilege that it has fallen to our lot to live in the days of this discovery."

Preliminary to the treatment of the discovery of radium and of its marvellous attributes he spoke of the discovery of the five inert gaseous elements—argon, neon, krypton, xenon and helium—which also belonged to this period. These discoveries are all presented with a charming distinctness and with particular reference to their scientific significance and description of the phosphorescent rays they are capable of producing, the study of which led to the discovery of radium, the "wonder of wonders." This discovery is set forth graphically, and followed by a valuable summary of the qualities of the new substance and of the characteristics of radium emanation. "The kind of conceptions to which these and like discoveries have led the modern physicist in regard to character of that supposed unbreakable body—the chemical atom, the simple and unaffected friend of our youth—are truly astounding. But I would have you notice that they are not destructive of our previous conceptions, but rather elaborations and developments of the simpler views, introducing the notion of structure and mechanism, agitated and whirling with tremendous force into what we formerly conceived of as homogeneous or simply built-up particles, the earlier conception being not so much a positive assertion of simplicity as a non-committal expectant formula awaiting the progress of knowledge and the

revelations which are now in our hands."

MINISTERS AND SELF-SACRIFICE.

It is noticeable that many of the correspondents who are discussing the salaries of clergymen freely lecture the clergymen on the duty of self-sacrifice, and as freely exalt the blessings of poverty. But should there not be sacrifice in the Pew as well as in the Pulpit? If the minister must sacrifice much in order to preach, is not the layman under equal obligation in order that the minister may be adequately supported? It is out of the question that clergymen should lead lives of ease and luxury, but Protestants do not want a celibate clergy, and ministers, like other men, must be concerned for the comfort of their wives and the education of the family. Besides, ministers cannot do their best work if they are harassed by debt, and pursued by domestic worries. They must have books, they must keep in touch with many phases of life and thought, they must assume many social and public obligations. Without information and education, they cannot be leaders of the people; a strong pulpit makes a robust religion, and gives tone and character to national life. Reason it out as we will, unless ministers receive adequate support, and are enabled to maintain a position of reasonable dignity, in the community, the churches will languish and the pulpit lose its hold upon the people. This and all other problems must be considered, not according to the fashion of some other time, but with tendencies and conditions of our own day and generation.

THE TIPPING SYSTEM.

For the guidance of tourists an American paper publishes explicit instructions as to the various employees of the passenger steamers who must be paid by tip and the sum that each is entitled to receive. Although the writer has evidently bestowed much time and thought on the problem and made a serious effort to make his information complete and to have his instructions cover every point, he is evidently conscious of the difficulties besetting the work undertaken. The chief trouble arises through the varying tariffs on different grades of vessels. To meet this difficulty he advises passengers to consult with one another, and to obtain the opinions of those who have travelled by the same vessel before. In that way it will be quite possible to learn the tariff and make the proper payments. The ridiculous nature of this unmitigated nuisance could not be more strikingly revealed than in this serious and sympathetic effort to facilitate its operations. People going abroad encounter many worries and petty annoyances. Travel entails considerable attention to trouble through inevitable omissions. All these are needlessly aggravated by the necessity of providing an equipment of notes and coin for tipping, by the uncertainty as to the tariffs, and the consequent necessity of consulting experts, by the fear of sensitive passengers lest they do not pay in full, and by the taint of charity from which all right-thinking people shrink. The publication of regular tariffs removes the charity element and has the further advantage of showing up the ridiculous nature of the system. And people will not long remain ridiculous.

The first steamship company to relieve the travelling public of this nuisance will receive such a response in passenger business at advanced rates that all the others will be forced to follow the example. The late Marshall Field had sufficient discernment to see that retail customers did not want to be forced, coaxed, badgered, or otherwise importuned by clerks. He saw that they wanted to be left alone, and his insight won him an immense fortune. He earned every dollar of it by the service rendered to the retail trade and rid of them of an intolerable nuisance. A fortune awaits the first steamship company with sufficient wisdom to rid the public of the tipping nuisance. There are few passengers who would not gladly pay double the gross tip tariff if such payment would relieve them of further trouble. The change would be the death of such enterprisers as the keeping of a salaried tipper to lead off ostentatiously with large amounts, but that would occasion no regret.

ALCOHOL FOR POWER.

In many of the western states the farmers are already considering the planting of crops that will be suitable for the manufacturing of alcohol which can be denatured and sold without payment of an internal revenue tax. Some of the southern states also expect this removal of the high tax will open up new fields of agricultural industry. There is a great demand for some new source of power that can be used in the internal combustion engine. The supply of gasoline obtainable is limited, and it is an open question, if, at the present time the time for this petroleum distillate is not fully equal to the supply which can be furnished in this country. Prices have been materially advanced of late, and the standard of the gasoline lowered. If denatured alcohol proves all that

has been claimed it will be of the greatest value, both as a new agricultural industry and as an additional source from which power can be derived.

HALIFAX CONVENTION.

Union of Municipalities Finishes Business and Adjourned.

Halifax, N. S., Aug. 16.—The Union of Canadian Municipalities finished its business this afternoon. They decided to meet next year in Fort William and Port Arthur. It was a close race between the Lake Superior towns and Toronto, Fort William and Port Arthur gaining by only four or five votes. The meeting will probably take place in July.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted on motion of Alderman L. A. Lapointe, of Montreal, seconded by Mayor Coatsworth:

"In the opinion of the Union of Canadian Municipalities, where a telephone company already charges its maximum authorized rate to the subscribers, being under the obligation of supplying the best and most modern instalment, it is unjust and illegal for the company to make an additional charge, under the pretence of supplying an improved instrument, called a long distance telephone."

A resolution was adopted on motion of ex-Mayor Dyke, of Fort William, endorsing the request of the provincial legislature of Manitoba to the parliament of Canada, for authority to expropriate or purchase all the telephone lines in the province, and affirming the principle that similar authority should be given to the other provinces of the dominion.

On motion of Mayor Coatsworth, seconded by Mayor Fleming, of Brandon, it was unanimously decided to memorialize parliament to amend the legislation of last session so as to require the freest interchange of business between telephone companies, whether long distance lines to give connection to local and rival concerns did not meet the public requirements, and that in the interchange of business telephone companies should be placed in precisely the same category as railway companies.

Mayor Sharpe, of Winnipeg, was elected president, and Mayor Coatsworth was elected vice-president of the union.

A feature of the session was the presentation by the union to Mayor Coatsworth of a handsome grandfather's clock and a bronze statue of Eros.

CONVICTS MADE A DASH FOR LIBERTY.

Prisoners Armed With Knives Mutinied in Spanish Prison.

Eight hundred convicts confined in the central prison at Tarragona, Spain, made a daring attempt to overpower the wardens and escape recently.

By prearrangement they began an uproar while the wardens were changing guard, and then rushed into the central courtyard armed with knives and iron rods wrenched from the windows of the cells.

The convicts swarmed around the gates, brandishing their weapons and threatening to kill all the wardens unless they handed over their keys. The noise could be heard throughout the town and thousands of people assembled around the prison.

When the governor arrived with another detachment of wardens he was greeted with execrations and threats. A number of convicts rushed forward to attack the party, and the governor and wardens were forced to flee for their lives.

Meanwhile, bands of convicts were roaming through the prison, smashing windows, doors and furniture. As they could not procure the keys of the outer doors, ten convicts set to work to make a hole in the wall.

Two companies of infantry, who had been summoned from the barracks, arrived just as the convicts had succeeded in making a breach in the wall. The soldiers threatened to kill every convict in the courtyard unless they immediately laid down their arms.

Of the ten men who escaped through the hole in the wall, seven were speedily recaptured and put in irons. The other convicts were cowed by the rifles of the troops, and, after being disarmed, were marched back to their cells.

WINDSOR HALL GUESTS.

The following were among the guests registered at Windsor Hall today:

F. G. Sharkey, Boston.
F. B. Armour, St. John.
R. B. Birtzel, M. D., Kingston, N. Y.

Florence J. Ally, Mrs. J. H. Alcorn, Mrs. Geo. Haddock, Cambridge.
Mrs. Read Stockton, Sussex.
Lt. Col. Armstrong, St. John.
W. H. Holland, New York.
G. R. Wright, Salisbury.

J. A. Harrington, Chatham.
M. M. Malone, Berlin, N. H.
N. K. Malone, Stanley.
Gertrude McGivney, Berlin, N. H.
A. A. McClaskey and wife, St. John.

Miss Blanche McNair, Oregon.
Albert J. Peaton, Boston.
W. J. Crockett, Concord, N. H.
E. C. Percival, New York.
F. C. Murray, New York.

A. E. Ross, Hartland.
B. M. Foster, New Bedford.
F. R. DeBoo and wife, Sussex.
E. A. Thornton, Cookshire.
F. L. Jennings, Montreal.

J. C. Frazier, Cookshire.
Miss J. M. McGregor, New Glasgow.
Miss N. Agnes Brown, Toronto.

Miss Helen McGilvery, New Glasgow.
Miss Margaret E. Allen, New Glasgow.

Charles S. Chase, Detroit.
Mrs. W. B. Chase, Detroit.
J. W. Budd, Toronto.

Alfred Seeley, St. John.
Miss Godsoe, St. John.
Mrs. Harry King Chipman.
Miss A. P. DeWolfe, Bedford, N. S.
Miss King, Miss Bessie King, Chipman.

Mr. A. G. Golding of St. John, is in the city.

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October 5 THE PLACE Canada

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JAMES M. PALMER, M. A.,
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August 1st, 1906.
Aug. 2—dwdlmo, wlmo.

VALUABLE RESIDENCE FOR SALE.

There will be offered for sale at public auction on Tuesday the twenty-eighth day of August, instant, at eleven thirty o'clock a. m. in front of the Post Office in this City the residence of the late E. Byron King, situated on the corner of King and Church Streets.

Inspection of the property may be made at any time. Apply to WINSLOW AND ALLEN, Solicitors, Queen Street.

Aug. 6—d 14.

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