

CONGRESS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

(S.E. BRANCH).

THE thirty-eighth Annual Congress of the South-Eastern Union of Scientific Societies (to which the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society, with seventy-five other Societies, is affiliated), was held at Norwich, 7th–10th June, by invitation of the Lord Mayor and Corporation, and with the co-operation of the Norfolk and Norwich Archaeological Society. The list of patrons included numerous local notabilities.

Mr. G. J. B. Fox (Deputy Chairman) and Mr. A. E. Henderson (Member of Council), were appointed by the Council as representatives of the Society; and the former duly attended.

The President-Elect was Professor E. J. Salisbury, D.Sc., F.R.S., F.L.S., Quain Professor of Botany, University College, London.

The Congress arrangements were in the hands of the following Committees, viz.:—Congress Executive Committee, Norwich Executive Committee, Finance Sub-Committee, Programme Sub-Committee, Excursions Sub-Committee, Hospitality and Entertainments Sub-Committee, Papers and Lectures Sub-Committee.

Dr. H. A. Costigan acted as Honorary Local Secretary.

The headquarters of the Congress were the Technical College, St. George Street; and a copy of the *Official Guide to Norwich* was handed to each applicant.

On Wednesday (7th June) afternoon, three parties of members, etc., were conducted by several guides, including the Dean of Norwich, Dr. Cranage, to various historical buildings, etc., in the City, including the Cathedral, St. Peter Hungate, St. Andrew's, St. Peter Mancroft, and other churches; the Guildhall, the Bridewell, Strangers' Hall, St. Helen's Hospital, etc.,

etc. Later, Carrow Abbey was visited by invitation of the Misses Colman, who kindly provided tea for one hundred visitor-members.

In the evening, the Lord Mayor officially welcomed the members in the Stuart Hall, and Dr. Salisbury gave his presidential address, entitled "The Influence of Man on Vegetation."

Thursday (8th June) was a busy day; the representatives held a business meeting at 9.30; a whole-day Geological Excursion was made to the Cromer district; the Botanical Section held its business meeting; a presidential address and a lantern lecture were given; the Archaeological Section held its business meeting, when Mr. T. D. Kenrick, M.A., of the Department of British and Mediaeval Antiquities, British Museum, was elected President, and Mr. G. J. B. Fox and Mr. A. J. Nunn, were re-elected Chairman and Secretary, respectively, of the Section; this meeting was followed by the President's address on "The Viking Period in England," and by a lantern lecture by Dr. Cranage on "Mediaeval Life in the Cathedral Priory of Norwich."

In the afternoon, the Botanical Section went to Stratton Strawless Woods, etc., the Archaeological Section visited the Churches at Cawston and Salle, and the Halls at Heydon and Blickling.

In the evening the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress held a reception at the Castle; it was a brilliant gathering and well attended; music and refreshments were provided and the Museum was found specially attractive.

Friday, 9th June, was another busy day and very full of interest—the Zoological Section held its business meeting, and listened to a talk on "Insect Immigration" and to two lantern lectures on "Uses of the Spectroscope in Biology," and on "Pond Life with special reference to Rotifera and Polyzoa"; the latter was followed by an excursion to Horsey. The Botanical Section also visited Horsey and Calthorpe Broad; the Geological Section held its business meeting; the presidential

address was on the "Relationship of Geology to the Scenery of the Weald," and a lantern lecture was given on the "Pliocene and Pleistocene Deposits of Norfolk"; later an excursion was made to various Norwich sites, where brickearth, gravel, and crag deposits were examined. The Archaeological Section spent a whole day at Castle Acre and its neighbourhood.

In the evening a public lecture on the "Birds of the Broads," illustrated by film pictures, was given in the Stuart Hall.

Saturday, 10th June. The representatives attended an adjourned meeting, when votes of thanks were passed to those responsible for the success of the Congress, including:—The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress; the Misses Colman; Major Buxton and the officers of the various local Societies; the hosts and hostesses who provided hospitality; Dr. H. A. Costigan, Mr. A. E. Ellis, etc., and the various Committees; The *Eastern Daily Press*, which gave full reports of the various meetings.

A combined party of about fifty members made a whole-day tour on the Broads, visiting Wroxham and its Broad, Salhouse Broad, Ranworth Church and Broad, and Barton Broad. The Regional Survey Section held its business meeting, followed by a presidential address, and a lecture on "Town and Country Planning in and around Norwich"; also a demonstration of Survey material made at the Le Play House Field Study Meeting held at Norwich, Easter, 1932.

The Congress was well attended, and its success was due to the arrangements made by the local Committees and officials.