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EDITORIAL NOTES.

AMONGST the long list of deferred Birthday Honours is that of a Knighthood to the well-known geologist (who has attained his 81st year), William Boyd Dawkins, M.A., D.Sc. (Oxford), Hon. D.Sc. (Man.), F.R.S., F.S.A., F.G.S., M.Inst.M.E., Assoc.Inst.C.E., Hon. Professor of Geology and Palæontology in the Victoria University, Manchester. Professor Boyd Dawkins is one of the few surviving geologists who, with Sir A. Geikie, Sir Ray Lankester, and Dr. Henry Woodward, assisted in giving birth to the first number of the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE on July 1, 1864, fifty-five years ago. We offer Sir William Boyd Dawkins our heartiest congratulations on this latest distinction conferred upon him by the King.

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As a result of recent great developments in the Departments of Geology and Geography at Cambridge several new appointments have been made. In view of the recent establishment of a Geography Tripos, and in order to provide a single responsible head for the department, the General Board of Studies have recommended the establishment of a Royal Geographical Society Readership in Geography, to which it is proposed to appoint P. Lake, M.A., of St. John's College, hitherto Royal Geographical Society University Lecturer in Regional and Physical Geography. This latter lectureship is to be suspended for the present. F. Debenham, of Gonville and Caius College, has also been appointed Royal Geographical Society University Lecturer in Surveying and Cartography. It is to be noted that both these gentlemen are well-known geologists. In the Department of Geology a new University Lectureship in Economic Geology has been created, to which R. H. Rastall, M.A., of Christ's College, has been elected. The Woodwardian Professor has chosen as his assistant T. C. Nicholas, O.B.E., M.C., M.A., of Trinity College, while the new Demonstrator in Petrology is J. M. Wordie, M.A., of St. John's College.

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EARLY in August it was announced that the Government have appointed a Departmental Committee to inquire into the present position of the non-ferrous mining industry in this country. This is a subject on which a great deal has been written in the technical and general press, and there can be no doubt that the changed

conditions of the last few months have left matters in a very complicated and unsatisfactory position. This was probably inevitable under the circumstances, and we trust that the Committee will be able to find some way of putting the industry on a sounder financial basis. The writer of these lines has lately had an opportunity of seeing something of the tin-mining industry of Cornwall, and has formed certain opinions on the subject. However, in view of the approaching Government investigation this is not the time to expound these opinions. It must suffice here to say that geologists will await with much interest the results of the comprehensive scheme of exploration and development now to be undertaken in the hitherto untried region between Camborne and the sea. These investigations promise to yield results of great importance, and will in all probability throw some light on the question of the underground relations of the masses of granite now visible at the surface in Cornwall. This is a problem of much interest to petrologists and structural geologists, apart from its economic importance, in view of the fact that the richest deposits of tin are as a rule closely associated with the granite-slate contact.

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IN the list of members of the Committee mentioned in the preceding paragraph we are glad to see the name of Dr. F. H. Hatch, whose interesting lecture on recent developments in the iron-ore industry of this country we print in the present number. Dr. Hatch has a very wide knowledge of mining matters in many parts of the world in connexion with many kinds of metalliferous ores, and his help will be of great value to the Committee. As is well known Dr. Hatch rendered most valuable services to the country during the War in relation to the development of home iron-ores and other necessary materials to counteract the falling off in imported supplies, while he is also an active member of the recently instituted Mineral Resources Bureau.

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It is perhaps not yet too late to remind our readers that the meeting of the British Association takes place at Bournemouth from September 9 to 13. This year the meeting will again be held under more or less normal conditions, although the programme of official functions is somewhat smaller than of old. Many members will no doubt consider this an advantage rather than otherwise. It is satisfactory to observe that it has been found possible to obtain accommodation for practically the whole of the work of the meeting in one building, namely, the Municipal College. A series of citizens' lectures are to be given in co-operation with the Workers' Educational Association, and one of these is to be delivered by Professor S. H. Reynolds on the scenery and geology of the Isle of Purbeck; this should prove an attractive subject. Several excursions have been arranged to places of geological interest, which abound in the neighbourhood, including such classic localities as Lulworth Cove and Kimmeridge. It would be difficult to find a region more attractive from this point of view.