

29th Dec, 1896

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION
LECTURE.

ELECTRICITY AND RONTGEN RAYS.

The accommodation of the science lecture-room of the University was taxed to its utmost on Tuesday night, when Professor Bragg delivered his third lecture upon electric discharge, leading up to his final lecture on the mysterious X rays. He continued from his previous lecture to show that the striations of electric discharge in vacuum tubes were sensitive to the contact of touching the glass of the tube by the hand. Spottiswoode had been experimenting upon this discovery without a very satisfactory explanation up to the present. Professor Bragg said that this sensitiveness would probably eventuate in something interesting, and he hazarded the opinion that the effect came from the atoms carrying the discharge. A Crookes tube showing peculiar triplet striata was shown upon the screen, and the Professor explained that this was due to the pressure of hydrogen and nitrogen, the bands having distinct colours. Diagrams were drawn upon the board illustrating the responsive effects of positive and negative electricity, and then further explained with the aid of electrical apparatus, much satisfaction being evinced at the success of the experiment, which had caused the Professor and his assistant many hours of anxiety and work to bring to a successful issue for the evening's lecture. The influence of an electro-magnet was then shown to sweep aside an electric discharge when so adjusted to meet its course. Drawings of vacuum tubes showing Crookes's and Faraday's mysterious dark spaces, the negative glow, and striæ were put upon the screen, and also Crookes's own drawing explaining the dark space. An entertaining definition was given of the phosphorescent and fluorescent effects in different substances, such as German soda glass, English lead glass, uranium, quinine, and in gas. The green, blue, and pink effects came out very prettily in a vacuum tube arranged to aptly display the colours. The radiations coming from a negative pole showed the direction of the electric discharge in a bulb made with German glass. A series of Crookes tubes were exhibited, showing the shadow of a cross caused by the direction of the rays being interfered with, and this was further exemplified in a mechanical tube containing a wheel mounted upon rails within the tube, and made to run to and fro by the electrified particles striking against it. The argument between Crookes and Puluj as to the medium of conveyance for rays in vacuum tubes was then explained, and the evidence was in favour of gas being the carrying agency, according to Crookes's theory, as against that of metal particles, advocated by Puluj. Much praise is due to Professor Bragg and his very able assistant, Mr. A. L. Rogers, for the extreme care taken over the experiments and their eminent success. The final lecture of the course will deal with the subject of Röntgen's photographic discovery in radiation, and as this evening is also fixed for another public engagement the Professor expressed his willingness to repeat the lecture if a sufficient number desired that he should do so.

Advertiser
1 Jan 1896

THE MEDICAL SCHOOL.

In consequence of the decision of the Government not to vote £600 in aid of the medical school, the council of the University was compelled to intimate to the lecturers that their engagements would terminate at the end of the present week. The council will, early in the year, consider whether it will not be possible to carry on the school under a revised system.

95.11.96

Register

5th Aug 1896

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION
LECTURES.

Professor Bragg delivered the last of his course of lectures on "Electric Discharge" at the University on Tuesday evening before a large and appreciative audience. The previous lectures were of an explanatory character, leading up to a demonstration of the mysterious X rays. After dealing with the general theory of electric discharge, the Professor explained the difficulties which had to be surmounted in obtaining the necessary force and vacuum for the production of the discharge. At the previous lecture the Professor showed a number of photographs of tubes. Mr. Rogers had succeeded in making a number of the tubes, which he exhibited to the audience, his masterpiece being a tube containing a wheel driven rapidly by the introduction of kalliode rays. A platinum shield placed in front of the wheel prevented its rotation, but by means of a magnet the course of the rays was diverted to drive the wheel. The discovery by Röntgen of utilizing the rays for photographic purposes was then explained and demonstrated. The lecture closed with an exhibition of photographs and phosphorescent shadowgraphs. For this course of lectures Professor Bragg and his assistant, Mr. A. L. Rogers, have spared neither time nor trouble to make them a success.

At the Norwood Town Hall on Tuesday evening Mr. R. W. Chapman delivered the first of a series of lectures on "The Growth of Worlds." Mr. G. Hall presided, in the absence of the Mayor, Mr. R. K. Threlfall, who is laid aside by an attack of influenza. There was a large attendance. The lecturer, with the aid of lantern views, dealt first in a general way with the science of astronomy, and afterwards gave a most interesting description of the sun. The lecture was greatly enjoyed.

Reg 5/8/96



Register

5th Feb 1896

the case.

THE MEDICAL SCHOOL.—The Government have sent a negative reply to the deputation which waited upon the Minister of Education some time ago with reference to the stoppage of the grant for the Medical School at the University. It will be remembered that the grant of £500 for the school was taken off this year's Estimates, and that a request was made that it should be reinstated. The letter from the Minister of Education, which Mr. C. R. Hodge, the Registrar of the University received on Tuesday, intimated that the Government would adhere to their decision to discontinue the grant for the purposes of the school. A University Council meeting will be held on Friday next to consider the Minister's reply.