CANADIAN COURIER

MEN OF TO-DAY

WO Canadian research men are presented on this page, both of whom have received recent honours in the British Association for the Advancement of Science; one being president of the physiological section, the other of the geological section. It

will be remembered that the Association met last year in Winnipeg; although long enough before 1909 it was known that Canada could produce scientists worthy of rank with most of the best in Europe.

When a country progresses at the remarkable rate at which Canada is now forging ahead—materially—it is more often the man of applied science who challenges public attention. Twenty years ago Can-ada was well represented by two eminent scientists, one in Montreal, the other in Toronto. Dr. William Dawson was one of the most renowned geologists of his generation. Dr. Daniel Wilson, a few years his Junior, was equally conspicuous in the domain of anthropology; one studied the rocks and the earth; the other the men who in a prehistoric age had made the earth a habitation.

Prof. A. P. Coleman and Prof. A. B. Macallum. Here we have the practical geologist and the equally prac-tical physiologist. And while the geological methods of Dr. Coleman may differ in detail, being more modern and experimental than Dr. Dawson's, the investigations prosecuted by Dr. Macallum through the microscope are quite as characteristic of the twentieth ^{century.} For we are constantly assured by writers for the press that the microbe population of the civilised world is not only infinitely greater in number than the human population, but that it is also Part of the manifest duty of civilisation to see that the Darwinian theory, "the survival of the fittest," is not left to the microbes to work out.

THE MAN WITH THE MICROSCOPE

ET us therefore turn to the man with the microscope who for two or three hundred days in the year presides over the physiological department in the University of Toronto. Prof. Macallum is a middle-aged man; tall and Scotch and unemo-tional; a circumspect, dispassionate investigator of microcosms and a vendor of dry Scotch humour to the students who in the few years allotted to them endeavour to see eye to eye with the Professor through a microscope—which is not always easy. Many a student has been baffled by his first glimpse of the information of the proceeding of Prof. the infinitesmal world through the binoculars of Prof. Macallum. Those stacks of little speck-strewn glass slides on the Professor's table do not look convincing to the naked eye. But they are as complete a picture of the microscopic world as is Dante's Inferno of the neth nether and the modern telescope of the heavens above.

Now the modern railway office or the newspaper sanctum may be a lively place; but neither is more gog with the newest developments than is the cold chemical laboratory of Prof. Macallum, whose special line of investigation is the chemistry of the cell—not recommended to the inmates of the penitentiary. For every time a new disease or pestilence or some novel manifestation of an old one begins to agitate the Public, the microscopes and the germ-cultures and the test test-tubes of the Professor's laboratory are diligently engaged in the prosecution of research on the ultimate properties of the germs which act upon cellular organisms.

Professor Macallum has been a life-long student. He was born in 1859 in the township of Westminster, O_{nt} . At the age of fifteen, when most country boys are struggling out of the Fourth Reader, he began to teach. For three years while a teacher he got up his matriculation work for the University of Toronto. In 1880 ¹⁸⁸⁰ he graduated with first-class honours and a ^{medal} in Natural Science. Three years he taught in the Cornwall High School, after which he studied at Johns J. J. Leiversity for a year: became a Johns Hopkins University for a year; became a Fellow in biology in 1884, lecturer in physiology in 1885

1887 and in 1891 professor. Meanwhile, however, he had graduated as Doctor of Philosophy in Johns Hopkins and Bachelor of Medicine in the University of Toronto. In 1906 Prof. Macallum was elected Fellow of the Royal Society of London and in the same year received his honorary L.L.D. at Aberdeen: following year Honorary Sc. D. from Yale and in 1908 the same from Trinity College, Dublin. On his chosen line of investigation Professor Macallum has contributed



Prof. A. B. Macallum; Chairman Bacterio logical Section, British Association, 1910.



Prof. A. P. Coleman; recently selected to become a Fellow of the Royal Society.



Mr. D. W. McQuaig: President Canadian Council of Agriculture.

many papers to British, German and American scientific societies.

THE STUDENT OF ROCKS

DR. ARTHUR P. COLEMAN is not less of a precisian, but more of a humanitarian than his confrere of the microscope. His work has brought him more practically into contact with com-

munities and with out-of-doors people. During the past twenty years when so much of Canadian progress is in the rocks, Dr. Coleman's investigations have been of almost invaluable interest. It was he who worked up and mapped the famous Sudbury nickel areas for the Ontario Bureau of Mines. He knows the rocks of northern Ontario

better than any other living man—though prospectors often carry in their grips Miller's Handbook of Geology. No matter on what phase of Canadian geology you tackle Prof. Coleman, he is always geology you tackle Prof. Coleman, he is always genially discursive with illuminating opinions, based upon the most rigid investigation. It may be the prehistoric glacial drifts that underlie Toronto, the prehistoric formations in the rocky regions of Elora; or it may be the mute story of a boulder lying loose along the highway and kicked aside by the wayfarer, but a compend of fascinating and romantic information to this good-hearted, entertaining Professor. He is a many-sided man. Sitting at his table you would call him the beau ideal of a Professor; a man of books and of courtly, classic style; occasionally addicted to his Latin, eternally interested in books and literary studies; a man of rare cultivation and discernment. But you will learn also that he is keenly interested in art, being himself an amateur painter of good quality whose pictures have been hung in the gallery of the Ontario Society of Artists; and he is scarcely less fond of good music.

But it is the out-of-doors quality in Dr. Coleman that is the most interesting; because when he begins to talk about the rocks he has seen and tramped and studied you find that, beginning with the innocent boulder on the country road, he has followed its story clear up to the peaks of the Rockies. Few men in Canada have done as much mountain-climbing as Dr. Coleman. He has been many a snowy summer on the glaciers of the Brazeau and the drifts southward; beyond the headwaters of the Saskatchewan to the snowbound ice-fields where they begin; with his brother, a rancher in the foothills, again and again pushing up among the cathedral peaks of the northern slope of the Rockies—clear up the fabulous height of Mount Robson, which he and his brother with packs of ponies and an outfit for three months, twice ex-plored in the summers of 1907 and 1908. This at an age when most men of nearly sixty would have as soon dreamed of climbing inaccessible mountains sheeted with snow and blinded with storms as of

flying to Mars. Dr. Coleman has the earnest, intense desire of the the devotee, coupled with the orderly methods of the dispassionate investigator. He was born in Lachute, P.Q., in 1852; graduated from Victoria University in 1876; made a Ph.D. from Breslau University in Ger-many in 1881; next year Professor of Geology in Victoria. In 1891 he was appointed to the same position in the School of Science and the University of Toronto and two years later became geologist to the Ontario Bureau of Mines. He was vice-president of the Geological Society some years ago and was awarded the Murchison Medal by the Geological Society of London this year.

A FARMERS' FRIEND

SOME of the agricultural interests of Canada are

Source of the agricultural interests of Canada are to be entrusted to a new organisation termed the Canadian Council of Agriculture. The first presi-dent of this new body is D. W. McQuaig of Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, who has for some years been president of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Associa-tion. In that accessing he has been solved. tion. In that capacity he has been a prominent figure before the farmers and legislators in view of the bitter fight which that body is waging against the elevator companies of the prairie provinces.

Mr. McQuaig is a native of Glengarry but he has resided in Manitoba since 1877. When he left Lan-caster, Glengarry, thirty-three years ago, a journey to Fisher's Landing on the Red River, and from there by boat to Winni-

peg, Mr. McQuaig set foot upon the Portage Plains on or about May 29th, 1877. He was one of the first to file a homestead in this fertile region and since the time he began to plough the prairie with an oxteam, the West has heard from him on matters relating to the farmer. For years he has been a director of mutual hail insurance companies and is president of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association.