

but whether it was rebuilt can only be decided by excavation. The villa appears to lie to the west. With so rich a bath house, it should be a fine example of an early Romano-British country house. The cost of the complete excavation will be £500, of which £150 is required to finish the present season's work. The appeal is issued by a Committee of which Mr. E. W. Hulme is the chairman and Mr. E. J. F. Hearne the hon. secretary. Donations should be addressed to Mr. D. Crawford, Hon. Treasurer, Angmering Roman Villa Excavation Fund, Barclay's Bank, Littlehampton, Sussex.

Roman Leicester

EXCAVATIONS, which have now been resumed on the Jewry Wall site at Leicester, have brought to light a remarkable example of the Roman bath, where the Roman forum and basilica were discovered by previous excavations (*The Times*, July 31). The bath is situated in the middle of the open space in the centre of the forum. It is probable that this bath was the largest built in Britain by the Romans. It is on an enormous scale, and comparable to the Imperial baths at Rome. It has one suite for men and one for women, with hot, cold and warm rooms. Miss Kathleen Kenyon, who is again in charge of the excavation, is of the opinion that it was built at the beginning of the fourth century B.C. about two hundred years after the erection of the forum.

Mass-Observation

At a meeting of the Engineers' Study Group on Economics on July 23, Mr. Charles Madge, joint organizer of "Mass-Observation" (6 Grottes Buildings, Blackheath, London, S.E.3), gave a preliminary account of some of the results already obtained. "Mass-Observation" was begun at the end of 1936 to find out more about everybody's everyday normal life and habits. There are now voluntary observers at work all over the world, and special surveys have been made of the life of the community on certain days. It was found that observers' references to people fall mainly into three categories: (a) people one knows or one has met already; (b) strangers—people one meets in the street, or for the first time; (c) celebrities, one hears of, or reads about in the newspapers. Most reports dealt with the unusual happenings of the day, and the observers had, generally, to be reminded not to overlook the routine happenings. Mr. Madge pointed out that the movement uses both trained and untrained observers, and he stressed the great value of having so many observers who have voluntarily offered to supply information of their immediate surroundings. Although many of them are untrained for this special work, nevertheless, much material of value is being gathered. The chairman (Mr. Alexander Farquharson, secretary of the Institute of Sociology) remarked on the useful relationship that the work carried out by "Mass-Observation" had to that of the sociologist, in supplying raw material not always easily obtainable.

Utilization of Leisure

At a subsequent meeting of the Engineers' Study Group on July 30, Mr. M. M. Bruce, secretary of the London Council of Social Service (7 Bayley Street, W.C.2) outlined the results of a survey undertaken in co-operation with other bodies (L.C.C. Education Department, Y.M.C.A., Young Communist League, trade unions, co-operative societies, Workers Educational Association) to determine how young people between the ages of fourteen and twenty-five years spend their leisure. Some 5,000 answers—an admittedly insufficient sample—were received, which gave an indication of the wide variety of interests. The largest proportion of predilections expressed for any one type of recreation goes, with young men to outdoor sports (11 per cent) and with girls to dancing (30 per cent). The influence of the cinema was very evident in the choice of girls' fashions and hair-dressing styles. A tendency away from organized sports (football, etc.) towards the more individual type (rambles) was also noticeable. The investigation is being continued by a smaller committee, which is looking further into these particular aspects. The survey acquires a particular significance in view of the fact that the Government will, in the autumn, begin a campaign to improve both the physical and the mental abilities of the people of Great Britain.

Annual Report of the Astronomer Royal for Scotland

THE forty-seventh annual report of the Astronomer Royal for Scotland records the work done at the Royal Observatory, Edinburgh, for the year ending March 31, 1937. The daily time service for the city of Edinburgh was maintained without change. The transit circle was used exclusively to determine time. An apparatus installed during the year by H.M. Office of Works enables the mains supply to be used as the electrical power maintaining the winding of the clocks. Provision is made automatically for a temporary breakdown in the mains supply, by means of a secondary battery which is kept fully charged by a trickle from the mains. The 6-inch photo-visual refractor has been fitted with a synchronous drive. The solar spectroscope is being used to obtain spectra of the east and west limbs of the sun's disk to determine the solar rotation from the measured Doppler effect. The seismograph provides daily records which are available to other workers in this field. Observations with the 36-inch reflector were interrupted in order to have the great mirror aluminized by a reputable firm. Unfortunately the aluminium coating was not a success, and the mirror was then resilvered at the Observatory. A number of plates were taken with the 10-inch triplet as part of a programme for a search for variable stars near the Selected Areas centred around declination $+75^\circ$ and $+60^\circ$, the plates being examined with a blink comparator. Among the meteorological observations, it may be noted that the maximum shade temperature was 75° F. on August 28 and the minimum of 24° F. on December 7 and February 11. The deep rock thermometers at a depth of 250 inches on Calton Hill gave a minimum temperature on June 8 of 46.3°