

the following subjects will be discussed: (1) water excretion of mammals and its physiological regulation, introduced by Verney of Cambridge; (2) the problem of the relation between chemical constitution and pharmacological therapeutic action, introduced by Schuleman of Elberfeld; (3) hypnotics and basal narcosis, introduced by Weese of Elberfeld, Schon of Leipzig and Frey of Düsseldorf; (4) pharmacology and clinical employment of circulatory stimulants, introduced by Hildebrandt of Giessen and Killian of Freiburg. Further information can be obtained from Prof. Janssen, Pharmacologisches Institut, Freiburg i. B., or the general secretary, Prof. B. Behrens, Dorotheenstrasse 28, Berlin.

Announcements

THE RIGHT HON. J. RAMSAY MACDONALD will open the Coal Hydrogenation Petrol Plant of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., at Billingham-on-Tees, Durham, on October 15.

AN *Exchange* telegram from Copenhagen states that Prof. Niels Bohr, on his fiftieth birthday on October 7, was handed 100,000 kroner (nearly £4,000), which has been subscribed for among scientific societies in Denmark for the purchase of radium for research.

THE following appointments have recently been made by the Secretary of State for the Colonies: Mr. A. Pickles, to be entomologist, Department of Agriculture, Trinidad; Mr. J. W. Costello, late assistant conservator of forests, to be assistant conservator of forests, Nigeria; Mr. T. A. Strong, deputy conservator of forests, to be conservator of forests, Malaya; Mr. J. G. Watson, conservator of forests, to be deputy director of forests, Malaya.

A BIOCLIMATIC investigation department is to be established at Bad Pyrmont under the direction of Reg. Rat Lossnitzer, of Berlin.

AN institute for the biology of heredity and racial hygiene has been opened at Frankfurt-on-Main under the direction of Prof. Eugen Fischer.

THE King of the Belgians has recently laid the first stone of a cancer institute bearing the name of Jules Bordet, in honour of the former director of the Pasteur Institute of Brussels. The Institute is attached to the new Hopital St. Pierre, Brussels.

A POWER Farming Conference will be held in Oxford in January next under the auspices of the School of Rural Economy, the Institute for Research in Agricultural Engineering, and the Agricultural Economics Research Institute. The date provisionally fixed for the Conference is January 7-10.

DURING the recent International Congress of the History of Medicine at Madrid, the degree of doctor *honoris causa* was conferred at the ancient University of Alcala en Henares among others on Sir Humphry

Rolleston, the British delegate, and Profs. Neuberger of Vienna, Diepgen of Berlin, Laignel-Lavastine of Paris and Sigerist of Johns Hopkins, who occupy the chair of the history of medicine in their respective universities.

By courtesy of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique, the Science Museum, South Kensington, has secured the loan of a fine model, more than ten feet in length, of the *Normandie*, the present holder of the Blue Riband of the Atlantic. The *Normandie* has a length of 1,029 ft., beam 119 ft., tonnage 79,280, and turbo-electric machinery developing 160,000 horse-power. Her record-breaking run, New York to Plymouth, was accomplished in 4 days 3 hr. 25 min. at an average speed of 30.31 knots.

MESSRS. A. GALLENKAMP AND CO., LTD. (Technico House, Finsbury Square, London, E.C.2), have issued a revised edition of their catalogue "Apparatus for the Examination of Soil". The list includes the latest patterns and modifications of standard apparatus used in connexion with all types of soil work. Where desirable, directions for use are included, together with the appropriate bibliographical reference, so that direct contact with the scientific origin of the apparatus is possible.

ERRATUM.—In Prof. Karl Pearson's letter on "Statistical Tests" in NATURE of October 5, p. 550, the values of the eccentricities e should have been given in tenths, not hundredths; that is, $e = 0.6$, not 0.06. This has no bearing on the argument.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the following appointments, on or before the dates mentioned:

A research assistant in insect physiology in the Imperial College of Science, South Kensington, S.W.7 (Oct. 15).

A lecturer in mechanical engineering in the Birmingham Central Technical College—The Principal (Oct. 19).

A chemist in the Admiralty Chemical Pool—The Secretary of the Admiralty (C.E. Branch), Whitehall, London, S.W.1 (Oct. 25).

A junior assistant for the Directorate of Explosives Research—The Chief Superintendent, Research Department, Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, S.E.18 (Oct. 26).

A lecturer in mathematics in Goldsmiths' College—The Warden, Goldsmiths' College, New Cross, S.E.14 (Oct. 28).

A lecturer in physics in the University of Cape Town—The Secretary to the High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2 (Nov. 5).

A virus physiologist at Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, Herts—The Secretary (Dec. 15).

An assistant lecturer in agriculture in the Midland Agricultural College, Sutton Bonnington, Loughborough—The Principal.