

Plant Hormone Committee" has been formed with the following membership: Mr. F. P. Knight (Knapp Hill Nursery Co.), Dr. C. R. Metcalfe (Kew, convener and secretary), Mr. F. O. Mosley (Lowe and Shawyer, Ltd.), Prof. R. H. Stoughton (University of Reading), Mr. W. G. Templeman (Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd.), and Dr. M. A. H. Tincker (Royal Horticultural Society). The terms of reference are "to consider the practical applications of 'phytohormones' in relation to plant cultivation". The committee is at present engaged in compiling a list of species of which cuttings cannot easily be struck even by experienced propagators, in the hope that by intensive experimentation, methods for propagating them successfully may be discovered. Further information about the committee may be obtained from the Secretary.

#### Announcements

PROF. A. KROGH, professor of animal physiology in the University of Copenhagen, and Prof. L. Lapique, professor of general physiology in the Sorbonne, have been elected honorary members of the Physiological Society.

THE HON. SIR EVAN CHARTERIS, chairman of the Trustees of the National Portrait Gallery since 1928, chairman of the Tate Gallery Board since 1934, and Trustee of the National Gallery and Wallace Collection; Sir Francis Lewis Castle Floud, High Commissioner of the United Kingdom in Canada, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture in 1920-27, chairman of the Board of Customs in 1927-30, and Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Labour in 1930-34; and Sir John Ledingham, director of the Lister Institute and member of the Medical Research Council, have been elected members of the Athenæum under the provisions of Rule II of the Club which empowers the annual election by the Committee of a certain number of persons of distinguished eminence in science, literature, the arts, or for their public services.

DR. BURGESS BARNETT, who was curator of reptiles at the London Zoological Gardens in 1932-37, and since then has been doing research on snake venom, has been appointed superintendent of the Zoological Gardens at Rangoon. Dr. Barnett will take up the new post in June.

PROF. H. ZEISS, of the University of Berlin Institute of Hygiene, has been elected president of the Berlin Microbiological Society in succession to Dr. J. Schumacher.

At the annual general meeting of the Society of Public Analysts held on March 4, the following officers were elected: *President*, Prof. W. H. Roberts; *Vice-presidents*, B. S. Evans, J. R. Nicholls, W. H. Simmons, T. P. Hilditch (chairman, North of England Section), J. F. Tocher (chairman, Scottish Section); *Hon. treasurer*, E. B. Hughes; *Hon. secretary*, Lewis Eynon.

A VACATION Course on child psychology will be held on April 20-25 at Southlands Training College, Wimbledon Park Side, S.W. The course will be given in two concurrent sections: one for matrons of schools and one for medical officers and teachers. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary of the Child Guidance Council, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, London, W.C.1.

THE fifth European Congress of Mental Hygiene will be held at Munich on April 23-24, when the following subjects will be discussed: marriage prophylaxis and mental hygiene; prophylaxis of abuse of narcotics (alcohol, morphia, cocaine and hypnotics); and the importance of occupational therapy in physical and mental diseases.

THE League of Nations has sent a medical mission to the Far East to take measures to prevent or control the spread of epidemics. The mission is headed by Inspector-General Lasnet of the French Academy of Medicine; Dr. Hermann Mooser representing Germany and Dr. Robert Cecil Robertson representing Great Britain. The mission will first visit Hong-Kong and continue its work in south China.

ON the recommendation of their Science Scholarships Committee, the Commissioners of the Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851 have decided to increase from £250 to £275 a year the basic value of their overseas scholarships for scientific research, which are offered each year to students from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India and Ireland (Eire). The increase will take effect on April 1, 1938.

THE following awards of medals of the Institute of Patentees have recently been made: Grey-Wilson Memorial Gold Medal to Dr. S. C. Blacktin, for a dust and smoke meter (see NATURE, 140, 331, 582; 1937); Yorkshire Gold Medal to W. H. Siddle, for a wire-joining tool; Special Silver Medals to Mrs. F. Peace for a superhet washer, J. R. Churchill for a chair, W. McClelland for a balanced two-stroke engine, and to F. W. Mason for an automatic blind control.

THE following appointments and promotions have recently been made in the Colonial Service: B. W. H. Harding, inspector of mines, Kenya; W. G. R. Coates, engineer surveyor, Harbour Department, Hong-Kong; A. Gane, inspector of produce, Nigeria; P. H. Symons, assistant analyst, Medical Department, Hong-Kong; J. Pirie (agricultural superintendent, Gambia), agricultural officer, Nigeria; A. J. Wakefield (deputy director of agriculture), director of agriculture, Tanganyika; P. O. Wiehe (science master, Royal College), plant pathologist, Department of Agriculture, Mauritius; J. H. F. Sharkie (executive engineer, Public Works Department, Gold Coast), waterworks engineer, Public Works Department, Nigeria; J. Shelton (chemist), chief chemist, Institute for Medical Research, Malaya.