

**Physical Society : Summer Meeting at Cambridge**

THE summer meeting of the Physical Society will be held this year in Cambridge during July 14-16. The main subject will be "The Ionosphere and the Propagation of Radio Waves". Among the speakers will be Prof. S. Chapman (Queen's College, Oxford), Mr. J. A. Ratcliffe (Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge), Dr. A. C. B. Lovell (University of Manchester), Mr. G. Millington and Mr. S. B. Smith (Marconi Wireless Telegraph Co.), and representatives from the Radio Research Board and the British Broadcasting Corporation; visitors from France, Norway and Sweden are also expected. Attendance at the Conference is free to all members of the Physical Society; a fee of 10s. a day will be charged to non-members. Further details may be obtained from the offices of the Physical Society at 1 Lowther Gardens, Prince Consort Road, London, S.W.7. Non-members of the Society should apply by May 31.

**Geological Society of London : Officers for 1949**

At the annual general meeting on April 27 of the Geological Society of London, the following officers and members of the Council were elected for the coming year: *President*, Prof. C. E. Tilley; *Vice-Presidents*, Prof. J. A. Douglas, Prof. L. Hawkes, Dr. G. M. Lees and Prof. H. H. Read; *Secretaries*, Dr. D. Williams and Prof. S. E. Hollingworth; *Foreign Secretary*, Prof. O. T. Jones; *Treasurer*, Mr. P. Evans. *Other members of Council*: Dr. A. J. Bull, Mr. A. J. Butler, Dr. F. Dixey, Dr. K. C. Dunham, Dr. W. L. F. Nuttall, Dr. K. P. Oakley, Dr. J. Phemister, Prof. W. J. Pugh, Prof. F. W. Shotton, Dr. W. Campbell Smith, Dr. C. J. Stubblefield, Prof. D. M. S. Watson, Dr. E. I. White and Prof. Alan Wood.

**University of Sheffield**

THE Council of the University of Sheffield has made the following appointments: B. R. Dudley, at present research assistant to the Professor of Engineering, to be lecturer in the Department of Mechanical Engineering; and Dr. Hsun Lee, at present independent research worker for the British Iron and Steel Research Association, to be research fellow in the Department of Metallurgy.

The following resignations were announced: Dr. J. A. Pope, senior lecturer in mechanical engineering, on his appointment to the chair of engineering in the University of Nottingham; Dr. J. H. Bowie, lecturer in bacteriology, on his appointment to the post of bacteriologist at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh; Dr. A. E. Bender, assistant lecturer in biochemistry, on his appointment as leader of a nutrition research team at the Crookes Laboratories.

**The Night Sky in June**

FULL moon occurs on June 10d. 21h. 45m., U.T., and new moon on June 20d. 10h. 02m. The following conjunctions of the moon take place: June 3d. 04h., Saturn 3° S.; June 13d. 22h., Jupiter 5° N.; June 24d. 16h., Mars 4° S.; June 24d. 18h., Mercury 8° S.; June 27d. 21h., Venus 4° S.; June 30d. 13h., Saturn 2° S. Mercury is in inferior conjunction on June 3 and is stationary on June 15. The planet reaches greatest western elongation on June 28, and at the end of the month rises an hour before the sun. Venus is an evening star, setting about an hour after the sun during June, and can be seen for a short time in the western sky. Mars is a morning star, rising at 3h. 10m., 2h. 40m., and 2h. 12m., at the beginning,

middle and end of the month, respectively, and is visible for a short time in the eastern sky. Jupiter is visible in the early morning hours, rising at 23h. 30m., 22h. 33m., and 21h. 30m. on June 1, 15 and 30, respectively. Saturn is visible during the earlier portion of the night, setting at 0h. 40m., 23h. 45m. and 22h. 50m. at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively. No occultations of stars occur during June. Summer solstice commences on June 21d. 18h.

**Announcements**

THE Stephen Paget Memorial Lecture of the Research Defence Society will be delivered by Prof. C. Loyatt Evans, on the occasion of the annual general meeting of the Society on June 9; he will speak on "Physiological Research and the Vivisection Act".

COMMDR. R. G. A. JACKSON, of the Treasury, will examine with, and report to, the secretary of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Sir Ben Lockspeiser, the administrative arrangements by which the Government is promoting the application of scientific knowledge to problems of productivity and economic development. Commdr. Jackson was director-general of the Middle East Supply Centre during the War, and later became an assistant secretary-general of the United Nations.

MR. E. C. CHERRY has been appointed to the Henry Mark Pease readership in telecommunications tenable at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, as from October 1.

THE seventh International Botanical Congress will be held in Stockholm during July 12-20, 1950. Excursions in connexion with the Congress will start on June 27, and others to follow it will end on August 9. A preliminary programme and excursions can be obtained from the Secretary-General, Dr. Ewert Åberg, Uppsala 7.

THE fourth Annual Electronics Exhibition of the North-Western Branch of the Institution of Electronics will be held at the College of Technology, Manchester, during July 19, 2.30 p.m.-9 p.m., and July 20-21, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. There will also be an exhibition of scientific films arranged by the Manchester Scientific Film Society. Admission to the Exhibition will be by ticket only, obtainable from Dr. J. A. Darbyshire, 'Melandra', 1 Kershaw Road, Failsforth, Manchester.

THE French Physical Society is holding an Exhibition of scientific instruments and apparatus in the Salons de l'Université, Sorbonne, at 47 Rue des Écoles, Paris 5, during June 4-9. Further information with regard to the Exhibition may be obtained from M. Marandon, 61 Avenue de l'Observatoire, Paris 14. The Society is also holding a meeting on June 4 at which the Holweck Prize will be presented to Prof. L. F. Bates, of the University of Nottingham, who will give a lecture on "Thermal Effects due to Magnetization Processes in Weak Fields".

A SUMMER school in the theory and application of the electron microscope will be held in the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, during August 16-17. The course is intended for those who will be using electron microscopes in the near future, and the techniques of preparing specimens and of operating various microscopes will be practised. Further information can be obtained from Mr. G. F. Hickson, Secretary of the Board of Extra-Mural Studies, Stuart House, Cambridge.