

Australian Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research

A NEW scientific periodical, the *Australian Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research*, has been established by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation as a medium for the publication of research papers on the results of original investigations on sea, estuarine and freshwater fisheries and cognate subjects. Dr. N. S. Noble, of the Organisation's staff, has been appointed as editor of the new *Journal*. He will have the help of an Editorial Advisory Committee including Mr. G. Humphrey (Department of Biochemistry, University of Sydney), Prof. P. D. F. Murray (Department of Zoology, University of Sydney) and Dr. H. Thompson (Chief, C.S.I.R.O. Division of Fisheries). The *Journal* will not be issued at set periods, but as the accumulation of suitable material dictates. It is possible, however, that two issues will appear each year. The subscription rate is A.7s. 6d. per issue. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, C.S.I.R.O., 314 Albert Street, East Melbourne, C., Australia.

Documentation of Architecture and the Building Industry in Italy

A NEW quarterly, *Documenti di Architettura e Industria Edilizia* (Centro Studi Abitazione presso il Consiglio Nazionale Ricerche, Piazzale delle Scienze, 7 Rome; home, 1,800 lire; foreign, 3,600 lire a year), is, for the most part, a production inspired and guided by the Building Documentation Conference held in Geneva in October 1949. Part I consists of abstracts from the Italian literature, in boxes, eight to the page (each size A7), with the Universal Decimal Classification numbers on the top right corner. On one side the abstract is in Italian for domestic use, while on the back it is in French for international use; the abstracts may thus be cut out, attached to cards and filed by the Universal Decimal Classification. Parts 2-5 consist respectively of: selected foreign abstracts (in Italian for domestic use); data sheets (in Italian and French) of the form introduced in 1948 by the Bouwcentrum, Rotterdam, in which a building is described in detail with photographs, plans and elevations; reviews of foreign literature (in Italian); and an outline of standards relating to buildings in one or more foreign countries. By this publication there is made available to the building industry all over the world a complete analysis of the relevant Italian literature already abstracted and classified. As the first national publication of its kind, it is a model example for others to follow. Seventeen countries have agreed to publish similar abstracts, and the realization of the full international scheme will have a very great effect in promoting co-operation in building industry research, as well as pointing the way to the solution of similar problems in other industries.

President Truman's Fourth Point

THE Fourth Point in President Truman's inaugural address of January 20, 1949, called for a "bold new program for making the benefits of our scientific advances and industrial progress available for the improvement and growth of undeveloped areas". According to the March volume of the *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, which contains a valuable symposium on "Aiding Undeveloped Areas Abroad", this Fourth Point is becoming one of the most discussed features of

United States foreign policy of the present day. Briefly, the proposal is that the United States should make available its technical knowledge to those living in undeveloped areas, who then, by combining their own resources with 'know-how', may be enabled to improve the conditions under which they live. This is supplemented by the further proposal that capital investment in areas needing development should be fostered on a joint basis. Nineteen contributors have been enlisted by the editor of the *Annals*, each a leading authority on the topic, and the symposium covers the objectives of the programme, the international environment to which it applies, the existing means of putting the programme into effect, and some of the results which reasonably may be expected. A considerable measure of agreement has been achieved by the contributors, despite the diversity of their backgrounds and the so far largely unformulated character of the programme. Though not unaware of the obstacles in the way of application, they see in the programme an important feature of the United States foreign policy.

Effect of Musical Accompaniment to Educational Films

It is important for teachers and educational film makers to know the conditions for obtaining the maximum attention for the visual element in films. An investigation made by Mr. C. Denis Pegge, of the Cambridge University Educational Film Council, provides evidence that musical accompaniment to 'silent' films aids attention. During the course of film sessions given in the regular teaching time-table of second-year engineering students, a film session was arranged to allow accompanied and unaccompanied 'silent' films to be compared. No indication was given beforehand that this film session would differ from the others, and during the showing normal procedure was so far as possible followed. Each film lasted about ten minutes. The music was of low volume, by Litloff and Raff. The first film was projected without, and the second with, accompaniment. The students who thought music had aided their attention were 52, those who thought it had hindered attention were 2, and those who thought it made no difference were 5. The third film was then projected with accompaniment and the fourth film without. Judging by all four films seen, the students who thought music aided attention were 42, those who thought it hindered attention were 5, and those who thought it made no difference were 13.

Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council: Second Annual Meeting

THE Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council held its second annual meeting at Cronulla, New South Wales, Australia, during April 17-28. The meeting was attended by thirty-five representatives of eleven of the fourteen member governments of the Council. Representatives were also present from the Supreme Command of the Allied Powers (in Japan), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation and the South Pacific Commission. The Council elected Dr. J. D. F. Hardenberg, of Indonesia, as its chairman, and Dr. D. V. Villadolid, of the Philippines, as vice-chairman for 1950-51. Technical committees were appointed, and various *ad hoc* sub-committees were set up. Technical Committee I, which deals with biology and hydrology, proposed to do work on the tunas and on the neritic-pelagic group