British Association and in that capacity he has become well known to a large number of men of science who have greatly appreciated his unobtrusive but active and efficient work in connexion with the five post-war meetings of the Association and with the Association's publications, conferences, press relations, etc. He has taken a special interest in the student membership of the Association and in dealing with applications from school science societies and clubs for assistance in drawing up their programmes. The young Institute of Biology is fortunate to have obtained as its principal permanent official an energetic officer of proved administrative ability.

Physical Society Medal Awards : Dr. A. B. Wood

THE Council of the Physical Society has awarded the Duddell Medal for 1951 to Dr. A. B. Wood for his work on the design of instruments for use in work on under-water acoustics. One of the main investigations which Dr. Wood has carried out is the echo depth-recorder, in which magnetostriction oscillators are used for transmitting powerful high-frequency sound signals and to receive weak returning signals. These depth recorders are fitted in many important ships throughout the world, and are adapted to give an automatic record of the contour of the sea-bed over a very large range of depths. The depth recorder was primarily designed for hydrographic surveying and is also used for navigation, the location of wrecks and shoals of fish, and to indicate the silting up of harbours. Dr. Wood was largely responsible for the development of the acoustic mine and for appreciating the difficulties which had to be overcome in ensuring that the explosion of one mine should not actuate the rest of the mine-field. The piezo-electric pressure gauge and cathode-ray oscillograph designed by Dr. Wood are used in investigations of the pressure-time curve of under-water explosions. The details of this work have formed the basis of a large volume of experimental and theoretical research on the damaging effect on ships of under-water explosions.

Dr. J. H. E. Griffiths

THE Council of the Physical Society has awarded the Charles Vernon Boys Prize for 1951 to Dr. J. H. E. Griffiths, of the Department of Experimental Philosophy, University of Oxford, for his work on ferromagnetic resonance. In carrying out measurements on the permeability of ferromagnetic materials at centimetre wave-lengths, Dr. Griffiths found that the high-frequency resonance of the metal increased to a maximum with increasing magnetic field and then decreased. This suggested that the effect must be due to ferromagnetic resonance of a nature similar to nuclear resonance ; since electron spins precess according to the combined effect of their internal and external fields, this ferromagnetic resonance is capable of becoming a new tool for the investigation of magnetic materials.

Nuffield Foundation Grant to the Royal Anthropological Institute

THE symposium on Blood Groups and Anthropology on March 17, 1951, organized by the Royal Anthropological Institute (see *Nature*, May 5, p. 705), served to focus attention on the need for co-ordination of the work now being done in a relatively new field of research. Arising from this symposium, the Institute appointed a Blood Group Committee, and a grant of £14,000 has been made by the Nuffield Foundation to establish a research centre which will be known as the Nuffield Blood Group Centre of the Royal Anthropological Institute. The new Centre will classify the large and rapidly growing body of data on the distribution of the human blood groups throughout the world, assess it statistically and make the results available to anthropologists and other research workers. It will also carry out and stimulate work in Great Britain and abroad where this is desirable in order to follow important clues or to fill gaps in the world picture, and in particular will continue work now in progress on the classification of British blood donors. The centre will be at the Royal Anthropological Institute, 21 Bedford Square, W.C.1, and it is hoped that it will be in operation on January 1, 1952. It will greatly facilitate the work if persons publishing or having published papers on the frequencies of blood groups and other genetical factors in particular populations will send reprints to the Centre. Pending the appointment of a director, reprints will be acknowledged by the Secretary of the Institute.

New Forestry College for Cyprus

A NEW Forestry College for Cyprus was opened by the Acting Governor (Mr. John Fletcher-Cooke) on September 27. The College, which is situated at Prodhromos, 4,500 ft. up in the Troodos Mountains, is to provide training for forest guards and foresters. In addition to studies in the basic sciences, botany, geology, soil science, meteorology and ecology, the syllabus will include such subjects as sylviculture, crop mensuration, yield regulation, forest engineering and surveying, the utilization and preservation of timber, and protection of forests against disease. Each of the two courses for guards and foresters will last one year. Fifteen places out of a total of thirty-six are reserved for students from countries outside Cyprus, and it is expected that students from neighbouring countries will receive their training there. The director of the College is Mr. R. J. Streets, who was released by the Forestry Commission of Great Britain to take up the post ; Mr. Streets was formerly in charge of the Forester Training School, Lindford Hall, Thetford, Norfolk.

Institute of Geodesy, Photogrammetry and Cartography, Columbus, Ohio

THE recent establishment of an Institute of Geodesy, Photogrammetry and Cartography in the Ohio State University, Columbus, by the board of trustees, has recently been announced. This embraces an executive board and several committees dealing with research, professional development, etc. An advisory committee of international composition has been appointed by the University administration. In association with the Institute is offered an integrated programme of undergraduate and graduate instruction. The undergraduate curriculum, which covers four years and leads to a B.Sc. degree (with a 'major' in geo-sciences), comprises a broad range of subjects in well-chosen proportion. These, in order of magnitude, are mathematics (a necessary foundation), physics, geology, chemistry, astronomy, etc. ; and in the fourth year, geodesy, photogrammetry and electronics. Languages and the humanities have a quarter share of the total programme. The course, indeed, can have a wide cultural value as well as providing a sure foundation for later special study. For this there are graduate courses of instruction suited to individual needs and capacities. Though