

The shortest chapter is devoted to the titular subject. It is curious to note that nearly half the forty-odd references cited belong to the period before pile products became available. On the other hand, it may be significant that several of the possible applications described have already been employed since the publication of this booklet. Similar booklets covering the other important fields of technical applications of tracers would be welcome.

### British Contribution to Television

THE Institution of Electrical Engineers is arranging a convention on "The British Contribution to Television", to be held in London during April 28-May 3. The convention will be divided into nine sessions, as follows: *Opening ceremony*, followed by an introductory survey paper by Sir Noel Ashbridge; *Historical*, devoted to a paper showing the evolution of television from the end of the nineteenth century to the opening of the regular B.B.C. high-definition service in November 1936; *Programme origination*, covering cameras, camera channels, studio lighting, film scanners, etc.; *Point-to-point transmission*, permanent and temporary cable and radio links, television-transmission measuring equipment, etc.; *Broadcasting stations*, vision transmitters and techniques, aerials and feeders, etc.; *Propagation*, ionospheric influences in television reception, selection of television transmitter sites, etc.; *Receiving equipment*, (1) receiver circuit techniques (time-bases, scanning systems, interference and its suppression, etc.), and (2) cathode-ray tubes and valves (design factors, life testing, etc.); *Non-broadcasting applications*, large-screen television design problems, medical applications, film-aids, television wire broadcasting, etc.; and *System aspects*, fundamental aspects of colour television, test equipment for television systems, subjective aspects of viewing, contrast, etc. Altogether it is expected that between sixty and eighty papers will be submitted to the convention. These papers will be available as advance proofs some time during April, and after the convention they will be published, together with discussion of them, in four issues, Nos. 17-20, of Part IIIA of the *Proceedings* of the Institution. During the convention there will be a number of demonstrations and excursions to places of technical interest. Further details can be obtained from the Secretary of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, Victoria Embankment, London, W.C.2.

### Postgraduate Studies in the Universities

IN a statement at a meeting of the Court of the University of Leeds on December 19, the vice-chancellor, Mr. C. R. Morris, referring to the increasing number of postgraduate students, claimed that in several fields of study and research original inquiry could be conducted more profitably in the University of Leeds than anywhere else. He said that the quality of students offering themselves for admission to these departments is also being maintained, and for some departments it has improved very greatly during the past twelve years. He thought, however, that it could improve still further; young men and women do not even yet sufficiently realize the importance, or the significance, of the fundamental scientific inquiries proceeding in many great university departments and commonly thought of as applied sciences or technology. Even during the economic stringency, he hoped that this work would continue to be developed. The universities are also

the great guardians of standards on first and last questions, however, and while the University of Leeds does not aim at covering every small part of established scholarship, it does attempt to maintain strong and vital work inside the University in all the established disciplines of Western learning. Mr. Morris believes that the future of Britain as a great nation, and its future eminence in the sciences themselves, depend upon the maintenance of the high tradition of a university in which all the great fields of human knowledge and speculation are represented in strength.

### Colonial Service: Recent Appointments

THE following appointments have recently been made in the Colonial Service: T. Y. Watson (deputy director of agriculture, Uganda), director of agriculture, Uganda; A. Huddleston (geologist, Kenya), deputy director, Geological Survey Department, Gold Coast; J. F. F. Callear (veterinary officer, British Guiana), senior veterinary officer, British Guiana; J. A. Fraser (senior forester, Uganda), superintending forester, Tanganyika; J. R. O. Humphries (senior inspector of produce, Department of Agriculture, Gold Coast), chief inspector of produce, Department of Agriculture, Gold Coast; I. G. John (meteorological officer, Federation of Malaya), assistant director, Meteorological Service, Federation of Malaya; D. Jones (assistant meteorological officer, Nigeria), meteorological officer, Nigeria; D. McPherson (assistant meteorological officer, Nigeria), meteorological officer, Nigeria; T. N. Middleton (forester, Kenya), superintending forester, Tanganyika; B. W. Thompson (scientific officer, Hong Kong), meteorologist, East African Meteorological Service; R. A. Bull, plant pathologist, Nigeria; G. H. Liddle, geologist, Water Development Department, Tanganyika; P. G. Morris, geologist, Nigeria; Dr. R. C. Muirhead-Thomson, principal scientific officer (malariaologist), Gold Coast; N. M. Noble, veterinary officer, Sierra Leone; W. Pratt, veterinary officer, Kenya; J. D. Turton, veterinary officer, Gold Coast; E. M. Clegg, soil scientist, Northern Rhodesia; H. Davies, assistant conservator of forests, Nigeria; R. V. Holme, senior pasture research officer, Kenya; G. J. H. McCall, geologist, Kenya; F. S. McCullagh, biologist, Medical Department, Gold Coast; J. Sissons, assistant meteorologist, West African Meteorological Service, Gold Coast; W. Yates, laboratory superintendent, West African Institute for Trypanosomiasis Research.

### Announcements

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH has been elected an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Institute of Chemistry; this is the first such election to be made.

THE HON. G. J. Bourke has been appointed land agent to the Nature Conservancy.

IN order to avoid exchange difficulties, financial agents have been appointed in various countries to whom members of the International Association for Plant Taxonomy may send annual subscriptions and payments for publications other than *Taxon*. The annual subscription of 3 dollars is stabilized at £1 1s. for the United Kingdom and British overseas territories and should be sent to Mr. A. A. Bullock, Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Surrey. Cheques should be crossed "a/c I.A.P.T."