

the application of statistical methods in industry, commerce and science. The development of statistics in recent years is well reflected in the evolution of the Society and its publications; its membership, which is still increasing steadily, is more than double the pre-war figure. Its main journal has already split into two, one for the main activities of the Society and one for its Research Section. Two other offshoots of the Society, its Industrial Applications Section and Study Section, have hitherto had no separate journal, and *Applied Statistics*, though not confined to the activities of these groups, takes its keynote from them. The object of the new journal is to present simply and clearly the statistical approach and its value, not merely to professional statisticians, but to all workers concerned with statistical methods. It will publish short technical articles, but will also cater for the statistical layman working in such diverse fields as chemistry, engineering, agriculture, scientific management and sociology. In a foreword to the first issue Prof. A. Bradford Hill very rightly says that so many scientific journals exist that anyone founding a new one must have a cast-iron case. There can be little doubt about the strength of the case for *Applied Statistics*. Statistical methods are used more widely and more successfully in industry and science in Great Britain than in any other country in the world, and this new journal is not so much a venture as a response to an insistent demand. The Society is to be congratulated on finding among its fellowship a strong editorial committee, headed by Mr. L. H. C. Tippett, to carry out the important task of bridging the gap between the producers and consumers of statistical methods.

Latin-American Forestry Commission: Session in Buenos Aires

THE fourth session of the Latin-American Forestry Commission will be held in Buenos Aires during June 16-21 under the joint sponsorship of the Argentinian Government and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. The Commission was set up as a result of a recommendation made by the Latin-American Conference on Forestry and Forest Products, held in Brazil in 1948; previous sessions were in Rio de Janeiro in May 1949, Lima in November 1949, and Santiago in December 1950. One of the principal items to be discussed will be the possibility of setting up a Latin-American forest research and training institute. Other matters with which the Commission will be concerned are the production, consumption and trade of pulp and paper and also the Technical Assistance Programme which the Food and Agriculture Organization is carrying out in Latin America. Finally, the Commission will review the steps to be taken to prepare for the next World Forestry Congress, due to be held in 1954. Further details of the session in Buenos Aires can be obtained from the Food and Agriculture Organization at Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, Rome, or at one of its regional offices.

Hungarian Biological Association

AT the inaugural meeting of the Hungarian Biological Association, held at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences on March 30, the following officers were elected: *President*, Prof. S. Jávorka; *Vice-Presidents*, Academicians S. Kotlán, E. Dudich, J. Gelei and R. Mancha, and Profs. D. Fehér and S. Sárkány; *Secretary-General*, I. Boros; and *Assistant Secretary*, J. Ujhelyi. During the meeting,

N. G. Potapov, director of the Botanical Institute of the Loránt Eötvös University of Science, gave a lecture on "The Role of Roots in Plant Life".

The Night Sky in June

FULL moon occurs on June 8d. 05h. 07m., U.T., and new moon on June 22d. 08h. 45m. The following conjunctions with the moon take place: June 3d. 09h., Saturn 7° N.; June 5d. 01h., Mars 4° N.; June 18d. 14h., Jupiter 6° S.; June 23d. 20h., Mercury 0.9° S.; June 30d. 18h., Saturn 7° N. Mercury is in superior conjunction on June 9, after which it becomes an evening star, setting at 21h. and 21h. 40m. on June 15 and 30, respectively. Venus, in superior conjunction on June 24, is too close to the sun throughout the month for favourable observation. Mars is visible until the early morning hours, setting at 2h. 10m., 1h. 10m. and 0h. 15m. at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively. The planet is a little south of α Virginis during June, and its stellar magnitude decreases from -1.1 to -0.5 between June 1 and 30. Jupiter, a morning star, rises at 2h. 40m., 1h. 50m. and 0h. 55m. on June 1, 15 and 30, respectively, its stellar magnitude remaining about -1.6 throughout the month. Saturn sets in the early morning hours, at 1h. 50m., 0h. 55m. and 23h. 55m. on June 1, 15 and 30, respectively, and throughout the month can be seen very close to γ Virginis. No occultations of stars brighter than magnitude 6 take place during June, but the conjunction of Mercury with the sun, as already mentioned, is actually on June 23d. 20h. 23.6m. Summer solstice occurs on June 21d. 11h.

Announcements

THE Physical Society's summer provincial meeting will be held this year in the Department of Natural Philosophy, University of Glasgow, during July 10-11. The subject of the meeting, which will be divided into four sessions, will be "Nuclear Fundamental Particle Physics". Visitors wishing to attend this meeting should apply before June 25 to the Physical Society, 1 Lowther Gardens, Prince Consort Road, London, S.W.7.

A SYMPOSIUM on "Concrete Shell Roof Construction", organized by the Cement and Concrete Association, will be held during July 2-4. On the first day the papers will deal with the architectural aspect of concrete shell roofs and will be given at the Royal Institute of British Architects. The second and third days of the symposium will be held at the Institution of Civil Engineers and will be devoted to design and research, and construction respectively. All papers will be circulated in advance. Membership of the symposium is free to all. Application should be made to the Organizing Secretary, Symposium on Concrete Shell Roof Construction, Cement and Concrete Association, 52 Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1.

A FURTHER part, No. 5, January-June 1951, of the "Bibliography of Scientific Publications of South Asia (India, Burma, Ceylon)" has been issued by the South Asia Science Co-operation Office, Delhi (pp. 97, 1952). It contains 2,436 entries, as well as supplementary lists of sixteen new scientific periodicals in India and one in Ceylon. Changes of name, frequency of appearance or publishers' address of six periodicals previously listed are noted. The Office has also issued a name index (pp. 48; 1951) to the first four numbers (1949-50) of the Bibliography.