

college. Applications are invited for the Perkin Trust Travel Grants from teachers concerned in the study of any aspects of the manufacture or applications of colouring matters at a university or technical college or other institute. The purpose of the grants is to enable teachers to make short visits to comparable institutions overseas to widen their experience. The secretary to the trustees is Dr. J. R. Ruck Keene, to whom inquiries relating to awards should be addressed, at the Chemical Society, Burlington House, London, W.1.

#### Harkness Fellowships of the Commonwealth Fund

THE awards bearing since 1925 the title Commonwealth Fund Fellowships were renamed in 1959 the Harkness Fellowships of the Commonwealth Fund. All Fellowships are tenable in the United States and are offered, in separate series, to candidates from the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand, and Western Europe. The Fund, an American philanthropic foundation, believes that international understanding may be promoted by opportunities for education and travel in the United States. Thirty Fellowships are offered in 1960 to candidates from the United Kingdom who are British subjects and are either graduates or have experience in government service, the professions, the creative arts, journalism, branches of business or industry. Forms of application, which must be returned before December 1, can be obtained from the Warden, Harkness House, 38 Upper Brook Street, London, W.1, from whom further details can be obtained.

#### British Institution of Radio Engineers: Awards

THE Council of the British Institution of Radio Engineers has announced the award of a number of premiums for outstanding papers published in the Institution's *Journal* during 1958: the senior award, the Clerk Maxwell Premium, goes to Mr. C. Powell and Mr. D. A. Hendley (Decca Navigator Co., Ltd.) for the paper, "Dectra: A Long Range Radio Navigation Aid"; Heinrich Hertz Premium to Mr. K. Foster (Cossor Radar and Electronics, Ltd.) for the paper, "The Characteristic Impedance and Phase Velocity of High-Q Triplate Line"; for the third successive year the Sir Louis Sterling Premium to Dr. A. van Weel (Philips, Eindhoven) for his paper, "Design of Detector Stages for Signals with Symmetrical or Asymmetrical Side-bands"; Sir J. C. Bose Premium to Dr. B. Ramachandra Rao, Dr. M. Srirama Rao and Mr. C. Abhirama Reddy, from Andhra University, South India, for their paper entitled "Magneto-ionic Fading in Pulsed Radio Waves reflected at Vertical Incidence from the Ionosphere"; Brabazon Premium to Prof. D. G. Tucker, Dr. V. G. Welsby, Mr. R. Kendall and Mr. D. E. N. Davies for their associated papers entitled "Electronic Sector Scanning" and "Radar Systems with Electronic Sector Scanning"; and Marconi Premium to Dr. Morton B. Prince and Mr. M. Wolf, of Hoffman Electronics, Inc., Evanston, Illinois, U.S.A., for their paper "New Developments in Silicon Photo-voltaic Devices".

#### Volume Fifty of the "Large Soviet Encyclopædia" ("Bolshaya Sovetskaya Enciklopediya")

THIS volume, part of a set of fifty, could not be sold separately when it was originally issued. In 1957, however, a special edition of 300,000 copies was printed, which could be sold separately. Thus this finely printed and bound volume of 764 pages

can be purchased in Britain for the sum of £2. It contains summary articles or reviews of all aspects of the Soviet Union and thus it is an invaluable reference book for anyone interested in this subject. It is illustrated by a large number of folding and text maps, plates, text figures and tables. Scientific workers will be interested in the following chapters: 3, geography, geology, climate, soils, vegetable and animal worlds of the Soviet Union; 4, population; 5, history; 9, economics; 12, education; 15, science. Chapters which follow deal with literature, arts and other subjects. Chronological tables and a name index are placed at the end.

#### Announcements

DR. A. J. P. MARTIN, of Elstree, Herts, Dr. R. L. M. Synge, of the Rowett Research Institute, Bucksburn, Aberdeenshire, and Dr. A. T. Jamos, of the National Institute for Medical Research, Mill Hill, have been awarded John Price Wetherill medals of the Franklin Institute for their development of gas-liquid (partition) chromatography.

AT the sixth annual general meeting of the Association of Clinical Biochemists, held at the Royal College of Surgeons, London, on October 3, the following officers were elected: *President*, Dr. C. P. Stewart; *Chairman*, Dr. A. L. Latner; *Hon. Treasurer*, Dr. J. H. Wilkinson; *Hon. Secretary*, Dr. A. L. Tárnoky, Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading.

A REGIONAL training course for laboratory technicians sponsored jointly by the University Institute of Chemistry, Lahore, and the Unesco South Asia Science Co-operation Office will be held at the University Institute of Chemistry, Lahore, Pakistan, during November 23–December 19. Inquiries should be addressed to the Unesco South Asia Science Co-operation Office, 21 Curzon Road, New Delhi, India.

IN a written answer in the House of Commons on July 30, the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that, to assist the Government in making a review of the control of public expenditure, he was appointing a small group to make a full examination of the whole problem, in consultation with all major departments, and to formulate proposals. Lord Plowden would take general charge of this work, and besides senior officials from departments, including the Treasury, the group would include two or three persons from outside the Government service.

THE Chemical Society has announced that applications for Research Fund grants should be submitted not later than November 14. Further information can be obtained from the General Secretary, Chemical Society, Burlington House, London, W.1.

THE Institute of Physics is organizing a conference during November 13–14 on "Structure Analysis and Experimental Techniques". The conference is to be held at the Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, London, S.W.1. Further information can be obtained from Dr. P. T. Davies, "Shell" Research, Ltd., Thornton Research Centre, P.O. Box 1, Chester.

ERRATUM. In the communication entitled "Prevention of the Onset of Seed Dormancy by Gibberellic Acid", by Dr. M. Black and J. M. Naylor, in *Nature* of August 8, p. 468, in the legend to Fig. 1, for "2 replicates each comprising 50 embryos" read "... 2 replicates each comprising 50 caryopses".