about 30,000 sq. ft., will provide working space for about sixty people, including scientists, technicians, research assistants, etc. The estimated cost of the new building is 1,046,000 dollars. The Collection has received a grant of 90,278 dollars from the National Institutes of Health, and, in addition, about 150,000 dollars has been raised from private industry.

Co-operation between University and Industry in Manchester

THE Manchester Joint Research Council, established in 1944 as a co-operative effort between the University of Manchester and the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, now regards its most useful function as the extension of direct contact with local firms, particularly those small and medium-sized firms which depend on science and technology. As a basis for the necessary liaison work the Council has published two booklets. One of these is entitled *An Account of Some of the Scientific and Technological Facilities which Manchester University and the Manchester College of Science and Technology can offer to Industry*, and includes an indication of some of the research work carried out by the different departments (Pp. 19. Manchester: Manchester Joint Research Council, 1960). The other booklet is entitled *Sources of Scientific and Technical Information Available to Local Industry* (Pp. 21. Manchester: Manchester Joint Research Council, 1960). This appears to be less satisfactory than the first booklet: while there is a list of the research establishments of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, and of the Research Associations, and a list of some organizations which will name consultant experts in particular fields, publications are not covered, and under library services the only references are to the Manchester Technical Library and to Aslib.

Journal of Atherosclerosis Research

ATHEROSCLEROSIS is being studied nowadays by workers in a wide diversity of fields, and the results of their studies are appearing in many different journals. To try to co-ordinate publications on the disease, a new journal has been started (*J. Atherosclerosis Res.*, Elsevier, Amsterdam, bi-monthly, price £6 5*s*. a year). The editorial board contains members from more than a dozen countries, and the journal will contain review articles, research reports and short communications—usually in the English language. Communications on subjects related to atherosclerosis (for example, thrombosis) will also be accepted. The first part (January–February 1961) includes a review on morphological aspects of the disease by Prof. T. Crawford, and one on the thyroid and atherosclerosis by Dr. G. S. Boyd. Manuscripts may be sent to the editorial secretary, Dr. F. P. Woodford, Witte Singel 36, Leyden, The Netherlands, or to any member of the editorial board.

Life-History of the Green-veined Orchid

THE vast field of work for amateur naturalists is brought out by the continuous efforts of a schoolboy, J. F. H. Doulton, over the past three years, in the Report of the Rugby School Natural History Society for 1960 (Pp. 16. (94th issue). Rugby: George Over, Ltd., 1961). Doulton investigated the life-history of the green-veined orchid, *Orchis morio*. A quadrat was marked out, and, each year, all the plants of *O. morio* were marked on a map, together with a note of whether they were producing leaf or flowers. It is hoped to continue this work in the future to trace the life-histories of individual plants over a number of years, but it is already possible to draw tentative conclusions about the sequence of leaf and flower production. The general conclusions are that plants which have flowered do not do so again, at least in the first or second year after flowering; they are more likely to die after flowering than after being in leaf; their average life is four years; they are less likely to flower in their first year than in subsequent years. Several additional points must be taken into account when assessing these results. First, it is difficult in many cases to be sure that the investigator is following the same plant over several years because plants may come up in slightly different places, and the place of one plant may be taken by another. Secondly, there are five cases in which a plant has apparently remained dormant for a year; and it is possible that this behaviour may be more widespread, in which case some of the above conclusions may need modifying. Lastly, the observations refer only to plants producing conspicuous leaves or flowers and not to any previous year's growth as mycorhizome. Experiments on the removal of flower heads suggest that removal of flower heads before seed can be set makes it quite likely that the plant will flower again in the next two years.

Primitive Rock-Shelter Art in Australia

THERE is no doubt that interest in the Australian rock-shelter art is booming. Barely have notes on one publication been written before another is to hand. The *Journal of the Royal Society of Western Australia* (43, Pt. 4, 1961), among other articles, contains an account by P. E. Playford of rock paintings in the West Kimberley region of Western Australia. The article is illustrated with six full-page reproductions of the paintings. The local tribes know of the painted localities, but, while in some cases they tell stories about them, they say that they are the work of aborigines long ago. The paintings themselves include crude figures of animals and human beings, frogs, serpents, lizards, emus, crocodiles and kangaroos. The descriptive section of the article not only records localities but also attempts to explain some of the groups in terms of the myths obtained by questioning the local inhabitants. The article is one which will be welcomed by all students interested in this 'prehistoric' yet not very ancient rock-shelter art of Australia.

Termites and Coal Seams in Angola

IN England coal miners looking for outcrops often used to examine rabbit holes for signs of coal dust; a German firm of consulting engineers is seeking to assess Angola's resources in brown coal by studying the ant-hills built up by colonies of termites (*Science Afrique*, No. 22; October 1960). The theory is that termites prefer to build on lignite foundations and use the lignite as building material because its low-heat conductivity "keeps the house cool". They take the local light-coloured clay only as an outer covering to reflect away the heat of the sun. If the theory should prove to be sound, Angola with its countless termite hills may have big deposits of lignite. The nearest hard-coal mines are more than 500 miles away in Rhodesia, and locomotives on the country's railways still use wood as fuel. The assumption is that this might, with advantage, be replaced by briquettes made from brown coal.