

Government Research Studentships and Marine Reactors

In a written answer in the House of Commons on January 14, the Minister for Science, Mr. Q. Hogg, stated that of 4,036 Department of Scientific and Industrial Research studentships current on November 1, 1963, 1,932 were awarded in 1963; of the last mentioned 203 were in biology and biochemistry, 162 in chemical engineering and metallurgy, 427 in chemistry, 110 in electrical engineering, 241 in other engineering, 114 in geology, 87 in human sciences, 242 in mathematics and 346 in physics. Expenditure on the Marine Reactor Research Programme, covering investigations of various reactor systems, as well as the joint *Vulcan* project with Belgonucléaire, from November 1961 to the beginning of 1964, was about £3 million and work was continuing on about the same scale.

Canadian Geotechnical Journal—Revue Canadienne de Géotechnique

UNDER the above name a new journal has been sponsored by the Canadian National Committee for the International Society of Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering (1, No. 1; September 1963). Published under the sponsorship of the Associate Committee on Soil and Snow Mechanics, National Research Council, and the Geotechnical Engineering Division, Engineering Institute of Canada. Pp. 1–62. Toronto: Editor, c/o Civil Engineering Department, University of Toronto. Distributed by the University of Toronto Press, 1963. Subscription: 5 dollars per year. It has been realized for many years that a great deal of information on the effects of time and permafrost on the properties of clay, and numerous documented records on performance, are scattered through many periodicals; the *Journal* has, therefore, been started to provide a medium for the publication of papers on the application of geotechnical research and so make easily accessible to practising engineers knowledge on the basic principles of soil mechanics and on regional characteristics. It will be complementary to another new journal on research in all the earth sciences—part of the National Research Council's *Canadian Journal of Research* series. Papers will be in either English or French with summaries in both languages, and each volume will consist of four issues. This first issue carries a foreword by K. Terzaghi, the founder of modern soil mechanics, an introduction by R. F. Legget, chairman of the Associate Committee on Soil and Snow Mechanics, and four papers dealing with: (a) heave of spillway structures; (b) bearing capacity of foundations; (c) volume changes in undisturbed clay profiles; (d) the modulus of elasticity of Leda clay. It also contains a list of symbols recommended by the International Society of Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering (Paris, 1961) and a number of news items.

British Medical Periodicals

A *Select List of British Medical Periodicals* has been issued under the joint imprint of the Royal Society of Medicine and the British Council (Pp. iii + 100. London: The British Council and the Royal Society of Medicine: 1963. 5s.; 1 dollar). The purpose of the list is to help overseas readers, booksellers and librarians in the selection and purchase of British medical periodicals. It covers the field of medicine in its widest interpretation, including such related disciplines as biochemistry, pharmacy, nutrition, medical and social psychology, physiotherapy, nursing, dentistry, and veterinary science. The criteria for inclusion are a United Kingdom imprint, a good standard of content and production, British editorship, a wholly or predominantly British editorial board, and a preponderance of contributions from British authors. The nature and arrangement of the subject-matter of each journal are described and details of format and publica-

tion, including subscription rates, addresses for orders and availability of back issues, are given. A useful general index is also included. The list has been compiled by Mr. L. T. Morton, librarian, National Institute for Medical Research, in consultation with Mr. P. Wade, librarian, Royal Society of Medicine.

Stellar Radial Velocities

A LARGE part of the work of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory in Victoria, British Columbia, has been devoted to the determination of the radial velocities of stars, particularly early-type stars of importance for the investigation of galactic structure and rotation. The results of another large programme of observations have recently been published by R. M. Petrie and J. A. Pearce (*Publications of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, Victoria*, 12, No. 1. *Radial Velocities of 570 B Stars*. Pp. 1–90. Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1962). Radial velocities of 570 early-type stars and associated *K*-line velocities were determined from 2,320 spectrograms taken over a period of nearly twenty years. The stars are mainly between types *O9* and *B6* and have apparent magnitudes mainly between 7.5 and 8.9; they are mostly located in the Milky Way north of declination +20°. In addition to the two authors, many other members of the staff of the Observatory participated in the observations and in the work of measurement. This work is a major addition to the known radial velocities of northern *B* stars. Only three or four observatories in the world undertake regular programmes of radial velocity observations. This new work of the Victoria observers maintains the high standards which have come to be associated with the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory.

Wood Anatomy

VOLUME 5, *Spermatophytes*, has been added to the *Atlas Anatomique des Bois du Congo*, and it includes 54 tree species belonging to 10 families, but 6 of the latter have but one representative each (Par Lucien Lebacqz avec la collaboration de Roger Dechamps. Pp. 54 + 54 planches. Bruxelles: Institut National pour l'Étude Agronomique du Congo, 1963). The remaining families are the Rutaceae, Irvingiaceae, Burseraceae and Meliaceae. The last-mentioned family has a particular interest because it contains trees belonging to genera of economic importance which have a high reputation as cabinet and furniture woods—*Entandrophragma*, *Guarea*, *Khaya*, *Lourea* and *Turraeanthus*. The *Atlas* includes a large sheet listing the species by families and tabulating the anatomical characters such as, in transverse section, the position of the parenchyma, the diameter of the vessels and the number of vessels per mm². The characters recorded for the tangential and radial sections are those concerning the medullary rays. All these details are clearly indicated by black rectangles for the usual or average feature and by outlined rectangles for any departure from this. But the *Atlas* itself is made up of two loose sheets for each species. On the first are recorded the source of the authenticated specimens examined, the principal features of the wood and the anatomical characters in more detail than given on the large tabulated sheet. On the second sheet are three microphotographs (× 76) of the transverse, tangential and radial sections. The quality of the printing throughout is very good and the latest volume of this well-known *Atlas* will be welcomed by wood anatomists for the information it contains and for the manner in which it is presented.

Eucalypts

In many parts of tropical Africa the natural forest has been cut out or degraded by over-cutting and the changed conditions of the environment require more accommodating species than the indigenous ones for reforestation purposes. Many good results have been obtained from