

University in 1933 and was awarded a Rhodes scholarship. He is a member of the American Philosophical Society, the Society of Experimental Psychologists, the American Psychological Association and the National Academy of Sciences. Dr. Pfaffmann is an authority on the physiology and psychology of the senses of taste and smell and the behaviour they control.

Prof. M. McCarty

DR. M. McCARTY has been appointed vice-president and professor of the Rockefeller Institute, where he will have primary responsibility for the development of clinical teaching and research and will supervise all its hospital facilities. Dr. McCarty graduated from Stanford University in 1933 and from the Johns Hopkins Medical School in 1937; he joined the faculty of the Rockefeller Institute in 1941. Dr. McCarty is a member of the Association of American Physicians, the Society for American Bacteriologists, the American Association of Immunologists, and the National Academy of Sciences. Together with Avery and MacLeod, he was a pioneer in demonstrating the biological activity and genetic significance of deoxyribonucleic acid.

Agricultural Research Council

THE annual report for 1962-63 of the Agricultural Research Council illustrates the continuing wide scope of both basic and applied scientific work carried out in the Council's Institutes and special Units (Pp. iv+91. (Cmd. 2519.) London: H.M. Stationery Office, 1964. 6s. 6d. net). The appointment of Prof. S. R. Elsdon as the first director of the new Food Research Institute at Norwich and the establishment of the Unit of Nitrogen Fixation under the direction of Prof. J. Chatt at the University of Sussex are recorded. Developments of general interest are the monitoring of radioactivity in foodstuffs; the transmission of a plant virus by the zoospores of a soil fungus; improvements in electron-micrograph techniques for observing virus particles; and the radiometric assay of acetylcholinesterase, the enzyme which provides a chemical link between muscles and nerves in all living animals and which is inactivated by many insecticides. Important developments have been made in the measurement of body temperature by the use of small radio transmitters fitted inside the body and in the screening of drugs, which on administration to the mother may be embryotoxic or teratogenic, by examining changes in the pre-implantation embryo. General accounts are given of work at four institutes, the Animal Breeding Research Organization, the National Institute for Research in Dairying, the Hannah Dairy Research Institute and the Welsh Plant Breeding Station. Summaries of the work of the two units administered by the Council are also included; these are the Unit of Embryology, under Prof. F. W. Rogers Brambell, and the Unit of Plant Physiology, directed by Prof. C. P. Whittingham. The report concludes with appendixes of the committees of the Council expenditures, and special grants in support of research in universities.

The Society of Applied Pharmacological Sciences, Milan

A Society of Applied Pharmacological Sciences (Società di Scienze Farmacologiche Applicate) has been established in Milan. The aim of the Society is to bring together, independently of the organizations, institutes or laboratories where they are employed, pharmacologists, microbiologists, biochemists, pathologists, and clinical research workers concerned with research on new therapeutic agents. The Society intends to promote investigations and discussions of all those problems which concern the development of new drugs, and which, in their complexity, are treated only partially by other scientific societies dedicated mainly to basic research. Analysis and discussion of these problems by investigators

who are engaged in evaluating and realizing new drugs are of particular importance at a time when scientific and procedural criteria concerning the introduction of new compounds in therapy are being critically re-examined. The Society hopes to contribute through its activities, in co-operation with the public health organizations, to the greater safety and efficiency of developing new drugs.

International Filariasis Association

IN order to promote the investigation and control of filariasis, an association was established, to be known as the International Filariasis Association (Société Internationale des Filarioses). This grew out of earlier meetings held in 1955 and 1961, which were aimed at examining onchocerciasis under the auspices of the World Health Organization. The first general meeting of the Association was held at Rio de Janeiro on September 8, 1963, during the International Congresses of Tropical Medicine and Malaria, and the second at Rome on September 23, 1964, during the International Congress of Parasitology. Further general meetings will be held when international congresses facilitate them. Steps will be taken, as and when possible, to promote the investigation of all types of filariasis through appropriate local meetings, and to provide an official channel for bringing the problems of filariasis to the notice of Governments and international organizations. It is hoped to enlist the interest of all who are concerned with this subject. The officers of the International Filariasis Association are as follows: *President*, Prof. J. F. Kessel (U.S.A.); *Vice-Presidents*, Prof. P. C. C. Garnham (U.K.) and Medical General P. Richet (France). There is an executive council of fifteen members representing the different regions of the world involved, and the secretaries are: Dr. M. Giaquinto (Italy) and Dr. F. Hawking, National Institute for Medical Research, London, N.W.7, from whom further information can be obtained.

The Association of Commonwealth Universities

THE annual report of the Council of the Association of Commonwealth Universities for the year ended July 31, 1964, records a membership of 139 institutions, of which 126 were universities, 9 university colleges and 4 approved institutions of higher education (Pp. 46. London: The Association of Commonwealth Universities, 1964). The work of the appointments department continued to increase, and the Association assisted in filling some 1,294 vacancies compared with 1,146 in 1962-63. Ninety-one advisory committees were set up at the request of universities to interview candidates in the United Kingdom; of appointments made by overseas universities reported to the Association during the year, about 140 were of candidates who had applied from Britain in response to the Association's announcements, 95 being in Australia. Through its work for the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship plan in the United Kingdom, the Association was concerned with the administration of the Marshall scholarships, the Frank Knox Memorial fellowships, the Commonwealth University Interchange. It also continued to assist the Drapers' Company in its scholarship scheme to enable British schoolboys to take first degrees in some universities in Australia, Canada and New Zealand. The Association continued to act as the authority in the United Kingdom to attest the eligibility for admission to British universities of candidates seeking admission to French universities by virtue of examinations passed in Britain: 207 such attestations were issued during the year. A brief account of the work of the committee of Vice-chancellors and Principals of Universities of the United Kingdom is appended.

National Museum of Canada

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