

the long-term experiments on Rothamsted soils that are typical of much of the area. There is also a chapter by J. M. B. Brown on the recent history of the woodlands, describing their exploitation for fuel and wood-working industries with changes in management according to economic and social demands. Beech is still the principal species, especially on well-drained soils of high base status, but in some places the conditions favour oak. There is a list of references to appropriate publications and a subject index.

Standards of Radioactivity

THE National Physical Laboratory has added sodium-22, chromium-51, manganese-54, cobalt-57 and sulphur-35 to the list of standards of radioactivity issued by the Laboratory. During 1965 standards will be made available as follows:

Potassium-42	February	Phosphorus-32	June
Sodium-22	March	Cobalt-57	September
Manganese-54	April	Iron-59	October
Chromium-51	May	Sulphur-35	November

Standards are available from stock of strontium-90 in equilibrium with yttrium-90. Application forms for all these standards can be obtained from the Applied Physics Division of the National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, Middlesex. Intercomparisons, held during the past two years, of standards of cobalt-60 and sodium-24 issued both by the National Physical Laboratory and by the Radiochemical Centre, Amersham, have been in satisfactory agreement. Therefore, in line with the general policy of the National Physical Laboratory to transfer routine standardization to commercial organizations, cobalt-60 and sodium-24 will now be available only from the Radiochemical Centre, in a similar manner to gold-198 and iodine-131. Ultimate responsibility for primary standardization is with the National Physical Laboratory, and issues of nuclides which have been transferred to the Radiochemical Centre as outlined here will also be measured by the Laboratory.

Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development Fellowships

THE Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development is offering a limited number of fellowship grants in the field of human resource development planning. Award winners will spend a year, from approximately July 1, in training, research and planning, within the framework of national planning teams engaged on specific projects sponsored by the Organization and member countries. Applicants should be qualified university graduates under thirty-five, with degrees in economics or other appropriate disciplines. Professional or postgraduate experience is a prerequisite, and candidates must be able to work in either English or French. Applications should be made before March 1. Further information can be obtained from the Directorate for Scientific Affairs (Fellowships), Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, 2 rue André-Pascal, Paris 16.

The Night Sky in March

NEW Moon occurs on Mar. 3d 10h U.T. and full Moon on Mar. 17d 11h. The following conjunctions with the Moon occur: Mar. 8d 15h, Jupiter 2° N.; Mar. 16d 17h, Mars 1° S. Mercury sets at 18h 00m, 19h 50m, 19h 50m on Mar. 1, 16 and 31 respectively. Venus is too near the Sun for observation. Mars makes its nearest approach to the Earth on Mar. 12d 01h; Mars is above the horizon all night during the month; its stellar magnitude is -0.9; its distance from the Earth on Mar. 12 is 62 million miles and during the month retrogrades through Virgo towards Leo. Jupiter sets at 0h 10m, 23h 25m, 22h 40m at the beginning, middle and end of the month respectively;

its stellar magnitude is -1.8; its distance from the Earth on Mar. 15 is 510 million miles and during the month advances into Taurus. Saturn is unfavourably placed for observation during the month. There is one occultation of a star brighter than magnitude 6 observation being made at Greenwich: Mar. 14d 01h 14.9m, γ Cnc (*D*). *D* refers to disappearance. The spring equinox occurs on Mar. 20d 20h.

Announcements

DR. CASIMIR FUNK has been awarded the Carl Neuberg Medal for 1964, in recognition of his work on vitamin research in the United States.

DR. I. GIAEVER of the General Electric Research Laboratory, in Schenectady, New York, has been awarded the 1965 Oliver E. Buckley Solid State Physics Prize of the American Physical Society, for his discovery that electrons can tunnel through a simple insulating layer only 10-100 atoms thick between two thin films.

DR. P. LIMBERG, formerly lecturer at the Institute for Plant Breeding and Plant Genetics of the University of Giessen, has been appointed director of the Institute for Plant Breeding and Seed Research of the Agricultural Research Centre, Braunschweig-Völkenrode, in succession to Prof. O. Fisehnich, who is now assistant director-general of the Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome.

THE British Federation of University Women, Ltd., offers a prize of £15 to women undergraduates for an essay on one of the following subjects: the responsibility of the artist in the modern world; the responsibility of the scientist in the modern world; the student abroad. The closing date for the competition is March 16. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, British Federation of University Women, Ltd., Crosby Hall, Cheyne Walk, London, S.W.3.

A SYMPOSIUM on "Comparative Phytochemistry", organized by the Phytochemical Group, will be held in Cambridge during March 30-April 1. Further information can be obtained from A. H. Williams, Research Station, Long Ashton, Bristol.

A SPRING meeting on "Adsorption of Silver Halide Surfaces", arranged by the Scientific and Technical Group of the Royal Photographic Society, will be held in the University of Bristol during March 31-April 1. Further information can be obtained from Mr. R. Cox, Ilford, Ltd., Ilford, Essex.

THE Laboratory Apparatus and Materials Exhibition, sponsored by the Scientific Instrument Manufacturers' Association of Great Britain, will be held at Earls Court, London, during March 29-April 2. Further information can be obtained from the Press Officer, U.T.P. Exhibitions, Ltd., Racquet Court, Fleet Street, London, E.C.4.

A CONFERENCE for headmasters and headmistresses on "The Challenge of Modern Engineering", arranged by the Royal Society and the Engineering Institutions Joint Council, will be held in Churchill College, Cambridge, on March 30. Further information can be obtained from R. W. J. Keay, The Royal Society, Burlington House, London, W.1.

A SYMPOSIUM entitled "From Mendel's Factors to the Genetic Code", sponsored jointly by the Royal Society and the Genetical Society of Great Britain, will be held in University College, London, during March 10-13. The programme will include sessions on: the gene, its structure, function and control; chromosomes and genes; genetics of man; quantitative and population genetics. Further information can be obtained from Prof. D. Lewis, Department of Botany, University College, Gower Street, London, W.C.1.