

by Windelbandt (Bibliographical Contributions No. 2, Institute of Plant Industry, Leningrad) supplies a long-felt want amongst applied botanists. Reorganisation and changes of title, which have at various times affected the Institute and its publications, have made it difficult for many to check the completeness of their sets of publications. The Institute of Plant Industry, as it is known to-day, uniting the activities of numerous research institutions and field stations, has evolved from the Bureau of Applied Botany founded in 1894. The serial numbering of the original *Bulletin* is maintained, and this list takes the *Bulletin of Applied Botany, Genetics and Plant Breeding* to the point where it is split up into three series, one of which is subdivided into thirteen sections. The list is published in Russian and in one other language, generally English or German, according to the language in which the summary or translation is issued. While German was used up to 1914, most translations now appear in English. An indication is also given in cases where the articles appear only in Russian, and also if the number is out of print. The list, which includes supplements and seed catalogues, has a wide interest. A large amount of work of a fundamental nature is included as well as the ordinary routine crop experimental work. The crops include tea, oil- and rubber-bearing plants, etc., in addition to the usual crops found in Europe.

Pelotherapy

Peloid, from the Greek *πηλος* (= mud), was adopted by the International Society of Medical Hydrology at its recent annual meeting in Switzerland as a generic name applicable to any naturally produced medium such as is used in medical practice as a cataplasm for external treatment. Such media are known in the various countries as boue, fango, gyttja, liman, moor, mud, peat, schlamm, etc., these names being used in confusion for both specific media and in a generic sense. The new word, with its derivatives *pelology* and *pelotherapy*, will avoid this confusion and allow the local terms to be defined and used in their restricted sense. The Society appointed an International Standard Measurements Committee, with Dr. S. Judd Lewis as chairman, to investigate the properties of these peloids, and they are now classified into groups as: (1) purely mineral; (2) alluvial and marine, characterised by the organic matter being of the thallophyte type, as is the case with those permeated with algal, diatomaceous, bacterial and similar structures; (3) an intermediate group of terrestrial peloids; (4) those of mainly vascular-vegetable origin, such as moors or peats from (a) mosses, (b) phanerogams, etc.; (5) peloids mainly of marine vegetable origin; (6) peloids derived from petroleum deposits; and a detached group, 10, for 'artificial' or 'factitious peloids'. The Committee has now to consider the components—saline, mineral (geological), organic (for example, humus), vegetable structures, micro-organisms, etc.; the physical properties—heat conductivity, heat capacity, plasticity, colloidal properties, radioactivity, etc.; and the clinical indications.

First International Congress of Electro-Radio-Biology

WE have received a notice that the International Society of Radio-Biology, having its headquarters in Venice, is preparing to organise the First International Congress of Electro-Radio-Biology, which it is hoped will take place in that city in September next. It may be that there is room for an international society dealing with this subject, but a very considerable part of the programme would appear to come within the purview of the International Congress of Radiology which meets in Zurich in July of this year. It appears from the memorandum issued that a number of representatives from different countries will give lectures and speeches at this proposed Congress, but we regret to say that we do not see the name of a single British representative; but other names, it is stated, will be added in successive communications, so that should the Congress take place, we hope to see some representatives from Great Britain take an appropriate part. Those who desire more detailed information are invited to apply to the temporary head office of the International Society of Radio-Biology, addressing their correspondence to: Dr. Giocondo Protti, Venice (Italy), Canal Grande—S. Gregorio 173.

A Map of the British Isles, 1603

IN the University of Göttingen there is apparently the only copy of a map of the British Isles published in 1603 by John Woutneel and engraved by William Kip. It is a large sheet cut into four and came into the possession of the University in 1735. A photostat of the map is now in the British Museum. In the *Geographical Journal* of December, Mr. E. Lynam gives some account of this map. Woutneel was a Flemish bookseller living in London and Kip was a Dutch engraver who engraved the thirty-four maps in Camden's "Britannia" (1607). England and Wales on Woutneel's map are copied from the second edition (1594) of the Hondius map and show different spellings and more names, some of which are taken from Saxton. Scotland is copied from the Ortelius map of 1573. Ireland is based mainly on the 1594 map, but seems to contain some original work. Mr. Lynam does not believe that this map was the general map of an atlas that embraced the anonymous county maps of 1602-3, which do not appear to be Kip's work. It is not a good map. Mistakes are numerous and there is evidence of hasty copying but it is notable for the marking, not always correct, of battlefields, and its fine engraving. It will be of interest to discover if other copies are in existence.

Biochemical Research in India

THE Society of Biological Chemists, India, now in its third year, publishes annually "Biochemical and Allied Research in India"; the number for 1932 has recently been issued. This publication takes the form of a review of research work published during the year, by Indians and other workers in that country, usually in Indian journals. The subject matter is dealt with under the following headings:

enzymes, agricultural chemistry, food and nutrition of farm animals, dairy chemistry, general microbiology, vegetable physiology, phytopathology, pharmaceutical and medicinal chemistry, nutrition and vitamins, and the chemistry of sanitation with special reference to sewage and to water. The journal is edited for the Society by a committee and the names of the reviewers are appended at the end of each section. Upwards of three hundred papers are referred to, indicating the vitality of research into biochemical problems in India. Although many of the results obtained are chiefly applicable to conditions in that country, much of the work is of a wider interest and must be taken into consideration by workers on similar problems in other parts of the world. This journal forms a ready means of keeping in touch with biochemical research in India.

Birds of Hawaii

A REPORT that Hui Manu, the bird society of the Honolulu and Sandwich Islands, has decided to undertake a scheme for breeding and distributing many of the vanishing birds of the Hawaiian archipelago, is of interest, for these Pacific islands are perhaps the most isolated of all oceanic groups. Rothschild ("Avifauna of Hawaii and nearby Islands", 1893-1900) records 47 species from Hawaii, 34 of which breed, and from the neighbouring islands, Laysan 40, Kawai and Nishan 41, Oahu 28, Molokai 21, Maui 26 and Lanai 18. The introduction of many birds foreign to the islands, and particularly the European house-sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) now one of the commonest birds of the islands, has seriously affected the native avifauna, while Wetmore (*Nat. Geog. Mag.*, 18, 77; 1925), in a survey of the bird-life of the group, recorded considerable damage from the introduction of rats and rabbits. It was in 1909, through the interest of President Roosevelt, that the Hawaiian Bird Reservation was set up under the control of the United States Department of Agriculture. Amongst the fifty odd species recorded in the group, Heilprin states all the passerines and five of the aquatic and wading birds are peculiar.

North East Coast Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders

At a meeting of the Council of the North East Coast Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders held on February 12, Mr. Summers Hunter, formerly chairman of the North-Eastern Marine Engineering Co., Ltd., presented the warrant of the College of Arms granting armorial bearings to the Institution. Mr. Summers Hunter has been connected with the Institution for nearly fifty years as a president, and also an honorary fellow. He is also a past president of the Institution and of the Institute of Marine Engineers. The arms of the bearings are an ancient ship with sails set, surmounted by a tower triple-towered between two wheels, symbolical of engineering. The crest is a sun encircled by a chain, representing the harnessing of the forces of Nature for the use of man. The motto is "By Science, Industry and Honour".

Announcements

THE first educational tour of the Institute of Metals will be made to Belgium on April 8-14, when student members will have an opportunity of visiting six large metallurgical establishments and of seeing something of Brussels (including its University) and Bruges. The cost per head will be £6 10s. Students desirous of participating should communicate before March 12 with the Secretary, Mr. G. Shaw Scott, 36 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

At the annual general meeting of the Quekett Microscopical Club held on February 13, the following officers were elected for 1934-35: *President*, J. Milton Offord; *Vice-Presidents*, C. D. Soar, J. Ramsbottom, E. A. Robins and J. T. Holder; *Hon. Treasurer*, C. H. Bestow; *Hon. Secretary*, W. S. Warton; *Hon. Reporter*, A. Morley Jones; *Hon. Librarian*, C. H. Caffyn; *Hon. Curator*, C. J. Sidwell; *Hon. Editor*, W. P. Sollis; *New Members of the Committee*, Percy C. Palmer, C. Harvey, E. J. Stream, A. W. Sheppard.

WE much regret that the name of the author of the article entitled "Reference Chart for the Apparent Motions of the Sun, Moon and Planets" in *NATURE* of January 6, p. 33, was spelt incorrectly. The author's name should have been printed "Dr. B. K. Vaidya".

THE encyclopædic "Handbuch der biologischen Arbeitsmethoden" edited by Prof. Abderhalden includes, among its most recent parts, one written by Dr. F. Zacher. This instalment deals with the behaviour and development of insects affecting stored products. It can be recommended as an up-to-date work of reference written by a leading European authority on the subject.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the following appointments, on or before the dates mentioned:—A chief librarian for the County Borough of Southport—The Town Clerk, Town Hall, Southport (Feb. 26). A principal assistant (technical) in the Chief Engineer's Department of the London County Council—The Clerk of the Council, The County Hall, Westminster Bridge, London, S.E. (March 2). A City engineer and surveyor to the City of Bradford—The Town Clerk, Town Clerk's Office, Bradford (March 10). An assistant keeper on the higher technical staff of the Science Division of the Science Museum—The Director, Science Museum, South Kensington, London, S.W.7 (March 10). A vice-principal and head of the Mathematics Department at the Leeds College of Technology—The Director of Education, Education Offices, Leeds (March 10). A mechanical engineer as assistant to the chief engineer of the Dublin Port and Docks Board—The Secretary, Port and Docks Office, Dublin (March 14). Two lecturers to share the teaching of mathematics, physics, biology, chemistry and geography at the Cambridge Training College for Women—The Principal (March 14). A chief engineer at the British Drug Houses, Ltd., Graham Street, London, N.1—The Managing Director.