

analysed a sample of monazite which occurred with the Manitoba uraninite. The age turns out to be 1,725 million years. The significance of this high figure may be realised when it is remembered that the 'Middle' Pre-Cambrian rocks of Ontario, Norway and India have an age of about 950-1,050 million years. Clearly there was time enough before this for at least three major cycles of mountain-building and igneous intrusion, of which only one has hitherto been generally recognised.

Fur-Farming in U.S.A.

ECONOMIC stringency in the United States of America threatened to put a stop to the experimental fur-farming carried on by the Bureau of Biological Survey of the Department of Agriculture, but the restoration by the committee of appropriations of a grant of 51,717 dollars which had been eliminated will enable the experiments to be continued (Science Service, Washington, D.C.). Fur-farming is perhaps the only live-stock industry which has been profitable in the United States during the past three years. In 1933, there were harvested 150,000 silver fox and 50,000 mink pelts, but the great difficulty has been found to be the over-all improvement of the quality of the skins, too many still being of inferior grade. Some thirty to thirty-five million dollars is invested in the industry.

Report of the Ordnance Survey

THE report of the progress of the Ordnance Survey for the year 1933 (H.M. Stationery Office. 3s. net) directs attention to the slow rate of revision in the field of the large-scale plans which is at present possible. During the last three years, revision has been largely confined to the area of Greater London, adjoining counties, Devon, Cornwall, parts of the West Riding and Manchester areas. But the greater part of England has not been revised for more than ten years and much is more than twenty years out of date. Wales and Scotland have been largely unrevised for at least twenty years. Progress is reported in the preparation of the new fifth or relief edition of the one-inch map, and six more sheets were published during the year. Archæological maps of the Trent Basin and the Old Sarum district were published. Other publications included the magnetic edition of the physical maps of England and Scotland.

Announcements

LORD MACMILLAN has been appointed a trustee of the Beit Memorial Fellowships for Medical Research in succession to the late Sir James Kingston Fowler. The other trustees are: Sir Alfred Beit, Mr. Wm. Ormsby Gore, Lord Onslow, Lord Rayleigh, Dr. Edwin Deller (principal of the University of London) and Sir John Rose Bradford.

PROF. A. J. CLARK, professor of materia medica in the University of Edinburgh, and Prof. J. C. G. Ledingham, director of the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine and professor of bacteriology in the University of London, have been appointed

members of the Medical Research Council in succession to Sir Charles Sherrington and Dr. A. J. Arkwright, who retired in rotation on September 30.

THE Lord President of the Council has appointed Sir John Cadman and Sir James Jeans to be members of the Advisory Council to the Committee of the Privy Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. Sir Arthur Balfour, Sir William Bragg and Lord Rayleigh have retired from the Council on the completion of their terms of office.

SIR HARRY LINDSAY has been appointed director of the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, London, to succeed Sir William Furse, who retired on September 30. Sir Harry Lindsay was formerly Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, India, and since 1923 has been Indian Trade Commissioner.

A SYMPOSIUM on "Technical Aspects of Emulsions" is being arranged by the International Society of Leather Trades' Chemists (British Section) to be held at the Royal Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.2, on December 7 at 10 a.m.-6 p.m. The morning session will be devoted to papers on the making of emulsions, and the afternoon session to papers on the breaking of emulsions. The symposium is open to the public. Further information can be obtained from the Organising Secretary, International Society of Leather Trades' Chemists, 17 Market Street, London, S.E.1.

THE Irish Radium Committee has published its report for the year 1933 (*Sci. Proc. Roy. Dublin Soc.*, 21, No. 7. July, 1934. Separate Issue). Radium therapy is carried out by means of radon tubes, of which 306 batches, containing 12,996 millicuries radon, were issued during the year. Reports upon 466 cases treated at four hospitals are included, but no conclusions respecting the results obtained are given.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the following appointments, on or before the dates mentioned:—A principal of the Belfast Municipal College of Technology—The Director of Education, Education Offices, Victoria Street, Belfast (Oct. 12). An inspector for the purposes of the Diseases of Animals Acts, 1894-1927, in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries—The Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, 10 Whitehall Place, London, S.W.1 (Oct. 15). A head of the Science Department, Blackburn Municipal Technical College—The Director of Education, Education Offices, Library Street, Blackburn (Oct. 15). A professor of social science, and a lecturer in anatomy in the University of Cape Town—The Secretary to the High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2 (Nov. 7). A teacher of domestic subjects at the Technical Institute, Tunbridge Wells—Dr. J. Lister, Technical Institute, Tunbridge Wells. A micro-analyst in the Department of Organic Chemistry, University of Manchester—Prof. I. M. Heilbron. An assistant keeper in charge of the Oceanographical Collection in the British Museum (Natural History)—The Secretary, British Museum (Natural History), London, S.W.7.