

where investigations into problems of the dried grape fruits industry have been in progress for many years. The other will house the Forest Products Division, which hitherto has carried on in temporary quarters in Melbourne. The new laboratory, to cost £25,000, will be in the midst of the city's timber yards, and this should mean decided increase in the practical effectiveness of the Division's work.

#### Geographical Association

THE Spring Conference of the Geographical Association will be held at University College, Nottingham, on April 26-29. The meeting will include, in addition to several lectures and discussions, a long excursion to Southwell and Ollerton and visits to the tobacco factory of Messrs. J. Player and Sons, the hosiery factory of Messrs. J. B. Lewis and Sons, and Messrs. Boots new chemical factory. Members will be accommodated as far as possible in the Hugh Stewart Hall of Residence. Applications for accommodation and attendance at excursions should be made, before April 6, to Mr. N. V. Searfe, University College, University Park, Nottingham.

#### Astronomical Exhibition in Paris

At the next General Assembly of the International Astronomical Union, to be held at Paris on July 10-17, the French National Committee of Astronomy is arranging an exhibition of astronomical documents and apparatus, to exhibit the principles and the details of application of the methods of observation employed. The examination of actual instruments shows better than any description how they are applied, while original negatives or positives on glass will enable the quality of the results obtained to be judged. The exhibition will enable astronomers to examine the documents serving as the foundation of the astronomical discoveries of the present century. It is particularly hoped that auxiliary apparatus and accessory contrivances of all kinds will be exhibited by observatories and instrument makers: such instruments are micrometers, chronographs, photometers, spectrographs, driving motors, observing sheds and seats, abacuses, numerical tables and calculating machines. Inquiries can be addressed to M. le Comte de la Baume Pluvinel or to Prof. C. Fabry at the Paris Observatory.

#### Sixth International Congress for Scientific Management

THE Sixth International Congress for Scientific Management, the first congress of its kind to be held in Great Britain, will take place on July 15-20 and will be opened by its patron, the Prince of Wales. It will discuss commercial, agricultural and domestic problems and how far the adoption of the most scientific principles of management has facilitated their solution. Some three hundred chairmen, managing directors and professional and scientific men have so far enrolled, and the standard of the papers received from all parts of the world is most encouraging. The organisation of the Congress is in the hands of a Council convened by the Federation of British Industries. Subjects to be discussed include: manu-

facturing, distribution, development, agricultural, educational and training, and domestic. There is every indication that a really important gathering will take place. H.M. Government is to invite members to a reception, and the Lord Mayor and Corporation will receive them in the Guildhall. A series of visits to factories and institutions will take place in the week following the Congress. Invitations to the Congress containing membership forms and full details may be obtained from the Secretary, 21 Tothill Street, London, S.W.1.

#### Catalogue of Microscopes and Accessories

WE have received from Messrs. W. Watson and Sons, Ltd., the new edition of their catalogue of microscopes and accessories (Parts 1 and 2). The pages devoted to principles of construction on the optical bench system, now applied to all Messrs. Watson's microscopes, are of particular interest, and other constructional details in these pages are also noteworthy as evidence of the care devoted to the attainment of rigidity and accuracy. Attention may also be directed to the description of the dark ground condenser which can be made with working distances up to 4 mm. and to the low-power binocular dissecting microscope, strong in build and with two pairs of objectives mounted on a double nosepiece so arranged that the pair not in use is turned into a protected position. A considerable range of lamps for various microscopic purposes includes the Greenough lamp, which rests on the table beneath the microscope stage in place of the mirror and gives an evenly illuminated field, provision being made for centring the filament.

#### Announcements

SIR JOHN AMBROSE FLEMING has been awarded the Kelvin Medal for 1935 of the Institution of Civil Engineers in recognition of his services to electrical science and particularly of his invention of the thermionic valve. The Kelvin Gold Medal is awarded triennially as a mark of distinction in engineering work or investigation of the kinds with which Lord Kelvin was especially identified.

At the meeting of the Australian National Research Council at Melbourne in January, the first award of the Lylo Medal was made, the recipient being Prof. J. R. Wilton, Elder professor of mathematics in the University of Adelaide, for his work in mathematics. This medal is to be awarded, at intervals of two years, to workers in Australia for such researches in mathematics or physics as may appear to the Council most deserving of such honour, the period covered by those researches being the five years preceding each award.

THE services of Prof. R. H. Dastur, professor of botany at the Royal Institute of Science, Bombay, have been secured on loan from the Bombay Government by the Government of the Punjab for the investigation of the cotton crop. His address for some years, therefore, will be the Cotton Research Laboratory, Lyallpur, Punjab.