Jersey Meeting of the British Empire Naturalists' Association

THE decision of the council of the British Empire Naturalists' Association to hold a summer holiday meeting at Jersey in the latter half of June is an interesting tribute to the natural history interests of the Channel Islands, where so many Continental and North African plants reach the northern limit of their distribution, and certain reptiles and birds unknown in England may be studied. In its flora, Jersey holds most interest to the British naturalist for the very mild winters permitting up to forty species to flower in late December, thus producing a Continental rather than British flora. The most interesting species on the island not found in the rest of the British Isles are the Jersey bugloss ; the Jersey toadflax, one of the rarest of European flowers blooming at the end of May ; the Jersey star thistle ; and the loose-flowered orchid. The region of St. Ouens Bay is considered the richest botanically, for there are few woods on the island, though such rare flowers elsewhere in Britain as the wild daffodil flourish on the cliffs, maiden hair fern in certain rocks, wild wallflower on the walls of Mont Orgueil Castle, yellow horn poppy, golden samphire, sea-lavender and sea kale on the coast. *Scirpus americanus*, found at St. Ouen's Ponds, is a very rare rush of the Jersey flora, while the Jersey fern (*Gymnogramme leptophylla*, Des.), a North African species, is equally interesting.

FROM the point of view of marine zoology, Jersey offers invaluable opportunities to the visitor. Frequent storms have revealed the stumps of submerged oak and alder forests in St. Ouen's Bay, the Museum of the Societé Jersiaise possessing a photograph of some five hundred stumps visible on one occasion. Of bird-life, the island is rich in sea-birds, and a young herring-gull ringed by the London Natural History Society at the colony at Point Grosnez on June 24, 1934, was recovered at St. Nazair (Loire Inf.), France, on November 1. The beautifully marked wall lizard is found on the island, though it does not occur in Britain except as an escaped pet. Similarly, the insect fauna is rich in Continental forms, particularly butterflies, seldom reaching England. Geologically, Jersey resembles France, though in parts it may be likened to South Ireland, Devon and Cornwall. The rocks are mostly granitic. Jersey has the most varied rocks of the Channel Islands, presenting a mixture of metamorphic rocks, conglomerates, and sandstones with syenites and quartzites, while shale and blown sand are also prevalent. Archæologically, the island is noteworthy, and its cromlechs have caused wide interest, especially the large one at Mount Orgueil. The president of the British Empire Naturalists' Association is Mr. Douglas English. The arrangements of the Jersey meeting are in the hands of the honorary secretary of the Jersey branch of the Association, Mr. E. R. Casimir, Font Hill, Woodville Avenue, Jersey.

Rationalisation in Industry and Technical Education

IN his presidential address to the Association of Technical Institutions at the annual general meeting on February 22 and 23, Brig.-General Sir Harold Hartley discussed the question of how far the present trend of industrial development, and particularly the increasing size of industrial units, presents new problems in technical education. Following the rapid progress of both pure and applied science under which co-operative research has been initiated and the processes of the older industries subjected to scientific scrutiny, in addition to the development of entirely new industries, had come the beginnings of rationalisation. The tendency to increase the size of industrial units and to operate on the principles of mass production involves scientific research for the analysis and control of each process. While the disturbance produced by the War was a prime cause of the failure of these methods to raise the standard of living, misuse of opportunities afforded by research could intensify our difficulties. The modern method of production creates a new series of problems involving the co-operation of a team of specialists, and this team work is the characteristic feature of large-scale management. The smooth running of a large-scale unit depends on each of the components engaging intelligently in its task and performing this in proper co-ordination with the rest.

SIR HAROLD HARTLEY suggested that technical institutions can do something to assist those entering industry to understand their functions in relation to others, and in selecting individuals best suited for the various tasks. The extent to which it is possible to give the student a general picture of the industry which he is to enter, its organisation and management, and its relation to other industries requires careful consideration. The relation between the technical and commercial departments and the assistance which statistics afford to management are highly significant to-day, and Sir Harold Hartley urged greater emphasis on cost as opposed to efficiency in the discussion of processes and plant. Finally, he emphasised the importance of a dynamic conception of industry and of co-operation both inside an industry in isolating and solving a problem, and between education and research. The understanding between them must become closer and closer if we are to utilise fully the resources of Nature.

The Droitwich Broadcasting Station

IN a paper read to the Institution of Electrical Engineers on April 11 by N. Ashbridge, H. Bishop and B. N. MacLarty, a description is given of the new radio broadcasting station at Droitwich in Worcestershire. The station contains two transmitters each performing a separate function. One transmitter works on a 'long' broadcasting wavelength in the band 1250–1875 metres and the other on a medium wave-length between 200 and 545 metres. The long-wave transmitter has replaced Daventry 5XX, which worked with a power of about 25 kilowatts. This station was the first broadcasting station in Europe to employ a power in excess of five kilowatts. The other transmitter replaces Daventry 5GB, which was first erected as an experimental transmitter, but afterwards gave the