

etc., have become affected, where the beetles are being found in the streets, parks and suburban areas. In New Jersey, thousands of examples were blown by storms into the ocean, only to be cast back by the waves on to the beaches of summer resorts, to the great discomfort of bathers. The insect was accidentally introduced in the larval stage in soil around the roots of a shipment of Japanese iris to New Jersey in 1916. Since then it has spread with great rapidity and become firmly established as a most destructive immigrant enemy of fruit and shade trees, vegetables, etc.

#### British Institute of Philosophy

THE British Institute of Philosophy was founded in 1925, with the late Lord Balfour as its first president, its aim being the cultivation of systematic thought that has the most intimate bearing on practice. An appeal has now been issued, over the signatures of leaders of philosophical and scientific thought, for support to enable the Institute to extend its activities. These consist at present of the publication of the quarterly review *Philosophy*, the holding of courses of public lectures, the organisation in London and other cities of reading circles, and the arrangement of monthly evening addresses by leaders of opinion in various departments of thought, scientific, æsthetic, political, moral and religious. The annual subscription is £1 ls., which covers the price of the quarterly review; further information can be obtained from the Director of Studies at the rooms of the Institute in University Hall, 14 Gordon Square, London, W.C.1.

#### Staffordshire Field Naturalists

THE Transactions for 1934-35 of the North Staffordshire Field Club contain reports of the work of the various sections, including accounts of excavations at Wroxeter and other archæological remains. The sixth instalment of T. Smith's "Birds of Staffordshire", contained as an appendix, indicates how many birds, now rare or extinct, have appeared in the county; for in the list of Accipitres alone are the names of hen-harrier, marsh-harrier, golden and white-tailed eagles, goshawk, kite and osprey.

#### Further Gift in Dovedale to the National Trust

DURING the past two years, the National Trust has, through the generosity of private benefactors, secured the preservation of considerable parts of Dovedale, Derbyshire. On December 31, Mr. E. Hodgson Kerfoot of Buxton and Manchester presented, in commemoration of the Silver Jubilee, the Iron Tors and the Nobbs, 100 acres in all. The Iron Tors are bold outstanding limestone buttresses with varied woodland immediately north of the property presented by Imperial Chemical Industries. The Nobbs is also situated on the Derbyshire side of the River Dove opposite the Hall Dale property presented by Mr. McDougall, about seventeen miles from the source on the Derbyshire moorland height of Axe Edge.

#### Announcements

THE celebration of the one hundred and twelfth anniversary of the foundation of Birkbeck College (University of London) will be held in the College Theatre on Wednesday, January 22. The foundation oration will be delivered by Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins, past president of the Royal Society. The chair will be taken by Mr. W. L. Hichens, chairman of the governors, at 8.15 p.m. No tickets are required.

At the invitation of the Royal Society, the North East Coast Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders will arrange the first of the annual lectures to be held in connexion with the memorial to the late Sir Charles Parsons. The Institution has nominated Sir Frank Smith to deliver the lecture and the Council of the Royal Society has approved of the nomination. The lecture will be held in Newcastle upon Tyne, probably in the latter part of 1936.

THE Dutch Association for Genetics has offered a prize of 250 gulden for the best work on the inheritance of differences in resistance to disease in man and animals. The work must contain a review of the literature, especially as regards diseases of the blood, personal observations and conclusions. It should be sent to the Secretary of the Association, A. L. Hagedorn, Soesterberg, Holland.

WE regret to find that, in printing the issue of NATURE of January 4, the graph on p. 30 in the letter entitled "Recombination of Neutron with Proton" by S. Kikuchi, K. Husimi and H. Aoki has been inverted. The letter *b* on the left hand side of the diagram thus refers to the bracket now appearing on the right; the numbers at the foot of the diagram are not affected. The block was unfortunately inverted after the page had been passed for press.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the following appointments, on or before the dates mentioned:

An engineering assistant in the War Office—The Under-Secretary of State (C 5), The War Office, London, S.W.1 (Jan. 13).

A demonstrator in the Engineering Test Laboratory and the Physics Laboratory in the Royal Naval Engineering College, Keyham, Devonport—The Adviser on Education, Admiralty, Whitehall, S.W.1 (Jan. 27).

A senior lecturer in zoology in Rhodes University College, Grahamstown—The Secretary, Office of the High Commissioner for South Africa, South Africa House, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2 (Jan. 31).

A junior lecturer in civil engineering (Jan. 29), and a professor of geography (Feb. 4) in the University of Capetown—The Secretary, Office of the High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa, South Africa House, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2.