

Boyd Alexander had during his lifetime presented to the Museum the greater part of the collections made during his extensive travels. The Mineral Department has been presented by the Otago University Museum with a cast of the meteoric stone that was found at Morven, South Canterbury, New Zealand, together with a piece of the original. From Tanganyika Territory have come platy crystals of hematite given by Mr. G. W. Craddock and apatite crystals given by Mr. H. R. Ruggles-Brise. Mr. O. Ivan Lee has presented a carefully selected piece of radioactive fluorescent and phosphorescent Iyalite from North Carolina, and Dr. H. A. Ford a specimen with small brilliant crystals of the new mineral lindgrenite from Chile. Mr. T. H. Manning has presented a series of rocks collected by him in Southamptton Island, Canada, in 1934-35. A fine specimen of lapis lazuli from the Badakshan district, Afghanistan, showing large, well-shaped crystals of lazulite with pyrite, and a rhomb of the doubly refracting spar recently found in South West Africa have been purchased. A general collection of about three hundred specimens, including some from the Exhibition of 1851, and various rocks originally described by Prof. H. L. Reynolds and Mr. H. J. Gardiner have been bought. The purchases also include two cut colourless phenakites from Brazil.

Announcements

A DISCUSSION on "Surface Phenomena—Films" has been arranged by the Royal Society for March 12, at 11.30 a.m.; it will be opened by Prof. E. K. Rideal.

DR. ERIC PONDER, investigator in general physiology at the Biological Laboratory of the Long Island Biological Association, has been appointed interim director pending the appointment of a successor to the late Dr. Reginald G. Harris.

It is announced in *The Times* of February 25 that in order to commemorate the centenary of the death of André Marie Ampère on June 10, 1836, the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs in France has decided to issue on February 27 a special stamp of 75 centimes bearing the effigy of the *savant*.

THE third International Congress for Investigation of Light will be held at Wiesbaden on September 1-7 under the presidency of Prof. W. Friedrich, when discussions will be held on the biology and physics of light and treatment by light. Further information can be obtained from Dr. H. Schreiber, Robert Koch Platz 1, Berlin, N.W.7.

ON the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the discovery of Röntgen rays in 1895, Prof. Hans Meyer, editor of *Strahlentherapie*, Park Allee 73, Bremen, has issued an appeal to the radiologists of all nations for portraits and short biographies of all the medical men, physicists, nurses and others who, as pioneers in radiology and radiotherapy, have lost their lives in the advancement of science and assistance of humanity.

By the generosity of Mr. Franklin, Mr. Clifford and Mr. Harvey Thorp, a new room has been added to the house of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society. The room, which was formally opened on February 11, will be known as the Thomas Thorp Room in memory of Thomas Thorp, who was a member of the Society from 1896 until 1914. The room will be used for displaying the Society's collection of scientific apparatus and other relics, among which are the MSS. and instruments of Dalton, and apparatus and other memorials of Joule, Wilde, Sturgeon, William Thomson and Baxendell.

IN compliance with the requirements of a gift under the will of the late Francis Amory of Beverly, Massachusetts, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences announces the offer of a septennial prize for outstanding work with reference to the alleviation or cure of diseases affecting the human genital organs, to be known as the Francis Amory Septennial Prize. If there is work of a quality to warrant it, the first award will be made in 1940. The total amount of the award will exceed ten thousand dollars, and may be given in one or more awards. While there will be no formal nominations, and no formal essays or treatises will be required, the Committee invites suggestions, which should be made to the Amory Fund Committee, care of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 28 Newbury Street, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

ERRATA.—In NATURE of February 15, p. 282, col. 2, the boiling point of carbon tetrafluoride was given as 126°. This should read - 126°. On p. 257, col. 1, the boiling point of chloropicrin should be 112° instead of 26.5°.

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

A teacher of engineering or building (also senior physics) in the Southport Technical College—The Secretary to the Education Committee, Southport (March 2).

A woman lecturer in geography and nature study in the Glamorgan Training College for Women, Barry—Director of Education, County Hall, Cardiff (March 2).

An assistant (Grade II) in the Admiralty Compass Department, Slough—The Secretary to the Admiralty (C.E. Branch), Whitehall, S.W.1 (March 7).

A teacher of engineering mathematics, science and drawing in the Oxford Schools of Technology, Art and Commerce—The Chief Education Officer, Education Office, 77 George Street, Oxford (March 9).

An advisory assistant at the Board of Greenkeeping Research, St. Ives Research Station, Bingley, Yorks—The Director (March 17).

A temporary assistant for research into virus diseases of potatoes under a scheme organised by the Scottish Society for Research in Plant Breeding—John Stirton, 8 Eglinton Crescent, Edinburgh.