

large nodule of pyrope garnet from the Premier diamond mine of South Africa, and a fine rounded water-worn crystal of parti-coloured tourmaline, sectioned to show the colour. The Museum has acquired a large water-worn crystal of topaz of gemstone quality, about eight inches in diameter, with a cleavage plate of the same mineral, from Brazil. The weight of the larger specimen is 29½ lb. Other important acquisitions include the late Dr. H. Bolton's valuable collection of Carboniferous insect wings, presented recently to the Department of Palaeontology.

Thunder Census Organisation

THE survey of thunderstorms in the British Isles during the coming summer is to be continued and again the co-operation of readers of NATURE in the observational work is requested. Fuller details can be obtained from Mr. S. Morris Bower, Langley Terrace, Oakes, Huddersfield. The census has recently been extended into the winter months in order to bring the winter data, collected between 1925 and 1929, more nearly up to the standard of the summer survey, and also to make special reports on individual storms available for insurance and other purposes throughout the year. The lightning damage survey has been commenced in some parts of the country, and it is intended to build up this work gradually: sections of maps, on the scale of two miles to the inch, are issued to observers, who are invited to record local positions of damage.

Awards for Aeronautical Research

At a meeting of the Council of the Royal Aeronautical Society held on April 21, the following awards were made: *Silver Medal of the Society* to Mr. B. N. Wallis, for his work on geodetic construction; *Simms Gold Medal* to Mr. W. S. Farren, for his inventions of new methods of the measurement of drag and his designs of scientific apparatus for aeronautical research; *Taylor Gold Medal* to Mr. E. F. Relf, for his paper read before the Society on the compressed air tunnel; *Sir Charles Wakefield Gold Medal* to Mr. C. R. Fairey, for his work on the development of flaps; *Busk Memorial Prize* to Mr. R. P. Alston, for his paper read before the Society on wing flaps and other devices as aids to landing. At a meeting of the Amulree Committee held on April 27, the following awards were made on the recommendation of the Council of the Royal Aeronautical Society: *British Gold Medal for Aeronautics* to Dr. Hugo Eckener for his technical achievements in lighter-than-air craft; *British Silver Medal for Aeronautics* to Mr. A. J. Rowledge, for his scientific achievements in the development of aircraft engines.

Announcements

THE Council of the Royal Society of Edinburgh has awarded the Keith Prize for the period 1933-35 to Prof. Lancelot T. Hogben, for his papers on genetical subjects published alone and in collaboration, which have appeared in the *Proceedings* of the Society during the period of the award; and the Neill Prize for the period 1933-35 to Dr. Samuel Williams,

University of Glasgow, for his contributions to the anatomy and experimental morphology of the Pteridophyta.

DR. W. E. HARPER, of the Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, Victoria, B.C., who has been assistant director since 1923, has been appointed director in succession to Dr. J. S. Plaskett, who retired last year. Dr. J. A. Pearce, astronomer at the Observatory since 1924, has been made assistant director.

IN 1935 the directors of Teyler's Foundation and the members of Teyler's Second Society at Haarlem, Netherlands, announced a competition for a gold medal to be awarded for the best treatise on the interaction between atomic nuclei and electrons. Four essays were submitted, two from the United States and two from the Netherlands. The medal has now been awarded to Dr. H. B. G. Casimir, of Leyden. The prize essay will be published shortly in the *Transactions of Teyler's Second Society* and in the *Archives du Musée Teyler*.

THE twelfth Annual Norman Lockyer Lecture of the British Science Guild will be given by the Right Hon. Lord Rutherford on November 12. The lecture will be held in the Goldsmiths' Hall, Foster Lane, E.C.2 (by courtesy of the Goldsmiths' Company).

THE forty-seventh Annual Conference of the Museums Association will be held at Leeds on July 6-10, under the presidency of Sir Eric Maclagan. Further information can be obtained from Mr. E. W. Wignall, Chaucer House, Malet Place, London, W.C.1.

THE Medical Research Council will consider applications submitted by June 1 for a number of travelling fellowships in medical science (including clinical medicine and surgery) tenable abroad during the ensuing academic year. These will be awarded either by the Council or by other bodies on the Council's nomination, and will each be of the value of £400, with an additional allowance for travelling and special expenses. Applications will at the same time be received for other travelling fellowships restricted respectively to tuberculosis and to psychiatry or neurology. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary of the Medical Research Council, 38 Old Queen Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1.

SIR FREDERICK BANTING, Mr. Havelock Ellis and Dr. Robert Leiper were elected fellows of the Royal College of Physicians of London on April 30 by By-law XXXVIII (b).

PROF. SIGMUND FREUD, extraordinary professor of nervous pathology in the University of Vienna and well-known for his work on psychopathology and psychoanalysis, celebrated his eightieth birthday on May 6.

PROF. HUGO SPATZ, professor of psychiatry in the University of Munich and senior physician to the Psychiatric Clinic, has been nominated to succeed Prof. Oskar Vogt as director of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institut für Gehirnforschung at Berlin-Buch.