

that of Tuttle's Comet of 1862. On August 4, Peltier's comet (discovered on May 15 last by Mr. L. Peltier of Delphos, Ohio) is at its nearest approach to the earth at a distance of $15\frac{3}{4}$ million miles. Its computed position on August 4^d 0^h is R.A. 21^h 45^m 10^s; Dec. 4° 8' S., which places it in the constellation Aquarius, but the moon being full will prevent its being easily observed; otherwise it should be faintly visible to the naked eye. The comet is then travelling south rapidly and will reach 70° S. on August 24. Nova Lacertæ, which was discovered on June 18^d 21^h, probably reached its maximum brightness of about mag. 2.2 on June 20 and is now slowly fading. Its magnitude on July 17 was 6.3 according to Steavenson, so that the nova can be seen with binoculars; its position (R.A. 22^h 11^m 5^s; Dec. 54° 59' 42" N.) is about 2° south of ϵ Cephei. The character of the nova's spectrum suggests a more rapid progress than is normally the case through the typical evolution stages of a nova.

Announcements

IN view of the Coronation festivities next year, the dates of the Royal Society soirées have been fixed well in advance. The men's soirée will be held on Tuesday, May 4, and the ladies' soirée on Thursday, May 6; it is possible that a third soirée will be arranged, but the date is not yet fixed.

IN connexion with the Second International Congress for Microbiology being held at University College, London, on July 25–August 1, an exhibition of scientific instruments has been arranged at the College. The exhibition will be open to all scientific workers, irrespective of whether they are members of the Congress or not, on July 27–29, from 10.30 a.m. until 5 p.m.

At the Annual Summer Conference of Advisory Plant Pathologists at the University of Leeds, Dr. Geo. H. Pethybridge, mycologist to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for the last twelve years, and previously for many years in the Department of Agriculture in Ireland, was presented with a wireless receiving set, etc., as a mark of appreciation on the occasion of his approaching retirement from official service.

THE Jones-Bateman cup of the Royal Horticultural Society, which is awarded triennially for researches in the growing of hardy fruits, figs, grapes and peaches in the open or under glass, is available for award in 1936. Candidates should submit accounts of their work by October 31 to the Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Square, Westminster, S.W.1. The work dealt with must have been carried out by the candidate in the United Kingdom mainly during the past five years.

THE thirteenth Annual Conference of the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux (ASLIB) will be held in Oxford on September 18–21. On September 18, at 8.30 p.m., the president-elect, Dr. Cyril Norwood, will deliver his address entitled

"The Library in the School". On September 19, at 9.30 a.m., a symposium on "Library Instruction for University and Research Students in America" will be held. Further information can be obtained from the General Secretary, ASLIB, 31, Museum Street, London, W.C.1.

PROF. E. ABDERHALDEN, professor of physiology in the University of Halle, has been nominated an honorary member of the Society of Biological Chemists at Bangalore.

THE following have recently been elected members of the Imperial Leopold Caroline German Academy of Science at Halle: Dr. Paul Buchner, professor of zoology at Leipzig; Dr. Hermann Loescheke, professor of pathology at Greifswald; Dr. C. Gösta A. Forsell, professor of medical radiology, and Dr. S. E. Patrik Haglund, professor of orthopædics at Stockholm; Dr. Knud Faber, professor of medicine at Copenhagen; Dr. A. H. M. J. Van Rooy, professor of gynæcology and obstetrics at Amsterdam; Dr. E. Leclainche, director of the international office of epizootics in Paris; and Dr. Karl Wegelin, professor of general pathology and morbid anatomy at Bern.

THE following scientific awards have recently been made by the American Medical Association: Gold Medal to Drs. Charles B. Huggins, S. W. J. Noonan and B. H. Blockson of the University of Chicago for their work in connexion with increasing blood production in the arms and legs by means of increased temperature; Silver Medal to G. C. Supple and S. Ansbacher of the research division of the Borden Company for their method of obtaining lactoflavine from milk; Bronze Medal to Dr. Alvin L. Barach of the Presbyterian Hospital, New York, for his method of providing an artificial light air in which helium is substituted for nitrogen.

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

A teacher of engineering (mechanical) in the Norwich Technical College—The Principal (July 28).

A lecturer in civil engineering in Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne—The Registrar (July 30).

A statistician for a War Department establishment—The President, Royal Engineer Board, Regent's Park Barracks, London, N.W.1 (August 5).

Chemists at the Royal Gunpowder Factory, Waltham Abbey—The Principal Clerk, Central Office, Royal Gunpowder and Small Arms Factories, Enfield Lock, Middlesex (August 7).

A senior lecturer in physiology in the University of Aberdeen—The Secretary (August 15).

A technical editor at the Technical Institute, 16 St. Mary's Parsonage, Manchester, 3—The General Secretary (September 7).

An assistant lecturer in the Department of Electrical Engineering, Mathematics and Physics (with engineering degree) in the Natal Technical College—Mr. H. W. Gray, 17 Claydon Avenue, Southsea.