

anthropology. In this connexion, however, Prof. R. C. Thurnwald's account of the profane literature of Buin, Solomon Islands, is even a more valuable pointer towards a method of gauging social values, while affording an index of change under contact with external influences. The songs which he collected, at first in 1908-9 and then in 1934, deal with topics of everyday life, and by their difference in manner and matter show unconsciously but infallibly how times have changed.

Sodium Lamps for Lighting Tennis Courts

FOR the lighting of tennis courts it is essential that there should be complete freedom from glare and that the light should have a high speed of discrimination. In *Philips Technical Review* (Eindhoven) of August last, it is pointed out that both these requirements are exceptionally well fulfilled by a lighting system employing sodium lamps. Although no satisfactory method has yet been found for making quantitative measurements of the disturbing effect produced with different types of light, experience has shown that the presence of a source of light in the field of vision is less disturbing with sodium lamps than with other lamp sources of equivalent total candle power. This is due to the comparatively low luminous intensity of sodium lamps. Several experimenters have also proved that the speed of discriminating objects is quicker with sodium light than with other types of light. The illumination of tennis courts is particularly important in regions with a tropical climate where the heat renders play during the day impossible, and where during the evening, when the atmosphere is cooler, darkness sets in very quickly. Three open-air tennis courts in the Netherlands East Indies were recently equipped with sodium lamps. Good results have been obtained with an arrangement of eight 150 watt sodium lamps arranged in two rows, containing four each, on the sides of the court and situated 20 feet above the ground.

Phenology of 1935

THE Phenological Report for 1935 by I. D. Margary (*Quart. J. Met. Soc.*, 62, No. 265) covers the period December 1934–November 1935 inclusive. That period was of unusual interest on account of two spells of exceptional weather—the very wet December of 1934, and the bitterly cold period of May 1935 when a strong flow of air from polar regions brought severe frosts and snowstorms down even to the coastal regions of the south of England. The early months of 1935 were, on the whole, mild, with the result that in most counties flowers appeared early. The wintry weather in May therefore caused damage to plants and trees on a scale that luckily can probably be seen only once or twice in an average lifetime. Insects reacted eccentrically to this topsy-turvy weather that preceded the setting in of true summer weather, and showed very variable dates for their first appearance. Migrant birds behaved likewise; the species that normally arrive early were in the south mostly much in advance of their average first appearance; those that usually arrive late, for

example, the garden warbler and the spotted flycatcher, were nearly all abnormally late. The spotted flycatcher was, however, exceptionally early in reaching the northern parts of Scotland and Ireland.

Soviet Arctic Exploration

IN continuance of its plans of Arctic exploration, the Soviet Government, according to the Soviet Union Year Book Press Service, is planning to dispatch ninety-five Arctic expeditions this year. Besides new geological prospecting work, topographical surveys in high latitudes will be combined with hydrographical work in the Kara and Laptev Seas. The northern rivers will also be studied with the view of improving transport. Research is also in hand on the problem of the northward extension of agriculture. Last year's work led to the discovery of coal deposits in the Chukchee peninsula, and these are now being worked.

New Coastline of Antarctica

THE Norwegian expedition to the Antarctic under Mr. L. Christensen which aims at mapping from the air the partially known coast-line of Antarctica between long. 100° W. and 10° E. is reported by *The Times* to have discovered one of the missing stretches of the coast. Mr. Wideroe, flying from the *Thorshavn*, found land between Queen Maud Land to the east and Princess Ragnhild Land to the west in about lat. 69° 30' S. and long. 38° E. Even more interesting than this completion of the coast-line south of the Indian Ocean was the discovery by another flight of a mountain range extending westward for at least two hundred miles from lat. 71° 30' S. and long. 26° E., with peaks rising to 6,000 ft. and 10,000 ft. This range would appear to lie in Princess Ragnhild Land and to extend into the new land. Farther east, it may be remembered that in 1930 Sir Douglas Mawson found mountain ranges in the interior of Enderby Land. In all probability, these ranges will prove to be fault ranges along the edge of the plateau of the eastern Antarctic.

Presentation to Dr. E. J. Butler, F.R.S.

FOR many years, mycologists throughout the world have reaped the benefits of the great work carried out by Dr. E. J. Butler, the first director of the Imperial Mycological Institute, Kew. Following upon his resignation, workers in all parts of Australia contributed to a presentation fund organized by Dr. W. L. Waterhouse of the University of Sydney. Acting on their behalf, the High Commissioner for the Commonwealth in London, Mr. S. M. Bruce, kindly consented to make the presentation, which took place at the Institute on February 8 in the presence of the members of the staff, most of whom had been with Dr. Butler throughout his term of office. One of the gifts was an inscribed table clock made of Australian woods.

Biological Equipment

MESSRS. GRIFFIN AND TATLOCK, LTD., Kemble Street, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, have issued a catalogue, No. 30 K, of biological and general

apparatus and laboratory equipment for bacteriology, pathology, public health, chemistry and cognate sciences. In addition to laboratory fittings, and the ordinary chemical and physical glass-ware and apparatus and reagents, microscopes by various makers, microtomes, incubators, and blood and milk testing instruments are included. An extensive series of anatomical diagrams and models, osteological preparations, and mounted microscopic objects are also listed. Practically all laboratory requirements appear in this catalogue, which is well produced and illustrated, and strongly bound.

Sir Warren Fisher, Permanent Secretary of H.M. Treasury since 1919; Prof. R. H. Fowler, Plummer professor of applied mathematics in the University of Cambridge since 1932; Dr. W. B. Yeats, author of poetic and dramatic works, have been elected members of the Athenæum under the provisions of Rule II of the Club, which empowers the annual election by the Committee of a certain number of persons of distinguished eminence in science, literature, the arts, or for public service.

THE Council of the Institute of Metals has elected Dr. Harold Moore and Mr. W. Murray Morrison to the short list of fellows of the Institute, limited in number to twelve, who have "rendered eminent service to the Institute". Dr. Moore is a past-president of the Institute and director of the British Non-Ferrous Metals Research Association. Mr. W. Murray Morrison is an original member of the Institute, having assisted in its formation in 1908. He is vice-chairman and managing director of the British Aluminium Company, Ltd.

At the annual general meeting of the Royal Astronomical Society, held on February 12, the following officers were elected: *President*, Dr. H. Spencer Jones; *Vice-Presidents*, Sir Frank Dyson, Prof. E. A. Milne, Prof. H. C. Plummer, and Prof. W. M. Smart; *Treasurer*, J. H. Reynolds; *Secretaries*, W. M. H. Greaves, and Prof. H. H. Plaskett; *Foreign Secretary*, Sir Arthur Eddington.

PROF. E. J. SALISBURY will deliver the Masters Memorial Lectures of the Royal Horticultural Society in the lecture room of the Society's New Hall in Greycoat Street, Westminster, on March 9 and March 23 at 3.30 p.m. The subject of the lectures will be "The Plant and its Water Supply".

MR. L. B. TANSLEY has been appointed assistant director of the Testing House and Laboratory of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, Royal Exchange, Manchester. At present, Mr. Tansley is assistant to the Director of the British Cotton Industry Research Association.

THE second Conference on Industrial Physics arranged by the Institute of Physics will be held in Birmingham on March 18-20. The subject of the Conference will be "Optical Devices in Research and

Industry". The president of the Institute, Prof. A. Fowler, will deliver his presidential address, entitled "Spectroscopy in Industry", on March 18. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, Institute of Physics, 1 Lowther Gardens, Exhibition Road, South Kensington, S.W.7.

IN order to encourage original medical research, the Grocers' Company offers three scholarships, each of £300 a year, with an allowance to meet the cost of apparatus, tenable for one year but renewable for a second or third year. The next election will take place in May. Applications must be made before the end of April to the Clerk, Grocers' Hall, E.C.2, from whom further information can be obtained.

To commemorate the services of the late Sir Grafton Elliot Smith to University College, London, and to the advancement of anatomical and anthropological teaching and research, it is proposed that a bust of him should be modelled in bronze by Mr. A. H. Gerrard of the Slade School, and placed in the Thane Library of the College. Contributions towards the cost of the bust, made payable to "The Elliot Smith Memorial Fund", should be sent to Prof. J. P. Hill, University College, Gower Street, London, W.C.1.

THE Silver Jubilee Commemoration (1934) award of five guineas is granted annually by the Illuminating Engineering Society, which is open to members of the Society less than twenty-six years of age. The award may be made (1) for a suitable paper dealing with illuminating engineering, (2) the design or construction of a novel instrument or appliance for use in researches on illumination, or (3) the carrying out of any investigation beneficial to illuminating engineering. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, Illuminating Engineering Society, 32 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

PROF. GEORGES BOULIGAND, professor of differential and integral calculus in the University of Poitiers, has been elected *correspondant* of the Section of Mechanics of the Paris Academy of Sciences in succession to the late Dr. Joseph Auclair.

PROF. HANS MOLISCH, vice-president of the Vienna Academy of Sciences, Dr. Julius Wagner-Jauregg, emeritus professor of psychiatry at Vienna, Dr. Hans Horst Meyer, emeritus professor of pharmacology at Vienna, Dr. Otto Loisi, professor of pharmacology at Graz, and Dr. Victor Hess, professor of experimental physics at Innsbrück, have been awarded the Austrian insignia for science and art.

A PHARMACOLOGICAL department is being organized in the Gorky Institute of Experimental Medicine at Moscow under the direction of Prof. Nikolayev to study the reactions of various medicines on the sick and healthy. Special attention will be paid to the effectiveness of traditional home remedies of various nationalities and of Eastern medicines in particular.