

the most important of which is the collection of Franklin manuscripts. Much work has been carried out in preparation for the issue of a descriptive catalogue of these manuscript collections.

Smithsonian Publications

A CLASSIFIED list of Smithsonian Publications, available for distribution, August 10, 1937, compiled by Helen Monro, has been published by the Smithsonian Institution, Washington (Publication 3394). The papers are supplied only as an aid to researches or studies in which the applicant is specially interested, and accordingly applicants are required to state the grounds for their request. Except where prices are given in the list, the papers are distributed gratis. The serial publications of the Smithsonian Institution are of three types: Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge; Smithsonian Collections; Smithsonian Annual Reports. The reports are distributed gratuitously to libraries and individuals throughout the world, but very few are now available at the Institution. The papers issued in the Contributions to Knowledge and Miscellaneous Collections are not public documents but are printed in limited editions and distributed without charge to public libraries, educational institutions and learned societies. They are supplied to other institutions and to individuals at the prices indicated.

Calendar of Chemistry

AN interesting list of names and dates has been drawn up by E. H. Huntress with the title: "Daily Chemical Anniversaries as a Teaching Tool", published in the *Journal of Chemical Education* (14, 328; 1937; obtainable in reprint form at a small charge). In this, each day of the year is assigned to some names of investigators distinguished for their contributions to chemistry and related sciences, who were born on that day in a year specified. The date of death is also given when the person is no longer living. In this way a valuable historical document has been produced, and it is clear from the brief introduction by the author that he has taken a great deal of trouble in collecting his material from reliable sources and in converting the dates based on different calendars to the Gregorian basis. He suggests that the list can be made use of in teaching, and it certainly offers interesting possibilities in this direction.

Game Research

APART from a few special investigations, such as that on grouse disease, little persistent attempt has been made to study the diseases of game or methods of controlling disease or increasing the health and productivity of game. The opening a few years ago of a game research estate at Knebworth by Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd. was therefore a movement of scientific as well as of sporting interest, and now a second centre has been set up at Jealott's Hill, Warfield, Berkshire, for the study of problems relating to intensive rearing and the incidence of disease. From these stations appear occasional short pamphlets dealing with the progress of research or

summarizing present knowledge regarding specific diseases. Advisory Leaflet No. 12 (June 1937) deals with a few diseases of game most commonly encountered on rearing-fields and amongst wild stock, and offers some suggestions for simple treatment such as a keeper could apply. The diseases referred to are gapes, coccidiosis, cramp, pneumonia, 'sore mouth', and strongylosis or 'partridge disease'.

Partridge Mortality

THE question of "Partridge Stocks and Mortalities" is discussed in I.C.I. Game Researches, Advisory Leaflet 13, June 1937. The pamphlet is based upon information gathered from a large number of partridge manors throughout Great Britain and analysed by A. D. Middleton, of the Bureau of Animal Population. The matters discussed include losses of nests, fertility of eggs, mortality in young partridges, stock estimates, winter wastage, mortality and its reduction. The pamphlet is simply written and should be a useful guide to the shooting man and his keeper—to whom the original papers are not likely to be available—as to what may be expected amongst a normal stock of wild partridges.

Bibliography of Seismology

THE recent quarterly part of the "Bibliography of Seismology", edited by Mr. Ernest A. Hodgson, concludes the record for the year 1936 (*Pub. Dominion Observatory, Ottawa, 12, 1936-37*). The value of the work will be evident from the fact that the number of entries for the year is 429. To a great extent, the practice of adding notes on, or abstracts of, the memoirs is abandoned. On the other hand, the useful plan of giving references to notes or articles in various scientific journals—such as *NATURE*, *Science*, etc., and the *Proceedings* of such bodies as the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R., the Geodetic Survey of India and the Society of Petroleum Geophysicists—is extended. The countries in which earthquakes are studied are now so well represented on the list of contributors that few, if any, memoirs of importance can escape notice. The last number contains a useful subject-index under more than fifty headings.

An Active Sunspot

A LARGE and active group of sunspots, visible to the naked eye, is in transit across the sun's disk (September 28–October 11) in latitude 10° N. The date of central meridian passage was October 4.6. The following measures of area made at Greenwich and expressed in millionths of the sun's hemisphere illustrate the rapid growth of the group from September 28, when it was seen coming into view at the sun's east limb:

Sept. 28.4d	Area 450
" 29.3	" 1100
" 30.4	" 1700
Oct. 1.3	" 2100
" 4.4	" 3100

By October 1, a number of separate nuclei had developed into one very long complex spot.

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Observations made in hydrogen light ($H\alpha$) with the Hale spectroheliograph at Greenwich Observatory showed considerable activity within the spot. Besides the occurrence of several minor eruptions, bright eruptions of large extent were observed on September 29 at 10^h 50^m until 11^h 50^m U.T. and on September 30 at 10^h 28^m until 11^h 30^m. The times of maximum intensity of these eruptions agree closely with those of pronounced fading in short-wave wireless transmission as recorded in Great Britain and elsewhere. A magnetic disturbance was registered at Abinger from October 3^d 11.3^h until October 4^d 9^h, and an aurora was reported from the Southern Coast of England on the night of October 3-4.

Announcements

PROF. JOJI SAKURAI, president of the Imperial Academy and of the National Research Council of Japan, has been elected vice-president of the International Council of Scientific Unions in succession to the late Marchese Marconi.

GEH. MED. RAT DR. HANS VIRCHOW, emeritus professor of anatomy of the University of Berlin, celebrated his eighty-fifth birthday on September 10, and Dr. Karl Jacoby, emeritus professor of pharmacology and physiology of the University of Tübingen, was eighty years of age on September 12.

THE July issue of the *American Journal of Roentgenology and Radium Therapy* is dedicated to Dr. Henry K. Pancoast, in honour of his twenty-fifth year as professor of roentgenology at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Pancoast has served as president of the American Roentgen Ray Society, of the American Radium Society and of the first American Congress of Radiology held at Chicago in 1933.

MISS E. A. LANGLEY, at present organizer of school meals for the London County Council, has been appointed to fill a new post on the staff of the Board of Education as inspector of the arrangements made by local education authorities for the provision of meals. She will co-operate with the Board's medical staff in the campaign for improving the nutrition of school children.

A GRACEFUL tribute to the value of the scientific radio research conducted within the Empire has been recently paid by Mr. J. W. O. Hamilton, who has offered sums to found prizes for radio research at the Universities of Cambridge, Melbourne, Sydney and Tasmania. In his letter to the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, offering the sum of £500 for this purpose, Mr. Hamilton has expressed a desire that the names of James Clerk Maxwell and Sir Ambrose Fleming, both Cambridge men, should be associated with the prize.

THE Quekett Microscopical Club is holding a *conversazione* in the rooms of the Royal Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W.1, on Tuesday, October 12, at 7.30.

A SPECIAL course of nine lectures will be delivered at the London School of Economics and Political Science by Bertrand Russell on "The Science of Power" on Mondays at 5 commencing October 11. Further information and forms of application may be obtained from the Secretary, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, Aldwych, W.C.2.

A CONFERENCE on Rubber Technology will be held in London on May 23-25, 1938, under the auspices of the Institution of the Rubber Industry. The president will be Mr. S. T. Rowe. The Conference will be divided into two parts: (1) Methods of Improving and Evaluating the Durability of Rubber; and (2) General Subjects. Further information can be obtained from Mr. W. F. V. Cox, Institution of the Rubber Industry, 12 Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

A GENERAL DISCUSSION on Lubrication and Lubricants, under the auspices of the engineering and technical institutions of Great Britain, is being held on October 13-15. It has been found necessary, owing to the large numbers of applications for membership, to arrange for the discussion to be held in the Central Hall, Westminster, London, S.W.1. In conjunction with the discussion an exhibition will be held at the Science Museum, South Kensington, S.W.7. The exhibits will include lubricants, bearings, applications of lubrication, filtration, testing and research, as well as an interesting series of exhibits from the Science Museum collections. The exhibition will remain open until October 31.

A CHAIR of the history of medicine has recently been founded at Buenos Aires with Prof. Juan Ramón Beltrán as its first occupant.

THE annual meeting of the International Society of Medical Hydrology, which is open to non-members, will be held at Frankfort-on-Main and the neighbouring spas on October 17-22, when the subjects for discussion will be bioclimatology, psychological factors in health resort practice and the natural history of peats and muds. Further information can be obtained from the secretary, 109 Kingsway, London, W.C.2.

THE twenty-fourth French Congress of Hygiene will be held at the Pasteur Institute, Paris, on October 18 and 19 under the presidency of Dr. E. Lesné, member of the Academy of Medicine, when the subjects for discussion, among others, will be school hygiene and wholesome milk. Further information can be obtained from Dr. R. Dujarric de la Rivière, Institut Pasteur, 28 rue du Docteur Roux, Paris 15^e.

ERRATUM. Referring to his letter "Transitive Interference in Gene Linkage" in NATURE of August 21, p. 322, Prof. K. de Kőrösy writes stating that the table on p. 323 contains a misprint overlooked by him in the proof; in column *c*, line *g*, for 0.279 read 0.249.