

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 fadings 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.