Green's address on the cinema and handicraft training directs attention to the need for investigation in the technique of using the film in schools.

The Hebrew University, Jerusalem

THE Hebrew University, on the heights of Scopus in Jerusalem, is developing fast and well. Begun in 1923 with a Chemistry Research Institute, it is to-day a centre of research and instruction, with faculties in the main branches of learning, an academic staff, including research workers, of 125, and a students roll, under- and post-graduate, of 850. More than 30 per cent are women. Hebrew is the language of instruction. In some Departments are men pre-eminent in their own academic field. Prof. Bernhard Zondek, professor of gynæcology, is in charge of the Hormone Research Laboratory which is now attached to the new Medical Centre opened in May of this year. Prof. S. Adler, head of the Microbiology Department, has already achieved an international reputation for his pioneer work on tropical diseases transmitted by parasites, and has undertaken several expeditions on behalf of the Royal Society. Prof. A. E. Fraenkel, formerly of the Universities of Marburg and Kiel, is one of the professors in the Mathematics Department, with mathematical philosophy and foundations of theory of sets and of analysis as his special field. The Archæological Department, under Prof. L. A. Mayer, works in close association with the Department of Classics.

Two new faculties have been added this year, a medical faculty—it was formerly only a pre-faculty—and agriculture. The new professor of agriculture is Prof. E. Volcani, director of the Experimental Research Station at Rehovoth. The Hebrew University has played its part in enabling academic refugees to continue their work. Already nearly fifty exiled German scholars have been found positions at the University. These include Prof. H. Torczyner, the interpreter of the Lakhish Letters, Prof. J. Guttman, the authority on Jewish medieval philosophy, Prof. Martin Buber, the social philosopher, Prof. B. Zondek, the gynæcologist, Prof. Halberstadt, the radiologist, and the brothers Adelbert and Ladislaus Farkas, who are directing the Department of Physical Chemistry. The work already done gives promise that perhaps in the not-distant future Jerusalem will once again become the centre of learning in the Near and Middle East.

University and Professional Standards in the U.S.A.

THE formulation of standards in respect of such matters as entrance and graduation requirements, staff, equipment and financial resources, and the accrediting of educational institutions with reference to them, are undertaken in the United States by voluntary national and regional associations and by State universities and departments of education. Lists of accredited institutions are published from time to time and the situation is reviewed by the United States Office of Education once in every four years. Bulletin No. 16, "Accredited Higher Institutions, 1938" (Supt. of Documents, Washington, D.C., pp. 212; 20 cents) brings together the latest available lists and standards of both voluntary and State accrediting agencies. The most noteworthy development of the past few years is the drawing up by the Engineers' Council for Professional Development of a statement of principles (reproduced in the Bulletin) for accrediting engineering curricula with the object of improving the status of the engineering profession. Other national associations have published lists of accredited professional and technical schools of law, theology, medicine, pharmacy, osteopathy, optometry, music, architecture, business, librarianship, journalism, forestry, social work and teaching. A National League of Nursing Education is conducting a survey with the intention of issuing a list of accredited schools on its completion. Of the university accrediting agencies, the chief and most exclusive is the Association of American Universities, which regards as the principal ground for the inclusion of a college in its approved list, evidence of success "in stimulating scholarly interest in its students and in preparing them for more advanced scholarly endeavour".

The Carnegie United Kingdom Trust

TWENTY-FIVE years have elapsed since Mr. Carnegie founded, with a capital of ten million dollars, his Trust "for the improvement of the well-being of the masses of the people of Great Britain and Ireland", and the Trustees preface their report for the year 1938 with a brief retrospect, in the course of which the allocation of their revenues since the Trust's foundation is summarized under the headings: libraries £1,393,000, physical welfare and playing fields and play centres £471,300, rural development and social service (including land settlement) £541,800, organs and other musical and dramatic activities £330,500, adult education £66,600, other activities £339,500. In pursuance of Mr. Carnegie's injunction to remember "that new needs are constantly arising as the masses advance" the Trustees aim at fulfilling the role of a pioneer body, financing no enterprise for more than a limited period, during which its sponsors are expected to contrive means for maintaining it, should its continuance appear expedient, without further recourse to the Trust. This principle plays a decisive part in the framing of the programmes of constructive experimental work which are drawn up by the Trustees once in five years and which pre-determine the bulk of the expenditure of each year's budget.

THE current programme covers activities classified as: (*a*) cultural and æsthetic developments, including libraries, museums, music and drama, adult education; (*b*) social services, in many of which the National Council of Social Service collaborates, including village halls, community councils, shows and exhibitions, university settlements, village colleges, women's institutes, Zoological Society's films, national parks, youth services, etc.; and (*c*) land settlement. One of the notable events of the year was the publication of a report in furtherance of the policy inaugurated ten years ago for developing the educational function of museums of the British

Isles. The report, based on a two years survey by Mr. S. F. Markham, is accompanied by a short non-technical pamphlet, "Museums and the Public" for the use of museum committees.

Mycenean Athens

THE discovery at Athens of a chamber-tomb of Mycenean age, which presumably had served for a royal burial, corroborates tradition, but at the same time necessitates a new orientation in assessing the importance of the settlement of Attica in early pre-classical times. The chamber was brought to light in the course of the present—the ninth—season of excavation on the Acropolis by the American School of Classical Studies. In a preliminary account of the discovery (*Illustrated London News*, July 22), Prof. T. L. Shear of Princeton University, field-director of the excavation, states that the tomb is situated in shallow accumulations of deposit on the northern slope of the Acropolis. It consists of a rectangular chamber, filled with splintered rock and approached by a dromos, or passage, some 45 ft. in length, but which originally may have been longer, as the outer end is cut by the Roman wall. The earth-filling of this passage contained a number of Mycenean pot-sherds. Both passage and burial chamber had been cut from the rock; and the entrance to the chamber from the passage is through a rock-cut doorway. This doorway was closed by carefully packed stones, which clearly had not been disturbed since they were placed in position.

INSIDE the chamber on one of the rock-cut benches, which run along each side, were six vases and a cylindrical ivory box in their original position. The vases had been crushed by the collapse of the roof, but the ivory box, which is described as "a masterpiece of artistic design and of technical execution", was intact. East of the doorway were two large vases standing on the floor by a copper ladle. The grave was cut in the rock to a depth of four feet. It had been covered by a stone slab; but this had been removed, and lay diagonally by the grave. Neither bones nor offerings were found in the grave, although there was one small disk of gold in the earth and stones which filled the grave. On the floor beside the slab lay a group of small toilet articles—a bronze mirror, a small ivory box, and ivory pins; and north of the grave, also on the floor, were three piles of gold ornaments. The pottery is of a single period and is characteristically Mycenean in form and decoration. Exact parallels can be found in Mycenean pottery from the Argive Heraeum and elsewhere belonging to the third Late Helladic period of the first half of the fourteenth century B.C. The state in which the tomb was found and the character of the offerings lead Prof. Shear to the conclusion that this is the burial place of a lady, probably belonging to the royal house of Erechtheus, the legendary king of Athens, whose body was removed when the roof of the chamber collapsed; while the wealth of the offerings—overlooked when the body was removed—gives rise to a completely different conception of the kingdom of Erechtheus in the fourteenth century B.C. from that conveyed by the fragmentary remains of the walls of his palace, which have been discovered on the Acropolis, and the unimportant part played by Athens in the Trojan War five generations later as recorded in the Homeric poems.

Industry and Agriculture in Belgium

IN a pamphlet on the National Foundation for Scientific Research and Industry, the contribution of this body to industry and agriculture in Belgium during the last ten years is reviewed by P. Beghin, the secretary of the Foundation (Pp. ix+408. Bruxelles: Fonds National de la Recherche scientifique). Since the Foundation gave its first grant in July 1928, 252 persons have received grants, 75 of whom are still receiving them, while 35 fresh grants are made each year. In subsidies of all kinds, 25,000,000 francs has been distributed amongst 1,350 research workers. The annual budget of the Department of Industrial Science of the Foundation is limited to 1,000,000 francs. Taken by industries, the distribution of research effort is concentrated mainly in agriculture and horticulture (1,532,460 francs), metallurgy (1,299,000 francs), electrical engineering (1,209,400 francs), out of a total of 7,166,810 francs, chemistry coming next with 730,750 francs and civil engineering with 630,100 francs. The report includes more or less detailed accounts of work in progress in metallurgy, welding, the thermodynamics of heavy-oil motors, electrical apparatus, including incandescent electric lamps, radio reception, civil engineering, including the action of wind on buildings, chemistry, including synthetic lubricating oils, copal gum, synthetic resins for the electrical industry, vulcanization of rubber, the charcoal industry, glass industry, cement industry, optical industry, as well as in agriculture, including the disinfection of plants and the cultivation of the beetroot, the brewing industry and the tanning of leather.

British Museum (Natural History): Recent Acquisitions

AN interesting acquisition in the Department of Zoology is a series of the golden mole, *Eremitalpa granti*, presented by Captain G. C. Shortridge of the Kaffrarian Museum, King William's Town, South Africa. The gift comprises seventeen skins and skulls of this insectivore, and forms a valuable addition to the study collections. Mr. F. N. Ashcroft has presented to the Department of Mineralogy a further selection of well-crystallized minerals from forty-seven carefully recorded localities in Switzerland. The Ashcroft collection of Swiss minerals is unrivalled in the excellence of the specimens and the care with which the localities have been recorded. This latest gift brings the number of specimens added to the Museum's collection from this source in the last ten years to a total of 3,654. Another interesting gift comes from the McGregor Museum, Kimberley, through Miss M. Wilman, the curator, and consists of three specimens of the doubly refracting Iceland spar found in Cape Province, South Africa. A collection comprising about 4,900 gatherings of plants has been brought back from South America by Mr. A. H. G. Alston, assistant keeper in the