

of grass-drying machinery and equipment is given, and comparison made with the various processes of artificial drying in other countries. There seems to be little doubt that the conservation of young grass is sound in principle, as it is then at its maximum nutritive value, and feeding trials show that it can largely replace concentrates. The question of the profitability of grass-drying, however, cannot be answered so simply, as it depends both on the quality of the product and also on other matters such as the market value of the concentrates which it is to substitute, and whether the grass would have been utilized in some other manner or wasted through occurring at a time of surplus growth. The indirect advantages of the process, such as improvement of the sward, control of thistle, etc., must not be overlooked, nor the fact that the lower grades of dried grass are of higher value than the best hay. Profit-making, however, in this as in many farming enterprises, depends to a very large extent on the skill of the individual.

#### Agricultural Libraries

THE International Institute of Agriculture in Rome has just published a useful book of reference entitled "International Directory of Agricultural Libraries" (25 lira). The information consists of a list of all general agricultural libraries of more than two thousand volumes, libraries specialized in particular subjects, agricultural collections in general libraries, and centres of agricultural documentation. So far as possible, the history and size of the library and the subjects represented therein, the cataloguing and classification systems employed and regulations for the use of the library are stated. Relations with other libraries (exchange of publications, etc.), a bibliography of writings on the library and any publications edited by it are also mentioned. 1,200 libraries arranged according to country are described, and the text is written in both English and French.

#### Theodor Langhans (1839-1915)

THEODOR LANGHANS, an eminent German pathologist, who with the physician Sahli and the surgeon Kocher formed a triumvirate which made the Berne medical school famous, was born at Usingen, Nassau, on September 28, 1839. He received his medical education at Heidelberg; Göttingen, where he was a pupil of the celebrated anatomist Henle; Berlin, where he studied under Virchow, Trauber and Frerichs; and Würzburg, where he qualified in 1864 with a thesis on the structure of tendons and served as assistant to von Recklinghausen until 1867. He then went to Marburg, where he collaborated with Lieberkühn and Wagner in anatomical research. In 1868 he described the giant cells in tubercle to which his name has been given, and it was during his stay in Marburg that he carried out some important investigations on the absorption of extravasations and the formation of pigment. In 1872 he was appointed professor of morbid anatomy at Giessen, but in the same year succeeded Klebs in the corresponding chair

at Berne, where he did valuable work on the morbid histology of the female breast, the histology of the placenta, the distribution of glycogen in normal and diseased organs, and described the cellular layer of the chorionic epithelium to which his name has been given. He also collaborated with Kocher in a study of diseases of the testicle. His later years were mainly devoted to researches on the morbid anatomy of goitre and cretinism. He retired from his chair two years before death, which took place on October 22, 1915.

#### Announcements

WE have been asked to state that the Geological Society of London is carrying on as usual at Burlington House. An announcement relating to meetings will be made in due course.

THE annual exhibition of the Royal Photographic Society is being held at the Society's House, 16 Prince's Gate, South Kensington. The exhibition is open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. daily (Sundays excepted) until October 7.

MR. JOHN RYMILL, the arctic and antarctic explorer, has been awarded the David Livingstone Centenary Gold Medal of the American Geographical Society in recognition of his leadership of the Graham Land Expedition. Mr. Rymill, who is an Australian, was a member of the British Arctic Air Route Expedition to Greenland in 1930-31, and took over the leadership when Mr. H. G. Watkins was lost. He led the Graham Land Expedition to the Antarctic in 1934.

THE Council of the Institution of Naval Architects has awarded the Martell scholarship in naval architecture (1939) to Mr. Norman W. Honey, of H.M. Dockyard, Sheerness; the scholarship is of the value of £130 per annum, and will be held at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich. The Earl of Durham Prize has been awarded to Mr. Peter E. Bish, of H.M. Dockyard, Devonport.

WE have received from the British Drug Houses, Ltd. (Graham Street, London, W.1.) the new catalogue of B.D.H. laboratory chemicals and testing outfits, which comprises nearly six thousand separate items and is provided with a general index. Section 1 has been enlarged by more than five hundred new items, mostly organic chemicals, and Section 2 contains an increased number of reagents and solutions for analytical and clinical purposes, and there is a new section of culture media. The products listed are normally held in stock for immediate delivery.

DR. ALBERT B. SABIN of the Rockefeller Institute of Medical Research has received the Theobald Smith award of 1,000 dollars from the American Association for the Advancement of Science in recognition of his rapid method of typing in pneumonia and for a quick bedside test of a patient's probable resistance to the disease.