on account of war service. Arrangements have again been made to keep the awards open for those now engaged on national duties so as to allow their researches to be resumed at a later date. Further, if a fellow or scholar has undertaken Government work within the universities, he is allowed by the Trust to do so subject to a certificate being obtained from the principal of the university for a fellow or from his supervisor for a scholar to the effect that the work is of that nature. Reference is made to work by Dr. Walter Tebrich under his fellowship in organic chemistry in collaboration with Dr. W. O. Kermack on compounds related to the sulphanilamide drugs, leading to many new pyridine and piperazine derivatives, and on the discovery of new antimalarials, involving syntheses in the benzcarbazole series. In connexion with grants to assist investigations in organic chemistry the report refers to work on derivatives, of acridone related to the sulphanilamide drugs, and to work on the polysaccharides of ribwort seeds and of Irish moss. The report of the superintendent of the Laboratory of the Royal College of Physicians, in addition to further reference to the work of Dr. Tebrich, also refers to other work on antimalarials carried out by Dr. A. P. Weatherhead and by Mr. W. Webster on the synthesis of phenanthroline compounds derived from *m*-phenylenediamine.

Zoos in War-time

THE annual report of the Zoological Society of London, presented at the annual meeting on April 29, shows that, despite a drop of about half the income and attendance figures down to about a third of the normal gate, some two thousand animals have been maintained at Regent's Park, and it is intended to maintain the zoological collection until full activities can be resumed after the War. In 1940 seventy-eight mammals, including an onager, fifty-five birds, and twenty-four reptiles were bred at Regent's Park, and two Rheinhardt's argus pheasants have been reared. Damage from more than 120 fire and explosive bombs has been less than expected, only the rodent house and zebra and wild ass house being seriously damaged, and the young giraffe, 'Boxer', bred at Whipsnade, died of a dilated heart due to over-exertion caused by fright. A few antelopes died of damage caused by fright. Damage to the monkey hill, camel house, ravens' aviary, aquarium and north gate can be made good, while bomb craters at Whipsnade can be relined to serve as dew ponds. The work of the prosectorium is being continued, with the usual examination of blood parasites and bacterial flora, research on the protozoan and helminth parasites of fish, and the routine examination of animals for helminth ova to facilitate preventive measures.

The report of the North of England Zoological Society shows the increasing receipt of animals from other zoos like Bristol, Dudley and Edinburgh to its zoological gardens at Chester for the duration of the War, and of special war-time feeding successes, notably waste chicken heads for leopards and lions, horse-flesh for pelicans, and dried, crumbled stale bread for cranes and pheasants, porridge for sun bears. In the difficulty of losing its male keepers for the services, this Society has had disappointing results from the appointment of girl keepers. The griffin vulture was bred for the first time in Great Britain, and the young bird is now thriving: the adults laid again on March 19.

American Message to British Zoologists

AMERICAN men of science are not forgetful of their colleagues in Great Britain, and many letters expressing interest in conditions in Great Britain tell of the concern they feel. The American Society of Zoologists has expressed its goodwill in the following cablegram, received by the President of the Association of British Zoologists (Prof. J. Ritchie): "The American Society of Zoologists recently in session at Philadelphia sends greetings and encouragement to its British colleagues. L. V. Domm, Secretary". Needless to say, British zoologists warmly appreciate this friendly message, and look forward to a reunion in Great Britain with their American friends when, as J. B. Priestley suggested, the streets shall be blazing with light and all the windows shall be illuminated—but not through the agency of incendiary bombs.

Agricultural Meteorology in India

A FAIRLY detailed account of a year's research work in agricultural meteorology is to be found in the official annual report of the Agricultural Meteorological Section, India Meteorological Department, for the year, 1938–39 (Pp. vi + 48. Simla: Government of India Press, 1940). The Imperial Council of Agricultural Research again financed the section, although proposals for making the Section permanent were under consideration by the Government of India. The Central Agricultural Meteorological Observatory, which is situated in the grounds of the Agricultural College, Poona, extended the scope of its work. This was made possible through the gift of an additional plot of land to the Observatory by the College. Experiments were continued at the Observatory on the rate of ascent of moisture through typical soils and its rate of evaporation from their surfaces. A 30-ft. tower was erected on the new plot for the investigation of variations with height of wind, humidity and temperature. Instrumental development included the design of an instrument for measuring the amount of rain or irrigation water lost by evaporation and by percolation and that actually retained in those layers of the soil with which plants are concerned. A few instruments of this design were made and preliminary trials of them begun.

'Precision' observations for showing the effect of weather on certain crop yields were continued at Poona and Karjat, and trials of statistical methods of sampling for the estimation of crop yields were made. Statistical investigations were also continued of a number of other subjects which have particular importance for agriculture apart from their general