hopeful of producing really good-quality agar on a commercial scale.

Large-scale experiments on the artificial production of ergot on rye were undertaken in Australia on behalf of the British Government. New Zealand could probably produce most of the medicinal herbs we formerly imported from Central Europe, but the high cost of labour would make this uneconomic. With regard to India, Burma, Ceylon and Malaya, about 90 per cent of the world's supply of cinchona bark came from Java, which holds a virtual monopoly of the market. Indian production is still largely confined to Bengal and Madras, and has always aimed at satisfying local needs. Cinchona cultivation has been revived in Ceylon in recent years and there has also been experimental work in Malaya and Tanganyika. We have flourishing ipecacuanha industries in Bengal and Malaya but the quantities produced are very small, South America, particularly Brazil, being practically the only source of supply and, as ipecacuanha is a difficult crop to grow and takes some three years to mature, development must be slow. Malaya is also the leading producer of derris root, and strains have been developed with a far higher rotenone content than the original wild material or that produced by other countries.

The citronella oil industry of Ceylon has now assumed added importance, while in India karaya gum is proving a satisfactory substitute for some of the more costly gums like gum tragacanth and gum arabic. The Himalayas offer endless possibilities for belladonna, henbane, etc.

In the Mediterranean area the chief items are liquorice root and squill, particularly in Cyprus and Palestine. From South Africa the chief drug products are Cape aloes and buchu leaves. Cascara production in East Africa has been moderately successful and there has been experimental work on ephedra and on ocimum oils as a source of camphor, but the most striking success has been the pyrethrum industry.

APPOINTMENTS VACANT

APPLICATIONS are invited for the following appointments on or before the dates mentioned:

CHIEF ASSISTANT TO THE AYRSHIRE ELECTRICITY BOARD—The Clerk to the Ayrshire Electricity Board, Greenholm Street, Kilmarnock (endorsed 'Chief Assistant') (March 2).

SENIOR LECTURER IN PATHOLOGY, and a JUNIOR LECTURER IN PATHOLOGY—The Secretary, Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Summerhall, Edinburgh 9 (March 16).

DEMONSTRATOR IN BOTANY at Westfield College, University of London—The Registrar, Westfield College, at St. Peter's Hall, Oxford.

ASSISTANT CHEMISTS, PARTLY FOR LABORATORY AND PARTLY FOR PROCESS PLANT OPERATION, for employment in the East—The Secretary, Overseas Manpower Committee, Ministry of Labour and National Service, Hanway House, Red Lion Square, London, W.C.1.

COLLOID CHEMIST OR PHYSICIST—The Director of Research, British Pottery Research Association, Queens Road, Penkhull, Stoke-on-Trent.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

(Meetings marked with an asterisk are open to the public)

Saturday, February 21

NORTH OF ENGLAND INSTITUTE OF MINING AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS (at Neville Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne), at 2 p.m.—Mr. L. C. Maitland: "Mining Timber, Possible Economies and Substitutes".

Monday, February 23

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND (at Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.2), at 2.30 p.m.—Prof. J. Beattie: "Physical and Chemical Changes in the Blood associated with Shock and Hæmorrhage".

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY (at Kensington Gore, London S.W.7), at 5 p.m.—Geographical Films.

Tuesday, February 24

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS (DOMINIONS AND COLONIES SECTION) (at John Adam Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.2), at 1.45 p.m.—Prof. C. W. Wardlaw: "Banana Research at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, Trinidad".

CHADWICK PUBLIC LECTURE (at the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, 26 Portland Place, London, W.1), at 2.30 p.m.—Mr. Ewart G. Culpin: "Reconstruction after the War, with special reference to the Problems of Town and Country Planning".*

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND (at Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.2), at 2.30 p.m.—Prof. J. Beattie: "Physical and Chemical Changes in the Blood associated with Shock and Hæmorrhage".

INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS (Joint Meeting of the London and Home Counties' Branch and the Royal Photographic Society) (at the Royal Photographic Society, 16 Princes Gate, London, S.W.7), at 5 p.m.—Mr. E. R. Davies: "The Role of Photography in the Detection and Measurement of Radiation".

Wednesday, February 25

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS (at John Adam Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.2), at 1.45 p.m.—Mr. James Hogan: "The Post-War Home—its Interior and Equipment". 6: "Pottery, Glass and Plastics".

COKE OVEN MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION (Joint Meeting with the Institute of Fuel together with the Iron and Steel Institute and the Institution of Gas Engineers) (at the Royal Victoria Station Hotel, Sheffield), at 2.30 p.m.—Mr. J. G. Bennett: "The Future of Coke".

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON (at Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W.1), at 3 p.m.—Dr. K. S. Sandford: "The Geology of Italian North Africa".

Thursday, February 26

ROYAL INSTITUTION (at 21 Albemarle Street, London, W.1), at 2.30 p.m.—Rt. Hon. the Earl of Onslow, G.B.E.: "The Preservation of the Existing Fauna of Great Britain in a Wild State after the War".*

Friday, February 27

INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS (at Storey's Gate, London, S.W.1), at 2.30 p.m.—Mr. Hal Gutteridge: "Proneness to Damage of Plant through Enemy Action".

BRITISH INSTITUTION OF RADIO ENGINEERS (MIDLAND SECTION) (at James Watt Memorial Institute, York House, Great Charles Street, Birmingham 3), at 6 p.m.—Mr. G. Bernard Baker: "Thermionic Frequency Control".

Saturday, February 28

ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE (at the Nuffield Institute of Clinical Research, Oxford), at 10 a.m.—Mr. H. H. Crawley: "The Storage of Emergency Drinking Supplies"; Mr. Stewart Smith: "Administration of the Government Evacuation Scheme".

NUTRITION SOCIETY (at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, London, W.C.1), at 10.30 a.m.—Conference on "Food Production and Distribution in relation to Nutritional Needs". (Speakers: Sir John Orr, F.R.S., Dr. N. C. Wright, Mr. E. T. Halnan, and Sir John Russell, F.R.S.)

REPORTS and other PUBLICATIONS

(not included in the monthly Books Supplement)

Great Britain and Ireland

Proceedings of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. Section A (Mathematics and Physical Sciences). Vol. 61, Part 2, No. 13: Some Disputed Questions in the Philosophy of the Physical Sciences. By Prof. E. T. Whittaker. Pp. 160–175. 1*s.* 3*d.* Vol. 61, Part 2, No. 14: Further Investigations in Factor Estimation. By D. N. Lawley. Pp. 176–185. 9*d.* (Edinburgh and London: Oliver and Boyd.) [22

Hannah Dairy Research Institute. Annual Report for the Year ending 31st March 1941. Pp. 19+4 plates. (Kirkhill: Hannah Dairy Research Institute.) [22

Mines Department. Nineteenth Annual Report of the Safety in Mines Research Board, including a Report of Matters dealt with by the Health Advisory Committee, 1940. Pp. 36+3 plates. (London: H.M. Stationery Office.) 1*s.* net. [22

Imperial Forestry Institute: University of Oxford. Seventeenth Annual Report, 1940–41. Pp. 20. (Oxford: Imperial Forestry Institute.) [42

Other Countries

University of Illinois Engineering Experiment Station. Bulletin No. 330: Heat Transfer to Clouds of Falling Particles. By Prof. H. F. Johnstone, Robert L. Pigford and John H. Chapin. Pp. 58. 65 cents. Bulletin No. 331: Tests of Cylindrical Shells; a Report of an Investigation conducted by the Engineering Experiment Station, University of Illinois, in co-operation with the Chicago Bridge and Iron Co. By Prof. Wilbur M. Wilson and Emery D. Olson. Pp. 132. 1 dollar. Bulletin No. 332: Analyses of Skew Slabs; a Report of an Investigation conducted by the Engineering Experiment Station, University of Illinois, in co-operation with the Public Roads Administration, Federal Works Agency, and the Division of Highways, State of Illinois. By Prof. Vernon P. Jensen. Pp. 112. 1 dollar. (Urbana, Ill.: University of Illinois Engineering Experiment Station.) [32