

Agricultural Scholarships

THE Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is offering for award, under its scheme of scholarships for the sons and daughters of agricultural workmen and others, a limited number of agricultural scholarships. The scheme was suspended following the outbreak of war but has been resumed this year in a modified form, and the Ministry invites applications for the following scholarships: ten senior scholarships, tenable at agricultural colleges or university departments of agriculture, for diploma or degree courses in an agricultural subject or at veterinary colleges for courses in veterinary science; thirty junior scholarships, tenable at certain farm institutes or similar institutions, for courses not exceeding a year in duration, in agriculture, horticulture, dairying, or poultry husbandry. The scholarships are open to the sons and daughters of agricultural workmen or of working bailiffs, smallholders and other rural workers whose means and method of livelihood are comparable with those of agricultural workmen, and to persons who are themselves *bona fide* workers in agriculture. Further information concerning the scheme, and forms of application, may be obtained from the Secretary of the Ministry, Hotel Lindum, St. Annes, Lytham St. Annes, Lancs.

Recent Earthquakes registered at Kew

BETWEEN March 8 and April 7, four large earthquakes were registered at Kew Observatory. The first, on March 8, started recording at 04h. 56m. 35s. U.T., had a maximum of 32μ at Kew at 05h. 14m. 26s. U.T. and finished recording at 06h. 30m. U.T. It may have started at an epicentral distance of 3,900 km. The second, on March 19, began recording on all three components at 12h. 19m. 42s. U.T., had a maximum of 17μ at 12h. 42m. 12s. U.T. and finished recording at 13h. 50m. U.T. The third, on March 21, began recording at 23h. 33m. 38s. U.T., possibly from an epicentral distance of 10,200 km., had a maximum of 155μ at 22d. 00h. 19m. 37s. U.T., and finished recording at 02h. 15m. U.T. This shock was also well recorded at Stonyhurst. The fourth was on March 22. It began recording at 02h. 17m. 18s. U.T. from a possible epicentral distance of 6,700 km. and finished at 03h. 50m. U.T.

Earthquake of April 8 in the Philippines

IN NATURE of April 18 reference was made to an earthquake of considerable severity (probably submarine) in the neighbourhood of the Philippines on April 8. This shock and two smaller aftershocks were recorded at Bombay. The Rev. J. P. Rowland, S.J., obtained a beautiful record of this earthquake on the Milne-Shaw seismograph at Stonyhurst College Observatory. The tentative readings of this seismogram tend to support an epicentre near the Philippines as suggested by Riverview. The shock began recording at Stonyhurst on April 8 with i at 15h. 58m. 00s. U.T., had a maximum at 16h. 34m. 30s. U.T. and finished recording at 18h. 31m. U.T.

The Association of Scientific Workers

THE Association of Scientific Workers is holding its annual council meeting during May 2-3 at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Holborn, W.C.1. The Association has increased its membership from two to more than five thousand in the past year and has recently been affiliated to the Trades Union Congress. The main items for discussion will be the ways in which scientific workers

and engineers can aid war production, and the need for improved professional status and educational facilities.

Following upon a memorandum from the Central London Branch of the Association of Scientific Workers, the Executive has set up a provisional Medical Sciences Committee "to further the objects of the A.Sc.W. among scientific and technical workers concerned with the medical and ancillary sciences". The provisional Committee has the immediate task of bringing together all members working in this field, as well as people anxious for the best application of knowledge in their place of work and for the war effort in general. The first meeting will be held on May 9 at 3 p.m. in the Small Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, W.C.1. Further information can be obtained from Dr. J. H. Humphrey, 32 West Hill Court, Millfield Lane, London, N.6.

Night Sky in May

FULL moon is on April 30d. 21h. 59 m. U.T. and new moon on May 15d. 05h. 45m. Full moon occurs on May 30d. 05h. 29m. Lunar conjunctions with the planets occur as follows: Venus on May 11d. 07h., Venus 0.6° N.; Mercury on May 17d. 04h., Mercury 7° N.; Jupiter on May 17d. 20h., Jupiter 5° N.; Mars on May 19d. 13h., Mars 6° N. Mercury, Mars and Jupiter are evening stars, and Saturn is also an evening star until May 23, then a morning star. Venus is a morning star and rises about 3h. in the middle of the month. Mars, Jupiter and Saturn can be observed in the evening hours, but Saturn is too close to the sun to be observed well. Mercury is in conjunction with Saturn on May 5d. 10h., Mercury 3.8° N. The chief occultation occurs on May 16d. 11h. 35.8m. when α Tauri disappears, reappearance taking place at 12h. 55.9m. The Aquarid meteor shower is active during May 4-11. The radiant is close to η Aquarii about the middle of the period of activity of the shower, which is associated with the debris of Halley's Comet.

Announcements

We regret to announce the death of Prof. Jean B. Perrin, For. Mem. R.S., formerly of the Faculty of Sciences at the Sorbonne, Paris, at the age of seventy-one, on April 17.

MAJOR HARRY G. ARMSTRONG, in charge of research at the United States School of Aviation Medicine at Randolph Field, Texas, has been given the John Jeffries award of the American Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences in recognition of his researches in the physiological and psychological effects of flying at high altitudes and in high-speed manoeuvres.

THE Nutrition Society is planning a whole-day conference on "Problems of Collective Feeding in War-time", to be held at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, on Saturday, May 30, beginning at 11 a.m. Further information can be obtained from Dr. Leslie J. Harris, Dunn Nutritional Laboratory, Milton Road, Cambridge.

CAPTAIN L. F. PLUGGE, M.P., chairman of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee, recently wrote to Dr. Hugh Dalton, president of the Board of Trade, about the clothing needs of scientific research workers and chemists. In his reply, Dr. Dalton said that research workers who require only a few overalls in the course of a year will not get extra coupons; an award to be made early next month will, however, provide for those who needs are really very heavy.