

the suggestion of a number of research workers, the Federation is proposing further to compile information relating to (1) anæsthesia of rats, rabbits, guinea pigs and other animals not covered by Prof. Wright's book; (2) methods of killing laboratory animals; (3) living conditions, housing, diet, etc., and to invite a small number of experienced men to act as a panel for approving or amending the resulting compilation. U F A W would welcome any views or suggestions relating to these proposals, addressed as above.

#### Institution of Electrical Engineers : Annual Report

SOME of the salient features of the report for the year 1942-43 of the Council of the Institution of Electrical Engineers may be cited as follows. At the twelve months ending March 31, 1943, the total membership numbered 22,315, and of those there were 11,097 corporate members; 2,106 elections to all classes of membership were made during the period. During the same year 534 meetings were held in London and at the local centres. The Wireless Section held 12 meetings, the Measurements Section 8, the Transmission Section 8, the Installations Section 9; and there were six informal meetings. There are nine students sections, and extensive programmes have been arranged by the respective committees during the year.

A number of interim reports has been submitted to the Council by the various special committees and panels appointed to study post-war problems, among the subjects dealt with being "Service Arrangements in Houses, Flats and other Buildings", "The Availability of Electricity Supply", "Domestic Electrification" and "Telecommunication Engineering". Reports on education and training for engineers and the organization of post-war electrical research have since become available. The subject of standardization has received consideration, and papers relating to this aspect of industrial electrical instruments, single-circuit overhead lines up to 33 kV., and integrating electricity meters have been presented. A fourth, on the standardization of motor dimensions, has since been published. The report also deals with various phases of the Institution's war effort, with joint activities with other institutions, and with the subject of education.

#### Institute of Fuel : Students' Medal

To encourage the preparation of papers by students of fuel technology, the Council of the Institute of Fuel has decided to make an annual award of a medal, together with a prize consisting of books and/or instruments, to the value of £5. The award will be made annually for a paper submitted by a student member of the Institute or by a student of any university or technical college in the United Kingdom less than twenty-five years of age, dealing with some subject relating to the preparation or utilization of fuel or allied subjects. Papers must be submitted under a *nom de plume*, the name and address of the author being enclosed in a sealed envelope and sent with the paper, and must be received by the Secretary of the Institute, 30 Bramham Gardens, London, S.W.5, on or before September 1 in any year. In judging the papers submitted, consideration will be given to (a) subject-matter; (b) evidence of analytical power and logic; (c) construction of paper in so far as it gives evidence of an orderly mind and shows continuity of argument with an orderly development of the theme; (d) English.

#### Samuel Hahnemann (1755-1843)

SAMUEL CHRISTIAN FRIEDRICH HAHNEMANN, the founder of homeopathy, was born at Meissen in Saxony on April 10, 1755. He studied medicine at Leipzig and Vienna, and after qualifying in 1779 at Erlangen, settled in Leipzig, where he translated Cullen's "Materia Medica" into German. He first set forth his doctrine of similars in Hufeland's *Journal* in 1796 and elaborated it in his chief work entitled "Organon der rationellen Heilkunde" in 1810. The characteristic theories on which the system was founded were first 'the doctrine of signatures', according to which diseases or symptoms were cured by the drugs which produce similar morbid changes upon the body, and secondly the view that the action of drugs was intensified by the administration of infinitesimally small doses. He died in Paris on July 2, 1843.

#### The Night Sky in July

NEW moon occurs on July 2d. 12h. 44m. U.T. and full moon on July 17d. 12h. 21m. The following conjunctions with the moon take place: July 4d. 08h., Jupiter 2° N.; July 6d. 16h., Venus 0.4° S.; July 24d. 23h., Mars 4° N.; July 28d. 07h., Saturn 3° N. In addition to the above occultations, Venus is in conjunction with Regulus on July 6d. 19h., Venus 0.3° N. The following occultations of stars brighter than magnitude 6 occur: July 6d. 16h. 12.6m.,  $\alpha$  Leo (*D*); July 6d. 17h. 27.5m.,  $\alpha$  Leo (*R*); July 13d. 21h. 05.7m., 49 Lib (*D*); July 27d. 2h. 29.0m., 264 B. Tau (*R*); July 27d. 4h. 15.0m.,  $\alpha$  Tau (*D*); July 27d. 5h. 23.6m.,  $\alpha$  Tau (*R*). The times are given for Greenwich, and *D* and *R* refer to disappearance and reappearance respectively. Mercury is in superior conjunction on July 18 and is unfavourably placed for observation. Venus can be observed as an evening star during the month. The planet sets about 2h. 10m. after the sun at the beginning of the month and about 45m. after the sun at the end of the month. Mars moves from the constellation of Pisces to Aries during July. A remarkable effect is produced by its movement in north declination. At the beginning and end of the month it sets at nearly the same time—about 13h. 40m. Jupiter is in superior conjunction with the sun on July 18. Saturn, in the constellation of Taurus, is a morning star, rising at 1h. 50m. and setting at 17h. 50m. in the middle of the month. Times are given approximately for the latitude of Greenwich. The earth is at aphelion on July 4, being a little more than 94½ million miles from the sun on that date.

#### Announcements

THE Lord President of the Council has promoted Dr. B. A. Southgate to be acting director of water pollution research in the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, to fill the vacancy arising from the appointment of Dr. A. Parker to be director of fuel research.

FIVE Turkish undergraduates have just arrived in Britain to study British machine, electrical and mining engineering with scholarships given by the British Council. They are Mustafa Necati Ozgik, Turhan Necat Çetinkale, Halil Sancak, Cavit Erginsoy and Fuat Mericelli. With them is Mr. Mehemet Ali Pamir, an inspector from the Turkish Ministry of Economics, who is taking a course of public administration at the London School of Economics.