

Pp. 10. Washington: Gov. Printing Office). Although the general policy is not to undertake field work during the War, special circumstances made it advisable to make a preliminary investigation of a site in the Agate Basin, East Wyoming. This yielded points of general Yuma character, but of relatively recent date. Dr. Stirling, chief of the Bureau, took charge of a further National Geographic Society-Smithsonian Institution Expedition to southern Mexico, which continued excavations at La Venta. Publication continued, and it is good to hear that the great "Handbook of South American Indians" is three-quarters complete. Three bulletins were issued, and eight were in the press at the end of the year. Members of the staff were active in promoting inter-American co-operation, and with this end in view the Inter-American Society of Anthropology and Geography was formed. A quarterly journal, *Acta Americana*, is to be issued. Specifically war-like activities comprised the preparation of various Smithsonian Institution War Background Studies and publications of the Ethnogeographic Board, besides the answering of numerous questions from the armed forces.

Ophthalmological Research at Leeds

On the recommendation of a special committee, the Council of the University of Leeds has adopted a scheme for the establishment of an Ophthalmological Research Centre. As soon as the necessary funds are available, the Council will proceed to the appointment of research fellows to work on special problems concerned with the prevention and cure of blindness and other diseases of the eye. X-ray equipment, the recently installed electron microscope and other facilities will be made available for the work in the University. The maintenance and development of the Centre will be in the hands of an Ophthalmological Research Advisory Committee.

Officers and Trustees of Science Service

THE following have been re-elected officers of Science Service, the American institution for the popularization and interpretation of science: president, Dr. E. G. Conklin; vice-president and chairman of the Executive Committee, Dr. Harlow Shapley; treasurer, O. W. Biegel; secretary, Watson Davis. Dr. Otis W. Caldwell, of the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research and general secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and Max B. Cook, promotion editor of Scripps-Howard newspapers, have been elected to the Board of Trustees, which is now constituted as follows, the bodies represented by the trustee being indicated in brackets: Dr. Otis W. Caldwell, Dr. Edwin G. Conklin, president of the American Philosophical Society, and Dr. Henry B. Ward, University of Illinois (American Association for the Advancement of Science); Dr. Warren H. Lewis, Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology, Dr. R. A. Millikan, California Institute of Technology, and Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of the Harvard College Observatory (National Academy of Sciences); Dr. C. G. Abbot, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, Dr. Ross G. Harrison, chairman of the National Research Council, and Prof. Hugh S. Taylor, Princeton University (National Research Council); A. H. Kirchhofer, managing editor of the *Buffalo Evening News*, O. W. Biegel, Washington and Lee School of Journalism, now on war leave with the Office of War Information,

and Neil H. Swanson, executive editor of *Sun* papers (journalistic profession); Max B. Cook, Frank R. Ford, editor, Evansville Press, and H. L. Smithton, executive agent of the E. W. Scripps Trust (E. W. Scripps Estate).

Night Sky in August

FULL moon occurs on August 4d. 12h. 39m. U.T., and new moon on August 18d. 20h. 25m. The following conjunctions with the moon take place: Aug. 14d. 20h., Saturn 1° N.; Aug. 20d. 03h., Venus 2° S.; Aug. 20d. 19h., Mercury 8° S.; Aug. 21d. 04h., Mars 4° S. In addition to the above, the following conjunctions also take place: Aug. 13d. 13h., Venus in conjunction with Jupiter, Venus 0.6° N.; Aug. 26d. 15h., Mercury in conjunction with Venus, Mercury 6.1° S. Mercury reaches its greatest eastern elongation on Aug. 10. The planet sets at 20h. 38m., 19h. 51m. and 18h. 38m. at the beginning, middle and end of the month respectively. Venus is too close to the sun to be favourably observed, setting about half an hour after sunset during the month. Mars, Jupiter and Saturn are not well placed for observation, though Saturn is becoming visible in the early morning hours, rising about midnight towards the middle of the month. The Perseid meteors reach their maximum on Aug. 10-12.

Announcements

At a meeting of the Council of the Institute of Fuel, held this month, it was announced that Dr. E. W. Smith has agreed to continue in office as president for a further period of twelve months, that is, until October 1945. It was also announced that the Melchett Medal for 1944 has been awarded to Dr. J. G. King, director of the Gas Research Board, in recognition of the outstanding work he has done in recent years during his long connexion with the Fuel Research Station at Greenwich; and that Mr. H. L. Pirie, one of the honorary secretaries of the Institute of Fuel since its inception, has been made an honorary member.

THE following have been elected officers of the Institution of Electrical Engineers for the session 1944-45: *President*, Sir Harry Railing; *Vice-President*, W. J. H. Wood; *Honorary Treasurer*, E. S. Byng; *New Members of Council*, H. Bishop, W. N. C. Clinch, F. C. Winfield, and Dr. R. W. Sillars.

THE Chadwick Trustees are offering an award of £250 for an investigation of the reasonable maximum 'density' range (per acre) for small houses with gardens, suitable especially for the intermediate and outer zones of large towns—with due regard to the amenities essential to a comprehensive town planning arrangement. Applications, in writing, must reach the Clerk to the Chadwick Trustees, 204 Abbey House, Westminster, London, S.W.1, before the end of September, accompanied by evidence of qualifications and a brief statement of the general plan of research proposed.

REFERRING to the review in *Nature* of March 18, p. 327, of "Frontiers in Cytochemistry", the editor, Prof. Normand L. Hoerr, has pointed out that he was incorrectly described as the successor of Prof. R. R. Bensley in the chair of anatomy in the University of Chicago; Prof. Hoerr is professor of anatomy at Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.