

**Chemical Society: Centenary Celebrations**

THE Council of the Chemical Society proposes to celebrate during July 15-17, 1947, the centenary of the foundation of the Society, which was due in 1941. Many distinguished overseas chemists are being invited. It is hoped to arrange a series of special events, both social and scientific, which will include an exhibition to illustrate the Society's history. An Executive Committee to make arrangements for the celebrations has been set up with Prof. C. N. Hinshelwood, president of the Society, as chairman, and Dr. D. C. Martin, general secretary of the Society, as secretary. It is anticipated that the Eleventh International Congress on Pure and Applied Chemistry will take place immediately following the centenary celebrations of the Chemical Society.

**University of Leeds: Appointments**

THE following appointments have recently been made: Dr. R. H. Evans, reader in civil engineering, to be professor of civil engineering; Dr. H. V. Dicks, to be whole-time professor of psychiatry; Dr. W. S. Craig, to be whole-time professor of paediatrics and child health; Dr. F. S. Fowweather, reader in chemical pathology, to be professor of chemical pathology; Dr. J. Gordon, senior lecturer in bacteriology, to be reader in clinical bacteriology; Dr. K. I. Johnstone, lecturer in bacteriology, to be reader in public health bacteriology; Mr. Robert Brown, to be senior lecturer in botany; Mr. D. Appleyard, to be lecturer in mechanical engineering; Mr. G. Wilson, to be lecturer in civil engineering.

**Comet Timmers (1946a)**

ORBITS of this comet have been computed by Dr. G. Merton and Dr. M. Davidson, the former a parabolic orbit and the latter a general orbit. The elements are practically the same and the comet must have a very long period—about 21,000 years according to Dr. Davidson. The orbit and ephemeris computed by Dr. Merton are given below. As the comet is receding from the earth and sun it is becoming fainter.

<i>T</i>	1946, April 13-40025 U.T.	
$\omega$	54° 24' 29.5"	} 1946.0
$\Omega$	128 54 12.2	
<i>i</i>	72 49 25.0	
<i>q</i>	1.723417	

1946	EPHEMERIS		<i>r</i>	$\rho$
	$\alpha$ 1946.0	$\delta$ 1946.0		
	h	m		
June 29	14	36.3	74° 22'	1.988
July 3	14	49.0	72 29	
7	15	00.2	70 29	2.040
11		10.3	68 25	
15		19.5	66 17	2.095
19		28.1	64 05	
23		36.2	61 48	2.153
27		43.8	59 29	
31		51.0	57 08	2.214

**The Night Sky in July**

FULL moon occurs on July 14d. 09h. 22m. U.T. and new moon on July 28d. 11h. 53m. The following conjunctions with the moon take place: July 1d. 19h., Venus 3° S.; July 3d. 07h., Mars 4° S.; July 6d. 11h., Jupiter 4° S.; July 31d. 15h., Venus 5° S.; July 31d. 23h., Mars 5° S. Occultations of stars brighter than magnitude 6 are as follows, in the latitude of Greenwich: July 7d. 20h. 37.3s.,  $\times$  Virg. (D); July 11d. 21h. 19.5m., *b* Ophi. (D); July 18d. 01h. 17.1m., 69 Aquar. (R). Mercury can be seen in the western sky in the early portion of the month, but later on it is too close to the sun for favourable observation. The planet attains its greatest

western elongation on July 5 and is stationary on July 19. Venus sets at 22h. 16m. and 21h. 15m. at the beginning and end of the month respectively, and is conspicuous in the western sky. The stellar magnitude of the planet is -3.5 in the earlier portion, and -3.6 in the later portion, of the month. Mars sets 2½ hours after the sun on July 1, but at the end of the month only 1½ hours after the sun and is not well placed for observation in the latter case. Jupiter, near  $\theta$  Virginis, sets at midnight on July 1 and about 1½ hours after the sun on July 31. The stellar magnitude of the planet varies from -1.7 to -1.5 during this period. Saturn is drawing in too close to the sun for favourable observation. The earth reaches aphelion on July 3d.

**Announcements**

IN the King's Birthday honours list it is announced that Mr. Charles S. Wright, director of scientific research, Royal Naval Scientific Service, has been appointed K.C.B.

THE Nutrition Society, with the assistance of the British Council, has arranged an "Informal Post-War Conference of European Nutritionists" to be held during the period July 4-20. Open meetings will be held at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine on July 5, 6 and 8. It is hoped by arranging these meetings to enable research workers from countries occupied by the Germans to re-establish contacts in Great Britain, and to describe nutritional research in Europe during the war period.

THE Cambridge University Press announces a new series of monographs dealing with the advances in radio techniques made during war-time. Mr. J. A. Ratcliffe is the general editor. Nine such books are now in active preparation; of which two, "Radio Navigation Devices" by Dr. R. A. Smith, and "Velocity Modulated Electron Tubes" by Mr. A. H. Beck, are complete and will go into production immediately. Another new series, "Monographs on Modern Nuclear Physics", under the general editorship of Prof. N. Feather, of the University of Edinburgh, is also announced. The first six will be by Dr. S. Devons, Prof. Feather, Dr. N. Kemmer, Prof. P. B. Moon, Mr. J. Dainty, and Dr. O. R. Frisch. In planning these monographs, the requirements of the advanced student, as well as those of the research worker, have been kept in mind.

DR. E. ASHWORTH UNDERWOOD, director of the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum, 183/193 Euston Road, London, N.W.1, states that a catalogue of the extensive library of the Museum is being prepared, but that it will be some time before this work will be published. Meanwhile, if anyone who is preparing a bibliography of the works of any writer in the field of medicine or the allied sciences desires to include the location of known copies of the different works, Dr. Underwood will be pleased to send him a list of the various works and separate editions of that writer which are in the library of the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum, and applications should be made to him in writing. It is hoped to open the library for the use of students at an early date.

ERRATUM. In the communication entitled "Structure of the So-called *cis* Decalin" in *Nature* of June 8, p. 765, Fig. 1a is incorrectly described; it shows the *trans* decalin structure accepted by Mohr and by Bastiansen and Hassel.