

tion and Classification of Scientific Knowledge, held at Trinity College, Cambridge, on October 25, 1947.

"The use of documentary reproduction for auxiliary publication, and its eminent suitability as an aid to science and learning in general, were the subject of two articles in *Nature* (157, 29, 38; 1946), where a new type of service was forecast to 'keep men of science currently informed of all the literature published on their respective subjects'. It was there, also, that the setting up of central agencies was suggested and interchange of services and close co-operation with bibliographical centres and scientific institutions was advocated. A memorandum to this effect was also submitted to Unesco (through the offices of its predecessor, the Conference of Allied Ministers of Education, 1945). In a paper read to the Royal Society Empire Scientific Conference, 1946 (Report, vol. 1, pp. 717-721), and another put before the Co-operation Committee of the Library Association in the same year, the setting up of a Central Office of Documentary Reproduction was recommended to act as a co-ordinating centre for Great Britain and the British Commonwealth and Empire; while a renewed appeal for the co-ordination of policy in Documentary Reproduction on a world scale was made to the Sixteenth Conference of the International Federation of Documentation in Paris, November 1946 (F.I.D. Communicationes, 13, Fasc. 4, 60; 1946). For the furtherance of these ideas, Mr. Watson Davis' letter has provided valuable evidence which should bring closer to realization some of the services for which the plans have been prepared in former years."

British Commonwealth of Nations Scientific Liaison Offices

THE British Commonwealth of Nations Scientific Liaison Offices (London) have been opened on the third floor of Africa House, Kingsway, W.C.2. This is one of the measures to facilitate co-operation in the civil aspects of science within the Commonwealth decided on by the British Commonwealth Scientific Official Conference held in London in 1946. For a number of years several of the Commonwealth countries have maintained scientific liaison offices in London, and these, together with the ones now being established, will have their headquarters in Africa House. Each of these offices will continue to operate as in the past, retaining complete independence of action; but the convenience of occupying adjacent premises will facilitate co-operation between them on matters of common interest. For ease of reference to the group of independent offices as a whole, the title given above has been chosen, with the abbreviation B.C.S.O. (London) for common use. The offices taking part in the scheme are those of Australia, Canada, Central African Council, India, New Zealand, South Africa and the United Kingdom. Pakistan and the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux will be represented, and the Overseas Liaison Division of the U.K. Department of Scientific and Industrial Research will work in Africa House. In Washington the scientific liaison offices of the Commonwealth countries are associated under a similar scheme.

British Seismological Observatories

THE Stonyhurst College Observatory has now ceased to record earthquakes, as has also the Royal Observatory at Edinburgh. Mr. E. W. Pollard has moved from the Isle of Wight to Dorking, Surrey, and hopes to set up his seismograph at his new

home. He has presented a seismograph with mass 40 lb. to the County Secondary Grammar School at Newport, Isle of Wight, where the instrument has been set up and is being standardized. It is hoped to install good time-keeping apparatus shortly.

International Seismological Summary

SINCE the British Association meeting in September 1947, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation has given a substantial grant-in-aid to the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics for the International Seismological Summary (see *Nature*, April 17, p. 616). The staff of the I.S.S., consisting of Mr. J. S. Hughes and two assistants, have been at work at Kew for more than a year now, and the full issue for the year 1936 has been produced and partly distributed. In addition, much work has been done on the Summary for 1937, portions of this being in the hands of the printers. We are informed by Dr. Wang Ging-Hsi, of the Natural Sciences Section of Unesco, that the Organisation will assist similarly with another grant in the present year.

Natural History Journals

ONE by one some of the journals whose light flickered and went out in 1939 are being revived. The latest is the *Scottish Naturalist* which now enters on its fifth stage under the joint editorship of Prof. V. C. Wynne-Edwards and Dr. J. W. Campbell. The first volume of the new series is mainly devoted to birds of Scotland. That country has also produced a new journal, *Scottish Zoo and Wild Life*; this has been inaugurated by the Zoological Society of Scotland for the benefit of its fellows and all who are interested in animal life. Cordial wishes for their success are extended to both these journals while naturalists everywhere will also wish to congratulate the *North-Western Naturalist* on reaching its twenty-first anniversary under the able editorship of Mr. A. A. Dalliman.

National Advisory Council for Education in Industry and Commerce

THE following have been elected to serve on the Standing Committee of the National Advisory Council for Education in Industry and Commerce: Lieut.-General Sir Ronald Weeks (chairman), Sir Samuel Gurney-Dixon (vice-chairman), Sir Graham Savage, Mr. E. L. Russell, Mr. A. Ballard, Dr. Percy Dunsheath, Prof. F. H. Garner, Prof. R. G. Batson, Sir Robert Wood, Dr. T. J. Drakeley, Dr. H. Schofield, Mr. J. Wilson, Dr. J. E. Myers, Sir Charles Tennyson, Sir Arthur Smout, Mr. G. S. Heaven, Sir Arthur Fleming, Mr. B. J. Ewing, Mr. G. H. Lowthian, Mr. W. T. Mainwaring, Mr. M. F. Titterton, M.P., Mr. E. G. Gooch, M.P., Dr. F. C. Toy, the Hon. Josiah Wedgwood, Captain A. M. Holbein. Sir Samuel Gurney-Dixon was also elected vice-chairman of the Council.

Institution of Mining and Metallurgy: Awards

THE Gold Medal of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, the highest distinction which the Council of the Institution has power to grant, has been awarded to Mr. G. Carleton Jones, resident director in South Africa of New Consolidated Gold Fields, Ltd., in recognition of his distinguished services to the gold mining industry of South Africa, and in particular to the development of the West Rand. Honorary membership of the Institution has been

conferred on Dr. William Cullen, Dr. T. A. Rickard and Prof. S. J. Truscott, in recognition of their long and valued services to the mining and metallurgical profession and to the Institution. The "Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa, Ltd." Gold Medal has been awarded jointly to Dr. Anthony Caplan and Mr. J. K. Lindsay, for their work on the effect of high temperatures on working efficiency in deep mines.

Institution of Civil Engineers: Officers

THE following have been elected officers of the Institution of Civil Engineers for the Session 1948-49: *President*, Sir Jonathan Davidson; *Vice-Presidents*, Sir Reginald Stradling, V. A. M. Robertson, Dr. W. H. Glanville, A. S. Quartermaine; *Other Members of Council*, H. E. Aldington, Sir Stanley Angwin, Sir Donald Coleman Bailey, Prof. J. F. Baker, G. Baxter, W. S. Cameron, J. Chambers (India), H. F. Cronin, E. L. Everatt (Pakistan), A. Gray (Canada), A. C. Hartley, Prof. Douglas Hay, G. H. Humphreys, Sir Claude Inglis, L. Leighton, L. A. Mackenzie (South Africa), G. M. McNaughton, H. J. B. Manzoni, W. L. Newnham (New Zealand), Prof. A. J. S. Pippard, J. Rawlinson, W. P. Shepherd-Barron, T. H. Silk (Australia), J. C. L. Train, D. M. Watson, Sir Arthur Whitaker.

University of London: Appointments

THE following appointments in the University of London have been announced: Prof. J. W. S. Blacklock, professor of pathology in the University of Glasgow, to the University chair of pathology tenable at St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College as from October 1; Mr. James Whillis, reader in anatomy in Guy's Hospital Medical School, to the chair of anatomy tenable at the School as from October 1; Dr. Hugh Ford, technical director, Paterson Engineering Group, to the University readership in applied mechanics tenable at the Imperial College of Science and Technology as from May 1.

The following titles have been conferred in respect of posts at the Colleges mentioned: professor of social studies in the University on Mrs. Barbara Wootton (Bedford College); reader in biochemistry in the University on Dr. H. W. Buston (Imperial College of Science and Technology); reader in biochemistry in the University on Mr. Wilfrid Lawson (Middlesex Hospital Medical School); reader in morbid anatomy in the University on Dr. D. M. Pryce (St. Mary's Hospital Medical School).

The degree of doctor of science has been conferred on Mr. B. H. Crawford, of University College.

Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology

THE Chief Cashier, Exchange Control, Bank of England, states that a special allotment of the equivalent of £36 in foreign exchange will be provided to approved persons to enable them to attend the International Congress of Zoology in Paris during July 21-27. Anyone wishing to obtain this special allotment should submit an application on Form T.2, quoting the reference I/392 EC 902, through the medium of their own bankers, from whom the necessary forms may be obtained. The Bank of England authorities state that they would only be prepared to consider names sponsored by the Zoology Section, International Union of Biological Sciences, and therefore any applicants are advised also to notify the president of the Section, Dr. Edward Hindle, Zoological Society, Regent's Park, N.W.8.

Announcements

THE Lord President of the Council has appointed the following to be members of the Chemistry Research Board of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research for a period of four years: Mr. A. L. Bacharach, head of Nutrition Unit, Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd.; Prof. H. J. Emeléus, professor of inorganic chemistry, University of Cambridge; Prof. D. M. Newitt, professor of chemical engineering, Imperial College of Science and Technology, London.

THE following have been appointed to the Advisory Council on Scientific Research and Technical Development, Ministry of Supply, which advises on the important scientific and technical problems with which the Ministry is concerned: Sir Howard Florey, professor of pathology, University of Oxford; Prof. J. L. M. Morrison, professor of mechanical engineering, University of Bristol; Prof. L. Rosenhead, professor of applied mathematics, University of Liverpool.

THE Royal Astronomical Society wishes to direct the attention of authors to the fact that arrears of papers accepted for the *Geophysical Supplement* of the *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society* have now been published. It is anticipated that in future the average delay between the acceptance and publication of geophysical papers will only be a few months. The arrears of papers accepted for the *Monthly Notices* are now all in print and will be published and distributed in the near future; after which the average delay between acceptance and publication should not be more than three or four months.

THE Animal Health Trust has made a research grant to Mr. J. Steele, of Australia, for work at the Trust's Canine Research Station near Newmarket. Mr. Steele's work will be in connexion with the fundamentals of electro-cardiography as applied to domestic animals and with nervous diseases of dogs.

THE Council of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy is arranging a symposium on the "Refining of Non-ferrous Metals" to be held in London on July 7 and 8, thus preceding the Fourth Empire Mining and Metallurgical Congress. The papers to be presented will be issued as preprints, so that most of the time available at the meeting may be devoted to discussion. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, Salisbury House, London, E.C.2.

THE third annual Electronics Exhibition organised by the North-West Section of the Institution of Electronics will be held in the College of Technology, Manchester, during July 20-22. There will also be an exhibition of scientific films arranged by the Manchester Scientific Film Society. Admission to the Exhibition will be by ticket only, obtainable from Dr. J. A. Darbyshire, 'Melandra', 1 Kershaw Road, Failsworth, Manchester.

A SUMMER school for youth leaders is being held at Haywards Heath, Sussex, during July 26-August 1, under the auspices of the National Association of Girls' Clubs and Mixed Clubs. The theme of the conference will be "The Club Programme and Informal Education" and it will be directed by Dr. J. Macalister Brew. Further information can be obtained from the Education Secretary, National Association of Girls' Clubs and Mixed Clubs, 30-32, Devonshire Street, London, W.1.