

### Fourth Empire Mining and Metallurgical Congress

A NOTE on the coming Fourth Empire Mining and Metallurgical Congress has already been published in *Nature* (October 16, p. 606). A second circular on this Congress is now available, and in it details are to be found relating to the inaugural programme in London for July 9-12 and to the technical sessions to be held in Oxford during July 13-17. In Oxford the main subjects for discussion will be: mineral resources of the Commonwealth; modern methods of prospecting; physiological and psychological effects of heat and humidity on workers in deep mines and in metallurgical works; petroleum—with special reference to the world oil position, oil-well drilling practice and its application to petroleum exploration; coal—with special reference to resources of the Commonwealth, the characteristics of Empire coals and modern coal-mining practice in Great Britain; present-day trends in mineral dressing; and metallurgy and metallurgical industries. Also in this circular full details are given of the excursions during July 18-23. The programme consists of visits, based on Cardiff, Cornwall, Edinburgh, Manchester, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Sheffield and Stratford-upon-Avon, which will be made to collieries, iron and steel works, hydro-electric schemes, ship-building yards and other places of technical interest, together with a number of excursions of historical and general interest. Further information may be obtained on application to the Joint General Secretaries, Fourth Empire Mining and Metallurgical Congress, 436 Salisbury House, Finsbury Circus, London, E.C.2.

### Applications of Ultrasonics

THE Acoustics Group of the Physical Society has arranged to hold a discussion meeting on the applications of ultrasonics at the Imperial College, London, S.W.7, at 2.15 p.m. on February 18; Mr. G. Bradfield will read a review paper and Mr. J. M. M. Pinkerton will outline the application of ultrasonics to the investigation of molecular structure. These papers will be followed by sixteen invited contributions covering the majority of present applications: other workers in supersonics who may wish to contribute should write to the Joint Honorary Secretaries of the Acoustics Group of the Physical Society, 1 Lowther Gardens, London, S.W.7.

### Committee on Exports and Imports of Cattle Semen

THE Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Secretary of State for Scotland have appointed a Committee with the following terms of reference: "To advise on the considerations which should govern the granting of licences for the export and import of cattle semen for the purposes of artificial insemination and on any other problems related thereto". The Committee is constituted as follows: Lord Oaksey (*chairman*), Col. S. E. Ashton, Sir John Barlow, Dr. J. Hammond, Mr. E. O. Jones, Mr. Alexander Keith, Prof. W. C. Miller, Mr. Duncan M. Stewart, Mr. W. R. Trehane and Mr. W. J. Wright. The secretary to the Committee is Mr. R. Harding Wynne of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, 14 Chester Terrace, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1.

### Science Masters' Association: Scottish Branch

THE annual general meeting of the Scottish Branch of the Science Masters' Association will be held in

St. Leonard's School, St. Andrews, during April 12-14, under the presidency of Sir James Irvine. The principal speakers will be Prof. John Read, Prof. A. D. Peacock, Dr. Freundlich and Dr. Steel. They are to give addresses on "Giant Molecules", "Darwinism Up-to-Date", "The Problem of Evolution in Astronomy" and "Tidal Power", respectively. Visits have been arranged to the works of the Cash Register Co., Guardbridge paper mills, the sugar beet factory at Cupar, and elsewhere. Publishers and scientific instrument makers are also taking part.

### Announcements

SIR WALLACE AKERS, a director of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., has been appointed a trustee of the National Gallery.

IT is announced from the University of London that Mr. Ronald King has been appointed to the University readership in physics tenable at University College as from January 1. The following doctorates have been conferred: *D.Sc.*, Mr. Hans Grüneberg (reader at University College), Mr. S. E. Jacobs (Imperial College), Mr. R. C. Jordan (Imperial College); *D.Sc. (Econ.)*, Mr. S. M. Dhumé (London School of Economics).

A NEW open scholarship, worth up to £1,000, is being offered by the Textile Institute, and applications are invited both from those already engaged in the textile industry and from those still at school who propose to study textile technology. The scholarship is intended to provide facilities for a three years course of study in textile technology to an advanced stage and for industrial experience in Great Britain and abroad. Details and application forms are available from the General Secretary, Textile Institute, 16 St. Mary's Parsonage, Manchester, 3.

THE Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Department of Agriculture for Scotland propose to award, for the academic year beginning October 1, 1949, a limited number of postgraduate scholarships in husbandry, agricultural economics, statistics, and agricultural and dairy engineering. The closing date for applications is May 15, 1949. Further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, 1/4 Cambridge Terrace, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1, or the Secretary, Department of Agriculture for Scotland, St. Andrew's House, Edinburgh, 1, according to the country of residence. Applicants resident in Northern Ireland should apply to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, London, at the above address.

A CONFERENCE on Mental Health will take place at Seymour Hall, Seymour Place, London, W.1, on March 17 and 18, 1949. Applications for tickets and all correspondence should be addressed to the Conference Secretary, 39 Queen Anne Street, London, W.1.

THE date of the Fifth International Congress of Comparative Pathology in Istanbul (see *Nature*, November 27, p. 844) has been put forward to April 22-29, 1949.

REFERRING to his article on "Ancient Arts and Modern Parodies" in *Nature* of January 22 p. 146, Mr. William Fagg states that the last sentence of the second paragraph should read, "Less easy to explain is the omission of the truly primitive sculpture of Borneo . . ."