

and was awarded the Symons Gold Medal of the Royal Meteorological Society in 1938. Since then he has been engaged in investigations of the relationship between changes in weather and the humidity and ozone content of the stratosphere. During and since the War he has been investigating the formation of ice in the atmosphere, a problem of great importance to pilots from the point of view of condensation trails. In his lecture, which follows the presentation, Dr. Dobson will recall some personal memories of Dr. Chree, and will then speak on the subjects mentioned above.

### British Society for the Promotion of Vegetable Research

A STATION for research in vegetable production in Great Britain has now been established under a governing body constituted as a company limited by guarantee and without a share capital, with the title of the British Society for the Promotion of Vegetable Research. For the funds for its work, the Society will at the outset depend on grants from the Ministry of Agriculture (for stations in Scotland, from the Department of Agriculture for Scotland). The Agricultural Research Council will exercise general scientific guidance and will supervise the work and staff of the Society. The members of the governing body—twenty-three in number—include nominees of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture for Scotland, the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, various learned societies, universities and institutions concerned with horticulture, vegetable producers large and small (through the National Farmers' Union and that of Scotland, and the National Allotments and Gardens Society) and trade interests. The chairman of the Society is Prof. F. T. Brooks, of the University of Cambridge, and the director of the research station is Dr. James Philp (see *Nature*, 161, 715; 1948). The headquarters research station will be at Wellesbourne, Warwickshire (where the registered office of the Society will also be situated), and consists of 280 acres of deep sandy loam over gravel or keuper clay; the land is being purchased by the Ministry of Agriculture and will be leased to the Society. The site is admirably suited to research on vegetables; but some time must necessarily elapse before buildings and equipment can be provided, staff engaged and the farm generally developed for research purposes. The Ministry is also leasing to the Society 150 acres of land which it owns at Paglesham, Essex, for a sub-station primarily to be used for the multiplication of stocks of seed of vegetables bred at the main station or elsewhere. A second sub-station is the former Horticultural Research Station at Cambridge, which has been taken over from the University of Cambridge, and the staff of which will continue to work there until they can be transferred to the headquarters station.

### Indian Phytopathology

WITH the rapid advances made in mycology and plant pathology throughout India during the past quarter of a century (since the late Sir Edwin John Butler was appointed the first Imperial mycologist at the Pusa Agricultural Research Institute) the time was fully ripe for the publication of a journal devoted to the interests of the Indian Phytopathological Society. In introducing the first number of the journal, entitled *Indian Phytopathology*, the president of the Council, Mr. J. F. Dastur, hopes that a still closer

association and relations will be effected among members of the Society and other scientific workers, both in India and abroad. The interests of the Society extend over six areas or zones, namely, the northern Delhi, eastern, western, central and southern, and are watched over by Dr. Pushkarnath, Dr. Vasudeva, Dr. Mehta, Dr. Uppal, Mr. Kulkarni and Mr. K. M. Thomas respectively.

The editorial board consists of the well-known pathologists Dr. B. B. Mundkur (editor-in-chief [see p. 680 of this issue]), Dr. S. R. Bose, Dr. M. K. Patel, Dr. R. K. Saksena and Dr. R. S. Vasudeva. The first number of the journal, consisting of ninety-six pages, is devoted to valuable contributions of high standard on a wide range of topics. The journal is beautifully printed and illustrated on good quality paper. The annual subscription is Rs. 14 (one guinea) post paid. There will be, for the present, two issues in a year, comprising about 250 pages; but the number of pages and issues per annum will be gradually increased. Subscriptions should be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer, Indian Phytopathological Society, Pusa Buildings, New Delhi.

### World Crops: A New Monthly Journal

SINCE the Second World War, attention has been increasingly focused on the international aspect of agricultural problems, and the appearance of a new monthly journal, *World Crops*, published by Leonard Hill Ltd., under the editorship of Sir Harold Tempamy, is appropriate. The scope of the journal is wide, embracing the cultivation, protection, storage and handling of many essential crops, and their processing for food, fodder and industrial products. Its purpose is to describe, in not too technical language, the results of research, and to discuss such current topics and problems as will interest both the grower and manufacturer as well as the administrator and scientific worker. Among the outstanding world agricultural problems of to-day is the necessity for increasing the production of rice and vegetable oils and to find means for controlling the disease that threatens the cocoa industry. Authoritative articles dealing with these subjects appear in the first number, issued in September 1949. The prospects for the extension of tobacco production in East and Central Africa are also discussed, and an account is given of the project of the British Overseas Corporation for the growing of sorghum and the setting up of piggeries in Queensland, Australia. Items of general interest include an article on agricultural education and reports of recent important conferences and meetings. Good illustrations are evidently intended to be a feature of the new journal; the subscription rates are, one year 25s., two years 40s., and three years 50s.

### Vegetation Maps of Switzerland

THE Phytogeographical Committee of the Swiss Society of Natural Sciences has planned, and Dr. Emil Schmid prepared, a vegetation map of Switzerland to a scale of 1:200,000 or about three miles to the inch. The map is issued in four folded sheets of which two, Nos. 1 and 4 of the series, have so far been received. No. 1 covers the north-west sector including Bern, Neuchâtel, Basel and Aarau, and No. 4 the south-east sector or the Gotthard-Tessin-Graubünden area. Eleven primary types of vegetation are recognized. These are shown in different colours, with the chief associations in each type differentiated by symbols indicating the dominant species; the