

the Medical Department. In view of the ramifications of the tsetse problem, touching on the activities of many departments, including those of agriculture and veterinary and medical work, it was felt that it must now be attacked on the broadest lines by proper land planning and land utilization in order to achieve permanent results. Sleeping sickness has now been brought under control in the Gold Coast, and this success requires consolidation by settlement and mixed farming, with consequent attention to trypanosomiasis of domestic animals. Large-scale research and experiment on the control of *Glossina morsitans* in particular are in progress, together with the epidemiological studies necessary for the planning of control operations. An article on tsetse control (by Dr. Morris) was published in *Nature* of December 31, p. 1114.

#### Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, Trinidad : *Newsletter*

THE Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, St. Augustine, Trinidad, issued in October 1949 the first number of a *Newsletter*, a modest publication of three sheets, the object of which is to impart frequent up-to-date information about current College happenings and affairs. The publication is circulated to appropriate government departments, other official bodies and commercial concerns and to the local press and other public information services. The first part is devoted to staff changes and appointments. The next section deals with student notes, from which it is learned that there are fifty-six students now in residence, of which thirty-six are undergraduates studying for the diploma of the College, and twenty are postgraduates entered for the associate-ship of the College or the diploma in tropical agriculture (Trinidad) or attending special courses. The bulk of the students come from the British West Indies, but some are from other parts of the British Commonwealth, and there is one each from Brazil, the Dominican Republic, Surinam and the United States. In the notes on activities of the staff it is noteworthy that the Principal recently travelled in West Africa to discuss there with educational authorities the arrangements for African students to take courses at the College.

Four new staff houses were scheduled for completion by the end of 1949, and the construction of the new biology building is in progress. Reference is made to the reports of the Governing Body and of the Principal, which deal in particular with progress made in the four research schemes (banana, cocoa, soils and sugar) and with the development of the new College farm. It is stated that, owing to difficulties of production, only two six-monthly omnibus numbers of *Tropical Agriculture* appeared in 1949; it is hoped to resume monthly publication this year. Among the staff the following appointments have been made: Mr. P. Holliday (Cambridge), pathologist in cocoa diseases; Miss M. E. M. Price (Toronto), librarian; Mr. E. G. D. Pritchett (Oxford and Toronto), farm manager. The second issue notes the appointment of Sir Raymond Priestley in succession to the late Sir Frank Stockdale as chairman of the Governing Body, and the resignation of Prof. A. de K. Frampton, professor of agriculture, on his appointment as agricultural adviser to the Development and Welfare Organisation in the West Indies. The London office of the College is at 40 Norfolk Street, London, W.C.2.

#### Nationalized Audit Service

At one of its recent sectional meetings the British Institute of Management discussed the need for an independent management audit service for nationalized undertakings, though no final recommendations were agreed by the meeting (B.I.M. Conference Series 11. Pp. 36. London: 17 Hill Street, W.1, 1949. 2s. 6d.). Mr. F. C. Hooper, in introducing the subject, explained that in essence a management audit is a fault-finding body, since its main job is to find out what is wrong and to set in motion steps to put it right. It cannot, however, be usefully conducted on a nationalized undertaking by an outside group of people; but there should be at least one member of the audit drawn from outside the undertaking who should be of the highest professional and public standing. The remaining members, including the chairman, should be drawn from within the undertaking. The chairman and at least one other member should be top-level executives or members of the board, whichever is appropriate. Mr. Hooper also suggested that it would be a good thing to include workers' representatives, especially in regional audits.

#### International Conference at Florence of University Teachers

THE fifth conference of university teachers organised by the International Association of University Professors and Lecturers will be held at the University of Florence during April 12-16, under the chairmanship of Prof. A. Portman, of the University of Basle. The conference will be open to all members of the Association and others interested, and university institutions are invited to send representatives. Definitive reports on the following three topics will be considered: (1) equivalences of university qualifications; (2) arrangements in the universities for periodical long leave; (3) student health services in universities. Progress towards the establishment of an International Institute of the Social Sciences will be reported. The present position of the Association will be reviewed and suggestions considered regarding its immediate future programme. Social gatherings will be arranged, and there will be opportunities of seeing other centres of science and learning, such as a visit to the University of Siena on April 15. Names of those expecting to attend the conference should reach the Secretary at as early a date as possible; the registration fee is 10s. Further particulars can be obtained from Mrs. Cecil, Secretary, I.A.U.P.L., 13 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C.2.

#### Exhibition in London of French Scientific Instruments

AN exhibition of scientific instruments, similar to the annual one held in Paris by the Société Française de Physique (see *Nature* of December 24, 1949, p. 1077), is shortly to be held at the Science Museum, South Kensington, London, S.W.7. The aim of the exhibition, which was conceived in French scientific circles, will be to demonstrate to the British scientific public the present state of instrument technology in France. The exhibits will represent the work of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, the Office National d'Etudes et de Recherches Aéronautiques, the Commissariat à l'Énergie Atomique and a number of scientific instrument manufacturers. While the emphasis will be on instruments for