

class. The resins of this type are marketed in Great Britain under the trade name of 'Marco Resins', and one of these, namely, 'Marco Resin' *S.B. 26C*, has many characteristics which make for general use in biology. *S.B. 26C* has a fair degree of transparency and is fortunately nearly colourless in the polymerized state. It polymerizes at ordinary temperatures without special apparatus, is completely anhydrous and is thus suitable for wet specimens. It can be used as an embedding medium in three types of mount: the wet mount, in which specimens are embedded directly from water; the cleared mount, in which soft tissues and some bones are rendered transparent; and the dry mount, which is mainly suitable for osteological and mineralogical specimens. *S.B. 26C* can also be used as an injection medium. Formulae and details of the procedure for both uses of this resin are given in the paper.

#### *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*

It seems unlikely that the present trend of scientific activities is going on unobserved by acute minds. Its characteristic feature is that the individual has largely been replaced by the team. Applied physics, for example, requires corporate effort rather than lone strife and solitary meditation. Awareness of these things has helped to bring to birth the *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*—a quarterly which made its first appearance in May (Edinburgh and London: Thomas Nelson and Sons, Ltd. 7s. 6d.; annually, 30s.), in an attempt to deal with the basic, yet wide, aspects of science. That it should have started life at this particular time is significant; the need is to integrate the more profound personal problems of our generation—ethical, religious, æsthetic—into some coherent pattern congruent with experience in a scientific age. The first number sets a high standard. It contains articles on the theory of measurement, the development of the theory of science, Descartes and the mind-body problem, and metaphysical interpretations. Appropriate space is also provided for reviews. The policy of the managing committee, assisted by a distinguished editorial board, will be to publish contributions the primary datum of which is science, with particular reference to its philosophical implications. Historical aspects will not be overlooked. In view of the marked interest recently awakened at the universities of Britain in studies of this kind, the new journal should quickly find willing readers and competent contributors. That the response from authors qualified to write has, in fact, been considerable suggests that a very high level can be demanded. The founders are well aware of the tendency to fall away, and are taking every precaution to prevent it. They and their publishers are entitled to congratulations upon a brave effort, worthy of all possible support.

#### Vitamin K and Prothrombinæmia

IN the second volume of *Publicaciones de Medicina Experimental* of the University of Chile (pp. 324; Santiago: Universidad de Chile, 1947), Dr. Ismael Canessa discusses the history, chemistry, physiology and functions of vitamin K and the symptoms and pathology and other aspects of prothrombinæmia. The paper, which is 304 pages long, occupies most of this volume. The remainder of the publication is given to a shorter paper on the level of circulatory prothrombin and the effect of splenectomy on it, with a note suggesting a chemical formula for fibrinogen.

#### Science and the World's Food Supply

A COURSE on "Science and the World's Food Supply", organised by the Educational Centres Association, will be held at Westham House, Barford, near Leamington, Warwickshire, during August 26–September 2, under the general supervision of Dr. M. H. Clifford, tutor and lecturer in natural sciences, Cambridge University Board of Extra-Mural Studies. This course is designed to bring together laymen and men of science to study some aspects of the contribution that science can make to the increase of human well-being, and will deal with the application of science to the problem of increasing the world's food resources. There will be a series of evening lectures by visiting speakers dealing with the industrial and biological aspects of food processing. Members of the course will be able to make their own individual contribution to the subject at tutorial discussions, and there will be a visit to an agricultural research station. The cost of the course is £4 15s., which includes board, residence and tuition. Further information can be obtained from the Summer School Secretary, Educational Centres Association, 8 Endsleigh Gardens, London, W.C.1.

#### Paris Congress on Electron Microscopy

A CONGRESS of electron microscopy will be held in Paris during September 14–22. It is being organised by the Société Française de Microscopie Théorique et Appliquée, and the work will be divided into five sections: electron optics and microscopes, electron diffraction, metallurgical applications, chemical applications, and biological applications. Two exhibitions are being arranged to be held during the congress, the first to illustrate the history of the development of the electron microscope, and the second to give examples of recent work with the instrument. Laboratory visits and excursions to different parts of France are also being planned. The official language of the congress will be French; but texts can be presented in English. A detailed programme can be obtained from the Congress Secretariat, Laboratoire de Cryptogamie du Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, 12 rue de Buffon, Paris 5<sup>e</sup>.

#### Summer School on the Physics and Chemistry of Free Radicals

A SUMMER school on the "Physics and Chemistry of Free Radicals" will be held in the University Department of Physical Chemistry, Cambridge, during August 19–26. Courses of lectures and demonstrations will be given on: structure, spectroscopy and mass-spectroscopy of free radicals; free radicals produced by light and nuclear radiation and their reactions; role of free radicals in combustion and polymerization; and free radical reactions in solutions. Men can be accommodated in college rooms. Further details and forms of application may be obtained from the Secretary of the Summer School, Department of Physical Chemistry, Free School Lane, Cambridge.

#### University of London: Appointments

THE following appointments in the University of London have been announced: Dr. E. R. Leach to the University readership in anthropology tenable at the London School of Economics and Political Science; Dr. W. L. G. Gent to the University readership in physical and inorganic chemistry tenable at Guy's Hospital Medical School; and Dr. A. T. J. Dollar to the University readership in geology tenable at Birk-