

Ministry of Education. Any such council, composed of persons acquainted with present-day museum methods and aims, and with a personal knowledge of the movements and trends that are taking place in the museum service elsewhere in the world, should mark an important stepping-stone to the better development of the South African service. The report also recommends that the State-aided institutions should receive greater financial support; that the museums should undertake more historical research, and that for this purpose properly trained historians should be appointed to museum staffs; that the costs of museum publications should be paid by the State; and that one Parliamentary Act should be passed to control all the Government-aided institutions. It is also recommended that the maintenance and extension of museum services for schools should be the responsibility of the respective provincial authorities.

#### Pasteur Institute of Southern India

THE annual report of the Director of the Pasteur Institute of Southern India, Coonoor, published together with the forty-second annual report of the Central Committee of the Pasteur Institute for the years 1948-49 (pp. 46; Madras: Diocesan Press, 1949), shows that the Institute, since its foundation in 1907, has done excellent work. The report deals with the antirabic treatment of human patients and animals, and the Institute's research work on rabies and cholera, its blood bank and routine investigations, and the work of its nutritional research laboratories. The number of human patients treated for rabies at the Pasteur Institute during the years 1907-48 was 41,131, the mortality being 0.99 per cent. During 1922-48 226,265 patients were treated at subsidiary centres, and the death-rate among them was 0.33 per cent. The number of animals prophylactically treated against rabies between 1923 and 1948 was 14,212, the death-rate among them being 1.42 per cent. For human patients and animals, the Institute manufactures, by Semple's method, a 5 per cent suspension of sheep brain (Paris strain of fixed virus) in carbol saline. The vaccine is issued to various centres in India and to veterinarians. Since its foundation in 1942, the blood bank has prepared more than 151 litres of plasma, which has been issued to various civil, military and mission hospitals.

#### Education of the Young Worker

ORGANISED by the Oxford University Department of Education in association with representatives from industry, and educational and social services, the second Oxford conference dealing with the education of the young worker considered young people's entry into work under the special aspects of guidance and initiation. An attempt was made to treat guidance as widely as possible; but the conference tended to concentrate on vocational guidance in the more technical and specific sense. The general subject was considered concurrently by eight commissions under the headings of: (1) review of the present situation; (2) vocational guidance of the worker; (3) the juvenile; (4) the job; (5) the vocational guidance service. Each day's deliberations were preceded by a series of talks dealing with the particular subject under consideration; in addition, young workers themselves were represented by a haulage hand in the mining industry and a dictaphone typist to a mixed club, who made a most significant and valuable first-hand contribution to the conference. The con-

ference was supported by the King George's Jubilee Trust, on whose behalf a report has now been published. It may be obtained from the Oxford University Press, price 2s. 6d.

#### Canadian Awards for Postgraduate Research

THE National Research Council of Canada has awarded 197 scholarships, totalling 140,225 dollars, for postgraduate research in 1950-51, which are grouped in the following five classes: postdoctorate overseas fellowships, eight at 2,500 dollars; special scholarships, six at 750 dollars; fellowships, twenty-one at 900 dollars; studentships, eighty-one at 750 dollars; and bursaries, eighty-one at 450 dollars. Of the eight postdoctorate overseas fellowships, two will be held at Bristol, four at Cambridge and one each at Coimbra and Oxford; of the winners of the six special scholarships, two will work at Oxford, and one each at California, Dublin, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Michigan. The other awards will be held at Canadian universities. The distribution of awards by branches of science in which the holders will work covers the following nine fields: chemistry, 67; physics, 54; biology, 27; engineering, 12; geology and mineralogy, 11; metallurgy, 8; mathematics, 7; biochemistry, 6; and medical research, 5. These five medical research scholarships are in addition to the medical research fellowships awarded by the Division of Medical Research.

#### Biological Hazards of Atomic Energy

A TWO-DAY conference is being arranged jointly by the Institute of Biology and the Atomic Scientists' Association, and with the support of the British Association, on the subject of atomic energy and its biological hazards, and will be held at the Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, London, W.1, during October 20 and 21. Other societies interested in the meeting include the British Institute of Radiology. The object of the conference is to consider, on the basis of the available facts from both the biological and physical aspects, the possible biological hazards arising from the development and application of atomic science now and in the future. The meeting will comprise four sessions as follows: (1) biological and medical effects of nuclear radiations; (2) tolerance-levels and measures of protection; (3) biological implications; (4) atomic energy and the future. In each session, opening addresses will be given by invited speakers, and discussion will follow. Preliminary arrangements are being made by a joint committee, of which the chairman is Prof. Alex Haddow, Chester Beatty Research Institute, Royal Cancer Hospital, Fulham Road, London, S.W.3.

#### Announcements

THE 289th meeting of the Biochemical Society will be held in Derby Hall, University of Liverpool, N. Mossley Hill Road, Liverpool 18, on September 22, at 11 a.m., and will take the form of a symposium on "The Biochemistry of Fish".

ERRATUM. We are informed that in the communication entitled "Marching in Locust Hoppers of the Solitary Phase" in *Nature* of July 22, p. 151, Table 1 is incorrect and should be replaced by the following:

Table 1. MARCHING SPEEDS (cm. per sec.)			
Solitary hoppers.	Mean 1.33	S.E. $\pm$ 0.35	S.D. $\pm$ 1.59
Gregarious "	" 3.27	S.E. $\pm$ 0.41	S.D. $\pm$ 1.85

The difference between the means is 3.6 times the standard error and therefore significant.