

is only a few seconds. The normal capacity of the balance is 200 gm. and the sensitivity 0.1 mgm.

#### International Congress on Analytical Chemistry, 1952

IN connexion with the International Congress on Analytical Chemistry, to be held in Great Britain in 1952 (see *Nature*, February 11, p. 223), it has been decided that the meetings shall be held in Oxford, commencing on September 4. Accommodation will normally be provided in the Colleges; but some hotel accommodation will also be available. The technical sessions will take place in one of the main University buildings. The arrangements for the Congress are in the hands of a general committee under Sir Robert Robinson, representing a wide variety of interests. The scope of the proceedings is being dealt with by an executive committee, under the chairmanship of the president of the Society of Public Analysts and Other Analytical Chemists, Mr. G. Taylor, and further details of this and other matters will be published in due course. It is expected that a meeting of the Board of Section 5 (analytical chemistry) of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry will be held in Oxford during the same week. Sir Ian Heilbron is honorary president, and Prof. C. J. van Nieuwenburg president of this Section of the International Union. Sir Wallace Akers is honorary treasurer of the Congress, and the honorary secretary is Mr. R. C. Chirnside, of the Research Laboratories, General Electric Co., Ltd., Wembley, Middlesex.

#### University of Birmingham

THE following appointments in the University of Birmingham have recently been announced. Dr. C. S. Ball, lecturer in industrial metallurgy; K. Aterman, lecturer in biophysics in the Department of Anatomy; G. E. R. Burroughs and Miss M. L. Kellmer, lecturers in education; H. W. Paxton, research fellow in metallurgy; G. F. Eveson, research fellow in coal treatment in the Department of Mining; M. G. Cockcroft, research fellow in industrial metallurgy. The following resignations have been announced: Dr. H. B. Whittington, reader in palaeontology, on appointment as associate professor in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University; Dr. H. Scarborough, reader in medicine, on appointment as professor of medicine and director of the Medical Unit at the Welsh National School of Medicine, Cardiff.

#### Announcements

THE Reith Lectures for 1950 of the B.B.C. are to be given by Prof. J. Z. Young, professor of anatomy in University College, London, on "Doubt and Certainty in Science—a Biologist's Reflexions on the Human Brain". The eight lectures will be broadcast on Sunday evenings in the Home Service from October 29 until December 10; this is a fortnight earlier than was originally announced.

THE Radford Mather Lecture of the British Association will be delivered by Sir Lawrence Bragg on October 25, at 5.15 p.m., in the lecture room of the Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, London, W.1; Sir Lawrence will speak on "Science and the Adventure of Living". Admission is by ticket, which may be obtained by members of the Association for themselves and their friends from the British Association, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W.1.

LORD HADEN GUEST has been elected president of the Association of Scientific Workers in succession to Lord Boyd-Orr, who has resigned on account of the increased pressure of his other commitments. Lord Haden Guest, who was member of Parliament for North Islington until his elevation to the peerage this year, is chairman of the Medical Priorities Committee of the Ministry of Health and secretary of the Leverhulme Research Fellowship Committee.

DR. B. F. J. SCHONLAND has recently retired from the post of president of the South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and is resuming the directorship of the Bernard Price Institute of Geophysical Research, University of the Witwatersrand. Dr. P. J. du Toit has been appointed to succeed Dr. Schonland, and Dr. S. Meiring Naude, the present director of the South African National Physical Laboratory, will take on the duties of vice-president of the Council.

RAMSAY Memorial fellowships for 1950-51 have been awarded to the following for chemical research at the universities stated: E. Gelles, University College, London; Dr. R. W. A. Attree (Canadian), Bristol; and Miss M. J. Molera (Spanish), Oxford. The following fellowships have been renewed for 1950-51: Dr. P. Gray, Cambridge; H. Mendel (Netherlands), Oxford; and Dr. K. Leu (Swiss) and Dr. Margaret Whalley, Imperial College of Science and Technology, London.

THE Meldola Medal is the gift of the Society of Maccabæans and is normally awarded annually. The next award will be made early in 1951 to the chemist who, being a British subject and less than thirty years of age on December 31, 1950, shows the most promise, as indicated by his or her published chemical work brought to the notice of the Council of the Royal Institute of Chemistry before December 31. Communications should be addressed to the President, Royal Institute of Chemistry, 30 Russell Square, London, W.C.1, the envelope being marked "Meldola Medal".

A COURSE of six lectures on "Radiochemical Methods of Analysis" has been organised by the Department of Chemistry, Sir John Cass College, Jewry Street, London, E.C.3, and will be held on Tuesdays at 6 p.m., beginning on November 7. The course will be given by Dr. A. G. Maddock (Radiochemical Laboratory, University of Cambridge), and Dr. J. F. Duncan (Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell). It will form an introduction to further lectures on radiochemical analysis, and these will later be followed by a practical course for a limited number of students. The fee for the course of six lectures is 15s., and application for enrolment forms should be made to the principal of the College.

A CONFERENCE of the International Institute of Refrigeration, the first since before the War, will be held in London during August 29-September 7, 1951. Most of the special commissions of the conference will be dealing with technological matters; but low-temperature physics will be considered at a joint meeting of the Scientific Commission of the International Institute of Refrigeration with the new Commission for Very Low Temperatures of Unesco. Further information can be obtained from Dr. G. G. Haselden, honorary secretary of the Low Temperature Group of the Physical Society, 1 Lowther Gardens, Prince Consort Road, London, S.W.7.