

refuse from the slate quarrying. The Rheola Forest in the Vale of Neath is a typical example of the type of afforestation work which is now taking place in the former type of industry. The name Rheola Forest comes from the estate of Rheola, near Resolven, lands from that estate forming the nucleus of the large area of 13,000 acres which now forms the Forest. Planting was commenced there by the Forestry Commission in 1922, and the oldest of the plantations are yielding substantial quantities of pit-props for the coal-fields in the Vale. "The green mantle of foliage," as the writer of the pamphlet, "Britain's Forests—Rheola" (Forestry Commission. Pp. 18. (London: H.M. Stationery Office, 1950. 6d. net), picturesquely puts it, "spreading across both sides of this industrial valley provides a welcome contrast to the bare hill-sides with dumps of coal-pit refuse." A start has also been made with planting up the old abandoned pit dumps and thus removing a real eyesore to any countryside. A successful planting of this nature with Scots pine on the old Trafalgar coal-pit dump in the Forest of Dean has changed that blot into a round green hill.

#### Mixed Commission on Radiobiology

THE Mixed Commission on Radiobiology of the International Council of Scientific Unions held its first meeting on July 16 in the Library of the Pasteur Pavilion of the Institut de Radium, Paris. Those present were Dr. L. H. Gray, Dr. G. Failla, Prof. G. Hevesy, Mme. I. Joliot-Curie, Prof. A. Lacassagne, Dr. L. D. Marinelli, Dr. Melander, Dr. R. Naidu and Dr. P. Bonét-Maury. The International Council of Scientific Unions was represented by Dr. Fraser, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, through the financial aid of which the meeting was possible, by Dr. Wang. Prof. Hevesy was elected president of the Commission, and Dr. Bonét-Maury secretary. The work of the Commission is concerned principally with the organisation of radiology, from the point of view of both research and of teaching, and the main topics discussed were: the project of an international institute of radiology; the publication of radiobiological work and a bibliography of such work; the definition and measurement of sensitivity to radiation; and the possibility of the exchange of standard biological material. It was decided to create a sub-commission which will study the first and third of the above-mentioned topics.

#### Australian Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research

THE Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization has decided to launch a new scientific periodical, the *Australian Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research* (1, No. 1, April; pp. 154; from the Secretary, C.S.I.R.O., 314 Albert Street, East Melbourne, C.2, 1950; 7s. 6d.), which will be a medium for the publication of research papers on the results of original investigations on sea, estuarine and freshwater fisheries and cognate subjects. Dr. N. S. Noble, of the Organization's staff, has been appointed editor. He will have the help of an editorial advisory committee in scrutinizing manuscripts submitted for publication, and this committee has as its members Mr. G. Humphrey (Department of Biochemistry, University of Sydney), Prof. P. D. F. Murray (Department of Zoology, University of Sydney) and Dr. H. Thompson (chief, C.S.I.R.O. Division of Fisheries). The *Journal* will not be issued at set periods, but as

the accumulation of suitable material dictates. It is at present anticipated that two issues will be published in each year. The first number has just appeared and contains papers on the Australian anchovy, underwater fouling, the barracuda fishery in Australian waters, bacteriology of shark spoilage and the setting of Sydney rock oysters.

#### Journal of the Royal Technical College, Glasgow

PUBLICATION of the *Journal of the Royal Technical College, Glasgow*, which was suspended during the War, has now been resumed, and the first post-war number to appear (5, Part 1, January 1950) contains twenty-six research papers contributed by members of the staff and senior students of the College. A list of other publications by members of the College is included; but only the titles of the periodicals in which the articles appear, and not the full references, are given. In one of the papers, T. S. Wylie describes experiments which show that cavitation can occur in a liquid irradiated with sound of frequency 3,780 c.s. An oscillator consisting of a nickel tube made to vibrate by magnetostriction at audio frequencies was used, and the form of the cavitation produced in water at the frequency of 3,780 c.s. was examined. Evidence was obtained that the rate of erosion on a metal surface in contact with a field of cavitation varies, at constant temperature, with some power of the time greater than unity. Several of the papers in the *Journal* deal with problems of a chemical nature; and, on the metallurgical side, blast-furnace reactions, the reactions of sulphur in steel-making, the sintering of iron ores, thermal changes in fireclay and kaolinite, and the surface tension of molten silicates form the subjects of individual articles. The publication concludes with a number of papers dealing with problems in structural engineering and shipbuilding.

#### Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries: Postgraduate Scholarship Awards

THE Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has awarded the following postgraduate research and training scholarships, which are tenable for periods up to three years in the first instance at the university or institute shown: *Agricultural economics*, G. H. Brayshaw, G. B. Clarke and Miss C. O'Loughlin (Cambridge), J. T. Creighton, T. C. Haddow and Miss C. Scott (Oxford), and D. T. Edwards (Reading); *Agricultural engineering*, P. Hebblethwaite (Michigan State College), E. W. Hughes (Reading), and R. E. James-Robertson, J. N. Merridew and G. B. Shipway (King's College, Newcastle); *Husbandry*, H. K. Baker, R. W. E. Ball and D. R. Hodgson (Cambridge), C. W. Bramley (Leeds), J. Alston, J. Cook, A. J. Cooper, T. L. Crocker, C. G. Guttridge, L. A. Mantle and J. J. North (Reading), Miss J. C. Whitaker (Wye College, London), and C. E. Wright (Queen's University, Belfast); *Agricultural statistics*, Miss E. M. Davis and J. K. R. Wood (Rothamsted Experimental Station), J. A. Evans (Oxford), and A. F. Purser (Edinburgh).

#### Foreign Scholarships for British Students

A NUMBER of foreign governments and universities are offering scholarships to British students. In most cases the awards are for 4–12 months of postgraduate study at a university; but the Italian Government also offers scholarships to authors, artists, musicians and others for study or travel in Italy. Scholarships for 1950–51 have recently been