

may be possible, in certain areas at any rate, to build up more detailed estimates of capital in different branches of industry according to type of real asset.

The Peacock Butterfly in Scotland

A NOTE by D. W. Hall in a recent issue of *The Scottish Naturalist* describes the present distribution of the peacock butterfly in Scotland. Some twenty years ago the peacock was unknown in Scotland; but, by 1945, it was common in the Border country and was working steadily northwards, one isolated record from Caithness having been recorded. The first recorded observation was made at Crinan, Argyllshire, in 1935, where, in 1948, it was reported to be common. During the spring of 1948 it was reported as being the commonest species of butterfly near Oban, Argyllshire. In Inverness-shire it became common in Canna and Eigg and was a well-established resident in the Hebrides by 1948; it can now be said to be quite common in the Western Highlands and Islands. Records have also been made in central Scotland, while in eastern Scotland the peacock butterfly has become very common in Perthshire and Angus. Migrating swarms as known in France and England have not been observed in Scotland.

"The Rationalist Annual"

ORIGINALLY published as the "Agnostic Annual", the "Rationalist Annual" is now in its sixty-eighth year of publication. The 1951 issue maintains the high standard of its predecessors and includes articles by Prof. J. B. S. Haldane on the rate of evolution, J. C. Flugel on the present position of psychoanalysis, Robin Skynner on the Communist attitude to semantics, Avro Manhattan on arts and men, Lord Chorley on the growth of law, Archibald Robertson on grounds for disbelief in God, Maurice Burton on the impact of fear on animal behaviour, A. Gowans Whyte on the recent memorandum prepared by the Religious Bodies Consultative Committee, F. H. George on psychology and semantics, Royston Pike on Edward Gibbon and, finally, D. Stark Murray on the need for a rational attitude to health. The journal is edited by Frederick Watts and may be obtained from Watts and Co., price 2s. 6d.

List of Periodicals in the Science Museum Library, London

A SIXTH edition of the "Hand List of Short Titles of Current Periodicals in the Science Library" (pp. 282; London: H.M. Stationery Office, 1950; 7s. 6d. net), which has recently been published, will be welcomed as giving a picture of the periodicals now being received at the Science Museum Library, London, but does not completely replace the older editions of the List. Periodicals are entered only under their present titles, and there are no cross-references, although the holdings shown are those of the periodical under all its titles. The List shows only the major gaps, however, and it is not a catalogue of all the periodical holdings of the Library. A format based on photography from a visible index has been adopted instead of print, so as to facilitate re-issue. Shelf marks are given at the end of the entries, and users are asked always to quote them when requisitioning. The order of entries is that of the "World List of Scientific Periodicals", with the exception that journals, bulletins, reports, etc., of societies, institutions, etc., precede periodicals having distinctive titles commencing "Journal", "Bulletin", etc., and are not in one alphabetical order, as in the "World List".

Announcements

DR. E. U. CONDON, director of the United States National Bureau of Standards, has been elected president of the Philosophical Society of Washington. Founded in 1871, the Philosophical Society is the oldest Washington society devoted to the promotion of science, and its first president was Joseph Henry.

COLONEL E. H. THOMPSON has been appointed to the University chair of surveying and photogrammetry tenable at University College, London. The title of reader in geography in the University of London has been conferred on Mr. A. E. Smailes in respect of the post held by him at University College.

THE Council of the City and Guilds of London Institute has conferred the fellowship of the Institute on the following past students of the City and Guilds College: Dr. G. Roche Lynch, senior official analyst to the Home Office and director of the Department of Chemical Pathology, St. Mary's Hospital, London; Sir Harold Saunders, recently Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks and Comptroller of the Industrial Property Department, Board of Trade; Mr. S. Scott-Hall, principal director of technical development (air), Ministry of Supply; Dr. R. L. Smith-Rose, director of radio research, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research; and Mr. M. T. Tudsbury, civil engineer to the British Broadcasting Corporation.

MR. DONALD B. MOORE, district manager of North Eastern Trading Estates, Ltd., has been appointed general secretary of the Textile Institute, in succession to Mr. Harry Ibbetson.

THE Medical Research Council, by arrangement with the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, is offering two scholarships, worth 40,000-60,000 francs a month plus marriage allowance, which are open to British graduates for research in medical science, excluding clinical medicine, to be conducted at research institutions in France during the academic year 1951-52. Candidates should have had some previous research experience and must possess a working knowledge of French. Application forms, obtainable from the secretary, Medical Research Council, 38 Old Queen Street, London, S.W.1, must be completed by March 31.

A CONFERENCE on "The Use of the Film in Training for Industry" has been arranged by the Scientific Film Association and will be held in the Hotel Majestic, St. Annes-on-Sea, Lancs, during March 30-April 1. The main part of the programme, on March 31, will be divided into three broad sessions dealing respectively with films for training in the textile, engineering and building industries. Both professionally-made and amateur-made films will be shown. The fee for the conference is one guinea. Further details can be obtained from the secretary of the Association at 4 Great Russell Street, London, W.C.1.

WE are asked to point out that the Commission for Very Low Temperatures (*Nature*, January 27, p. 138) is a commission of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics, and not of Unesco, as stated. Correspondence referring to the Commission's conference on low-temperature physics during August 22-31 should be sent to the Organizing Committee, Low Temperature Conference, Clarendon Laboratory, Parks Road, Oxford.