

was shown during 1847-50, and the photographic exhibition of 1852. Dealing with the more recent past, there are displays of the British exhibitions of 1935 (British Art in Industry) and 1946 ('Britain Can Make It'). The "Exhibition of Exhibitions" will be open daily until September 25 (Sundays excepted) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Wednesdays, 8 p.m.), and the admission fee is: adults, 1s., children, 6d.

#### Exhibition of the Development of British Maps and Charts

DURING the Festival of Britain the Royal Geographical Society will be holding an exhibition at the Society's headquarters, 1 Kensington Gore, London, S.W.7, which will illustrate the development of British maps and charts and the many different ways in which cartography is used in the modern world. Among the exhibits will be the newly discovered Molyneux globe of 1592, the first globe to be made in England, and the physical globe made by Dr. Keith Johnston, which was shown at the 1851 Exhibition. There are displays from the Admiralty Hydrographic Department, Ordnance Survey, Air Ministry, Ministry of Civil Aviation and the Ministry of Local Government and Planning. In addition to a number of technical lectures on cartography, the Society will show on May 21, at 8.15 p.m., two famous films of British exploration: the 1922 assault on Mount Everest and Ponting's contemporary film of Scott's last expedition to the Antarctic. A limited number of seats for these films will be available to the general public on application to the Society. The exhibition is open to the public and will be shown from May 3 onwards (Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.).

#### Holiday Camp at the British Association Meeting

To help the younger generation to take part in the proceedings of the British Association, an experiment is being tried at the Festival Year meeting in Edinburgh. It is an attempt to combine an open-air holiday with facilities for attending the discussions and for meeting the experts. The Workers Travel Association has provided facilities at the Broomlee Camp, West Linton, eighteen miles south of Edinburgh, where there is dormitory accommodation for two hundred visitors. The Edinburgh Committee of the British Association is allocating fifty free membership tickets for the use of the visitors, so that one-quarter of them each day will be able to sample the discussions. Those who want to attend all the meetings can become local members for £1 1s. and students for 10s. 6d. In addition to opportunities for attending selected discussions, arrangements are being made for scientific workers from the Association meeting to visit the camp in the evenings for lectures and demonstrations.

This experiment recognizes the difficulties which young people interested in science may have in choosing between a holiday and a scientific event such as the British Association. This combination, which will cost £3 10s. a week, will provide both. The camp itself has twenty-five acres of gardens and playing fields in the foothills of the Pentlands, with plenty of opportunity for outdoor activities and excursions. The general arrangements for this special holiday-with-a-purpose will be supervised by Mr. Ritchie Calder, member of the Council of the British Association and science editor of the *News Chronicle*.

Bookings can be arranged through the Workers Travel Association, Eccleston Court, Gillingham Street, London, S.W.1.

#### Professional Engineers Appointments Bureau: Activities during 1950

THE Professional Engineers Appointments Bureau, an organization which exists mainly for the placing of members of the Institutions of Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineers in suitable positions of employment, has recently reviewed its activities during 1950. The average number of engineers on the register was 471, as compared with 462 during 1949, and the total registrations to the end of the year was 1,947, of which 468 were civil, 924 mechanical, and 555 were electrical engineers. The main work of the Bureau has been concerned with engineers who are already in employment, and the majority of those unemployed are more than forty-five years of age. The real shortage is of first-rate engineers, particularly those with highly specialized experience and with outstanding academic qualifications. The number of notifications of vacancies from employers was 1,111, of which 335 were for civil, 510 for mechanical and 266 for electrical engineers. A considerable proportion of the overseas vacancies were for the Middle and Far East, India and Pakistan, and there was some difficulty in finding persons willing to go to these countries. There is always a steady demand from engineers for employment in Canada, Australia, South Africa and Europe, but, in general, few vacancies are notified from these countries; employers usually require engineers with specialized experience, and the shortage of such specialists is world-wide. In Great Britain a major difficulty in placing engineers is the acute housing shortage, which makes people reluctant to leave their present accommodation for the sake of more suitable positions in another part of the country. Other difficulties are that applicants tend to specify minimum salaries considerably in excess of what employers are prepared to offer, and employers on their part tend to demand qualifications which are unnecessarily high for the work in question. More vacancies might be filled if firms were prepared to raise the upper age-limit, though it is realized that there are problems in fitting different age-groups within an organization. The Bureau wishes to know of further facilities for practical training and postgraduate apprenticeships that exist in industry. During the year the Bureau received generous donations from employers; but, as registration and appointment fees are kept very low (£1,047 was received in all), revenue did not cover expenses. It is hoped that further donations will be forthcoming this year. The address of the Bureau is 9 Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1.

#### Osiris

THE companion volume to *Isis*, organ of the History of Science Society, is *Osiris*, of which vols. 1-7 (1936-39) were published at the expense of the editor, Dr. George Sarton, of Harvard University; then, after the Second World War, vol. 8 (1948) appeared; and the current issue (9; 1950) is published by the generosity of the St. Catherine Press, Tempelhof, Bruges. "The capacity of *Isis* being small," writes Dr. Sarton, "larger papers cannot be included in it without unbalancing the whole. The purpose of *Osiris* is to take care of the larger papers and, incidentally, to pay tribute to the main historians