

Alfred Egerton, Sir William Halcrow, Mr. O. W. Humphreys, Capt. H. L. Hitchins, Dr. R. Lessing, Dr. D. C. Martin, Prof. L. C. Martin, Sir Thomas Merton, Mr. A. J. Philpot, Mr. J. W. Ryde, Sir John Simonsen, Mr. Frank Wakeham, Dr. O. H. Wansbrough-Jones and Mr. G. A. Whipple; *Visitors*, Sir Wallace Akers, Mr. F. G. Brown, Sir Ernest Rock Carling, Mr. A. D. R. Caroe, Mr. K. S. Carpmael, Mr. J. F. Coales, Dr. A. T. Fraser, Prof. Kathleen Lonsdale, Mr. Stanley Robson, Mr. W. E. Schall, Dr. L. Simons, Dr. P. C. Spensley, Dr. Norman Stuart, Mr. M. T. Tudsbery and Dr. S. Whitehead.

### Third World Petroleum Congress

THE Third World Petroleum Congress will be held during May 28–June 6 in the Kurhaus and the Palace Hotel, Scheveningen, Netherlands (with the opening ceremony in the Ridderzaal, The Hague), under the presidency of Jonkheer O. C. A. van Lidth de Jeude, president of the Royal Netherlands Institution of Engineers. The aim of the Congress is the discussion of all technical subjects concerning the petroleum and allied industries, and to this end it will be divided into the following sections: (1) geology and geophysics; (2) drilling and production; (3) physical operations in oil processing; (4) oil processes involving chemical conversions; (5) production of chemicals from petroleum, and their properties and applications; (6) measurement and control, analysis and testing, and composition of petroleum; (7) utilization of oil products; (8) construction of equipment, and materials and corrosion; (9) transport, storage and distribution; (10) economics and statistics, documentation, and education and training. At these sectional meetings neither papers nor summaries will be read, but instead a *rapporteur* will give a general introduction of 10–15 minutes in duration, with particular emphasis on points in the papers which will be suitable for discussion. Interpreters will be available for English-speaking and French-speaking delegates. Further details can be obtained from the secretariat of the Congress at 30 Carel van Bylandtlaan, The Hague.

### Conference on Spectroscopy

A CONFERENCE on spectroscopy will be held at Basle, Switzerland, during June 28–30. It will be divided into two main sections: the first, presided over by Prof. E. Miescher, of Basle, will be on the "Experimental Study of Atomic and Molecular Spectra"; and the second, under Prof. R. Mecke, of Freiburg, on "Spectroscopy and Chemical Binding". This conference is privately sponsored, but all spectroscopists and others interested in this field are invited to participate; already a very wide attendance from all parts of the world, including Great Britain and the United States, is assured. Those wishing to read papers should communicate as soon as possible with one of the following: J. Lecomte (Paris), Prof. R. Mecke (Freiburg i. Br.), Prof. R. Miescher (Basle), G. Milazzo (Rome) or Dr. H. W. Thompson (Oxford), from whom further particulars can be obtained.

### Chemistry in the Service of Man

IN connexion with the Festival of Britain, to emphasize the outstanding part played by chemists in the cultural, industrial and economic advances of the past century, the Chemical Council has organized four public lectures on "Chemistry in the Service of Man". The lectures will be given by Prof. R. P.

Linstead, on "Chemistry and the Amenities of Life" (May 16, 3 p.m.); Sir Jack Drummond, on "Chemistry and the Food We Eat" (May 23, 3 p.m.); Prof. J. W. Cook, on "Chemistry and the Conquest of Disease" (May 30, 6 p.m.); Sir Cyril Hinshelwood, on "Chemistry and Modern Thought" (June 6, 6 p.m.). The lectures will be delivered in the Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, London, W.1. Admission is free, by tickets obtainable from: Ticket Secretary (Lectures), Chemical Council, 9–10 Savile Row, London, W.1.

### History of Pharmacy

AN exhibition on "The History of Pharmacy", organized by the Wellcome Research Institution, was opened by Sir Howard Florey, professor of pathology in the University of Oxford, on May 8 at the Institution's headquarters, 183–193 Euston Road, London, N.W.1, and will remain open to the public until September 28 (Mondays to Fridays, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.). The exhibition covers the whole field of the history of pharmacy from the earliest times to the beginnings of chemotherapy, and many rare books, prints and appliances are on show. The first two sections illustrate respectively the period from antiquity to classical times, and from the Middle Ages to the end of the seventeenth century. Succeeding sections deal with improvements in the manufacture of drugs; chemical discoveries of Priestley, Lavoisier and Dalton; development of organic chemistry; discovery of the alkaloids; introduction of anaesthetics; and development of experimental pharmacology. A final section is concerned with modern practice. Also at the Wellcome Research Institution there is a special exhibition for members of the medical and allied professions only on "The Illustration of Medical Books", which will be open (at the same times) until May 28. At the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum, at 28 Portman Square, Oxford Street, London, W.1, two current exhibitions, which are open to the general public, illustrate "Medicine in 1850" and "Prehistoric Man in Health and Sickness", and these are open until the end of May and June, respectively (Mondays to Saturdays, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.).

### Announcements

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH has been admitted to the fellowship of the Royal Society.

THE degree of doctor of science *honoris causa* of the University of Oxford has been conferred on Prof. J. H. Oort, professor of astronomy and director of the Observatory, Leyden, who is Halley Lecturer at Oxford this year.

HONORARY degrees conferred on May 1 by the University of Nottingham included the following: D.Sc.: Prof. L. Néel, professor of general physics in the University of Strasbourg; Sir Robert Robinson, Waynflete professor of chemistry in the University of Oxford; Sir George Stapledon, recently director of the Grassland Improvement Station, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

THE Senatus Academicus of the University of Edinburgh, on the recommendation of the Faculty of Medicine, has awarded the Cameron Prize in Practical Therapeutics for 1951 to Prof. T. Reichstein, professor of pharmaceutical chemistry, University of Basle, and Prof. E. C. Kendall, professor of biochemistry, Mayo Foundation, University of Minnesota, "jointly in recognition of their fundamental researches leading to the discovery of cortisone".