

chapters, dealing with content and preparation of copy, contain comments and observations of general validity. While much of this is thoroughly sound, there is little to justify commending the manual to British, as distinct from American, writers, particularly in view of the recent flow of British publications of this type, among which it should suffice to mention the "General Notes on the Preparation of Scientific Papers" issued last year by the Royal Society and which itself gives a representative list of British reference books. The bibliography included in the Illinois manual is entirely American and, even so, omits two of the best American books: S. F. Trelease's "The Scientific Paper" and J. R. Nelson's "Writing the Technical Report". There is a further reason for caution in recommending this manual to British readers. While the principles of arrangement and construction are independent of language, when it comes to the handling of words, the fact that the manual is written in English can disguise the truth that British and American writers are really dealing with two different languages. The same words quite commonly have different meanings or nuances. This is apt to give the impression, which sometimes may be quite mistaken, that American writers do not handle their tools with the same precision or show the same regard for style as their British confrères.

Physical Society: Meeting at Southampton

THE autumn provincial meeting of the Physical Society will be held in the Physics Department of University College, Southampton, during December 18-19. The meeting will be divided into three sessions on the following subjects under the direction of the persons indicated: (1) optics of metals (Prof. A. M. Taylor); (2) thermal properties and growth of crystals (Mr. S. Weintraub); and (3) complex spectra and nuclear structure (Prof. H. A. Jahn). In addition to contributions from the Departments of Mathematics and Physics of University College, Southampton, papers will be presented by members of the Physics Departments of the Universities of Birmingham, Bristol, London (Royal Holloway College and Guy's Hospital), Oxford and Reading, and of the South-West Essex Technical College, Walthamstow, the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, the Telecommunications Research Establishment, the British Scientific Instrument Research Association, and Hilger and Watts, Ltd. The meeting is open to non-members of the Society. Application forms and further information can be obtained from the Secretary-Editor of the Physical Society, 1 Lowther Gardens, Prince Consort Road, London, S.W.7.

Awards for Technical Writing on Radio

To encourage the writing and publication of articles reporting technical progress and development in radio and electronics in Great Britain, the Radio Industry Council is to award premiums of twenty-five guineas each, up to an average of six a year, to the writers of published articles which, in the opinion of a panel of judges, deserve to be commended by the industry. It is hoped in this way gradually to increase the number and standard of articles available to editors. Any non-professional writer will be eligible, and the awards will be made for articles published in Great Britain or abroad in papers or periodicals which can be bought by the public on the bookstalls or by subscription. Writers and editors

will be invited to submit published articles to the Secretary, Radio Industry Council, 59 Russell Square, London, W.C.1 (if possible, five copies of the journal, proofs or reprints), for consideration. The judges will be asked broadly to take into consideration the value of an article in making known British achievement in radio and electronics, originality of subject, technical interest and presentation and clarity. The judges will be four members of the Radio Industry Council, and Prof. Willis Jackson, professor of electrical engineering, Imperial College of Science and Technology, University of London, assisted by the editors of *Wireless World* and *Electronic Engineering*.

Gas Council Research Committee

ADDITIONS to the membership of the Gas Council Research Committee have been appointed as follows: J. H. Dyde, president of the Institution of Gas Engineers; G. le B. Diamond, chairman of the West Midlands Gas Board; Prof. F. H. Garner, professor of chemical engineering, University of Birmingham, and part-time member of the West Midlands Gas Board; and Dr. F. J. Dent, director of the Gas Council Birmingham Research Station. The Committee was established in September of last year with the responsibility of advising the Gas Council on all matters connected with research, drawing up programmes and reviewing progress from time to time.

Announcements

THE American Society for the Study of Sterility is offering a prize, with a cash award of 1,000 dollars, for the most outstanding contribution to the subject of infertility and sterility, as judged from among essays submitted for this competition, which must be received not later than March 1, 1952. Further particulars can be obtained from the Society at 20 Magnolia Terrace, Springfield, Massachusetts.

APPLICATIONS for grants from the Clough Memorial Research Fund of the Edinburgh Geological Society are invited for the period April 1, 1952-March 31, 1953. This Fund was instituted in 1935 for the purpose of encouraging geological research in Scotland and the North of England, the latter being defined as comprising the counties of Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland, Westmorland and Yorkshire. Applications must be in the hands of the Secretary, Clough Memorial Research Fund Committee, Edinburgh Geological Society, Synod Hall, Castle Terrace, Edinburgh, 1, not later than March 1, 1952.

THE Institution of Naval Architects has made the following awards: 1851 Exhibition Commissioners Postgraduate Research Scholarship in Naval Architecture (1949), of £500 a year, to I. M. Yuille, for one further year; Sir William White Postgraduate Scholarship in Naval Architecture (1951), of £150 a year for two years, to M. C. Eames, of King's College, Newcastle upon Tyne; Aluminium Development Association Research Scholarship in the Application of Light Alloys to Ship Construction (1949), of £400 a year, to J. B. Caldwell for one further year; Elgar Scholarship in Naval Architecture (1951), of £175 a year for four years at the University of Glasgow, to R. R. Phillips, of H.M. Dockyard, Devonport; Vickers-Armstrongs Scholarship in Naval Architecture (1951), of £220 a year for three years at King's College, Newcastle upon Tyne, to G. A. Smith, of Aldous Successors, Brightlingsea.