

Research Grants of the U.S. National Science Foundation

THE National Science Foundation (2144 California Street, N.W., Washington 25, D.C.) has recently made forty-one science research grants, totalling 406,660 dollars, to institutions in the United States. This is the second group of research awards to be announced this year under the Foundation's programme for the support of basic research, bringing the total number of research grants so far announced to sixty-nine. The fields included are biochemistry, biophysics, chemistry, comparative physiology, developmental biology, endocrinology, engineering, enzyme chemistry, experimental plant biology, genetics, microbiology, oceanography, physics, pharmacology and systematic biology. The duration of research grants in this group ranges from one to five years, with an average length of 1.8 years; the average grant amounts to 9,919 dollars a year. These grants are in addition to the graduate science fellowships recently announced by the Foundation (see *Nature*, May 3, p. 737).

Lady Tata Memorial Trust : Awards

THE following awards have been made by the Lady Tata Memorial Trust for research on leukaemia and other blood diseases, to be conducted in the places shown during the academic year beginning October 1: *Grants for research expenses or for scientific assistance*, Dr. P. Atanasiu (Paris), Dr. Astrid Fagraeus and Dr. Bo Thorell (Stockholm), Dr. N. G. Harboe (Copenhagen), Dr. C. Merskey (Cape Town), Prof. C. Oberling (Paris) and Dr. C. C. Ungley (Newcastle upon Tyne); *Part-time personal grant*, Dr. J. B. G. Dausset (Paris); *Scholarships*, Dr. J. Kieler (Aarhus), Dr. R. Robineaux (Paris) and Dr. Ragna Rask-Nielsen (Copenhagen). In addition, a senior research fellowship has been awarded to Dr. A. R. Gopal-Ayengar, chief research cytologist at the Tata Memorial Hospital, Bombay, for work at the Chester Beatty Research Institute, Royal Cancer Hospital, London, on the biochemistry of normal and malignant cells.

Exhibition of Alchemical Books at the Science Museum, London

THE Science Museum, South Kensington, London, S.W.7, is going to have a series of special exhibitions of historic books and documents relative to science and technology, and the first of these, entitled "A Hundred Alchemical Books", will be opened on June 25 and will remain on view, free to the general public, until September. Alchemy, the supposed art of transmuting base metals into noble, was the forerunner of chemistry and contributed to it most of its laboratory technique and even the idea of a laboratory itself. Scarcely any material relics of alchemy have survived, and the subject is therefore one to be most fittingly presented by an exhibition of books. The majority of alchemical books are well illustrated, not only with pictures of alchemical apparatus and laboratories, but also with the curious and often beautiful symbols in terms of which the alchemists understood Nature and their art. These symbolic pictures have for some years attracted the interest of the psychologists, especially of the school of C. G. Jung. The books in this collection, some of which are of extreme rarity, have been drawn mainly from the Science Library, but a number are from the library of the Museum of the History of Science, Oxford,

including the loan collection of H.S.H. Prince von Knyphausen; from the collection of Mr. G. Heym; and from a few other donors, private and public. Some modern books on the subject are also included.

Announcements

LORD CHERWELL is to open the new Physics and Engineering Laboratories at King's College, University of London, on June 27.

MR. D. M. REID, senior biology master at Harrow School, has been awarded the Retzius Medal of the Royal Physiographical Society of Lund, for his zoological investigations and services to research workers from Scandinavia and particularly from Lund.

THE British Social Biology Council is to hold a gala night in the Zoological Gardens on July 11, from 7.30 until 10 p.m. Further information can be obtained from the Appeals Secretary, British Social Biology Council, Tavistock House South, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

THE title of reader in inorganic chemistry in the University of Nottingham has been conferred on Dr. C. C. Addison, from August 1, 1952. Dr. Addison was appointed lecturer in inorganic chemistry at Nottingham early in 1946, and his personal research work has been mainly concerned with surface chemistry.

THE fifth award of the Oliver Memorial Fund (£50) will be made to a British subject for a notable contribution to the research, organization or donor aspect of blood transfusion. Applications and suggestions should be sent, before July 31, to the honorary treasurer, Mr. F. W. Mills, c/o National Provincial Bank, Ltd., Holborn Circus, London, E.C.1.

THE J. G. Graves medical research fellowship of the University of Sheffield has been awarded to P. G. Walker, of the Rowett Institute of Animal Nutrition, Aberdeen, who will work primarily in the Department of Biochemistry. Dr. S. I. Evans has resigned from his post as lecturer in fuel technology in the University on being appointed area chief scientist in the East Midlands Division, National Coal Board.

THE Committee for the 1952 Radar Weather Conference will be holding its third annual radar weather conference in McGill University, Montreal 2, during September 15-17. The conference will follow the pattern of the previous two in providing symposia on radar meteorology and related studies, and informal discussions of recent advances. Further information can be obtained from the Committee at McGill University.

A SYMPOSIUM on "Present Problems in Nutritional Research", under the auspices of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences, will be held in Basle during October 1-4. Seventeen papers will be read by leading experts in the various fields of nutrition from Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Sweden and Switzerland. The local organizer of the symposium is Prof. F. Verzár, of the Physiological Laboratory, University of Basle, to whom all inquiries should be addressed. Further information about the International Union of Nutritional Sciences can be obtained from the honorary secretary, Dr. Leslie J. Harris, Dunn Nutritional Laboratory, Milton Road, Cambridge.