

United States. A number of visits, including one to the new laboratories of the Institut de Recherches de la Sidérurgie, at Saint-Germain-en-Laye, will also be arranged. Other visits and a banquet will be held during the week. Those desirous of attending the meeting should write to the secretary of the Society at 25 rue de Clichy, Paris 9^e, from whom all further information can be obtained.

Colonial Service: Recent Appointments

THE following appointments have recently been made in the Colonial Service: D. R. N. Brown (agricultural officer, Uganda) and D. F. Stewart (senior agricultural officer, Uganda), assistant directors of agriculture (field), Uganda; J. C. K. Marshall and F. S. Walker (senior assistant conservators of forests, Federation of Malaya), conservators of forests, Federation of Malaya; W. H. Reeve (chief geologist, Northern Rhodesia), director of the Geological Survey, Northern Rhodesia; Dr. J. A. Simpson (biochemist, Federation of Malaya), chief biochemist, Federation of Malaya; R. A. Robinson, plant pathologist, Kenya; R. J. Isaacs, livestock officer, Nyasaland; I. A. D. MacKenzie, assistant conservator of forests, Nigeria; J. G. McGregor and B. Woodacre, assistant meteorologists, West African Meteorological Service, Nigeria.

The Night Sky in September

FULL moon occurs on Sept. 4d. 03h. 19m., U.T., and new moon on Sept. 19d. 07h. 22m. The following conjunctions with the moon take place: Sept. 9d. 03h., Jupiter 7° S.; Sept. 21d. 02h., Saturn 7° N.; Sept. 21d. 14h., Venus 6° N.; Sept. 25d. 18h., Mars 3° N. In addition to these conjunctions with the moon, Venus is in conjunction with Saturn on Sept. 15d. 23h., Venus being 1.6° S. Mercury is a morning star, rising at 3h. 55m. and 4h. 50m. at the beginning and middle of the month, respectively, in the latter case about fifty minutes before sunrise, and after this it becomes more difficult to observe. On Sept. 6d. 20h. it is in conjunction with Regulus, Mercury being 0.9° N. Venus, an evening star, sets at 19h. 20m., 18h. 55m. and 18h. 25m. on September 1, 15 and 30, respectively. Its stellar magnitude is -3.3, and more than 90 per cent of its illuminated disk is visible. Mars, an evening star, sets at 21h. 10m., 20h. 45m. and 20h. 25m. at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively, its stellar magnitude varying from 0.4 to 0.6. At the beginning of September the planet is a little south of β Scorpii, and about a week later it is north of Antares, magnitude 1, with which it could be confused owing to its ruddy colour; but Mars is a little brighter than the star. Jupiter is visible throughout the night, its times of rising being 21h. 05m., 20h. 10m. and 19h. 10m. on September 1, 15 and 30, respectively, stellar magnitude -2.2. Saturn, an evening star, is too close to the sun for favourable observation, setting less than an hour after the sun during the greater portion of the month. No occultations of stars worth observing occur at Greenwich during September. Vernal equinox occurs on Sept. 23d. 02h.

Announcements

PROF. F. BLAKEMORE, professor of veterinary medicine in the University of Bristol, has been appointed a member of the Agricultural Improvement Council for England and Wales in succession to Sir Thomas Dalling, who is taking up a post in the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization.

DR. G. P. CONTRACTOR, acting director of the National Metallurgical Laboratory, Tatanagar, India, has been appointed to the additional post of ex-officio director of inspection (metallurgy), Tatanagar, in the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals, of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply, India.

THE Alvarenga Prize for 1952 of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia has been awarded to Dr. Norbert Wiener, professor of mathematics in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, for his contribution to the field of cybernetics. The Prize is an annual award and was established in 1883 by the will of Pedro Francisco DaCosta Alvarenga, of Lisbon, Portugal, an associate fellow of the College.

THE annual exhibition of the Amateur Entomologists' Society will be held at Buckingham Gate Central Schools, Wilfred Street, London, S.W.1, on September 27, starting at 2 p.m. The Society welcomes anyone interested in entomology. Further particulars can be obtained from K. H. Bobe, 19 Hengist Avenue, London, S.E.12.

THE fourth exhibition and symposium of the Electrical and Electronics Section of the Scientific Instrument Manufacturers' Association will be held in the Examination Hall, 8-11 Queen Square, London, W.C.1, during September 2-5. Further information can be obtained from the secretary, A. G. Peacock, Scientific Instrument Manufacturers' Association, 20 Queen Anne Street, London, W.1.

THE firm of W. Watson and Sons, Ltd., is holding an exhibition on "The Microscope in Industry and Research" in the Lecture Room of the New Horticultural Hall, Westminster, London, S.W.1, during September 15-19 (September 15, 2-6 p.m.; September 16-18, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; and September 19, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.). A brochure referring to the exhibition can be obtained from W. Watson and Sons, Ltd., 313 High Holborn, London, W.C.1.

THE Third International Congress on Astronautics will be held in Stuttgart during September 1-6. Further information can be obtained from the Gesellschaft für Weltraumforschung, Greutterstrasse 18, Stuttgart-Weilimdorf.

A SYMPOSIUM on "The Applications of Photography to Research at the University" will be held by the Scientific and Technical Group of the Royal Photographic Society on October 4 in the Zoology Department, Downing Street, Cambridge. The wide variety of uses made of photographic techniques in the research work carried out in the University of Cambridge will be considered, including the topics of high-speed photography, electron microscopy, colour photography and flash cinematography. Brief papers will be read, with time for discussion after each. Further details can be obtained from the honorary secretary, Mr. D. H. O. John, c/o May and Laker, Ltd., Dagenham, Essex.

IN the obituary appreciation of Prof. H. Kramers published in *Nature* of July 19, we inserted the description "professor of theoretical physics in the Technical University of Delft". Prof. L. Rosenfeld writes: "from 1936 until his death, Kramers's main position was that of professor of theoretical physics in the University of Leyden. It is true that he also held concurrently a so-called 'special professorship' at the Technical University of Delft, but this was a secondary position, involving only very slight duties."