

entered. These cards will form the basis for an alphabetical file of species and a taxonomical cross-reference list. In addition, the card will indicate where the culture may be obtained. Upon request for a certain species, a photostatic copy of the master card will be sent upon payment of a nominal fee. This information will be made available to all who are interested in obtaining cultures. The chairman of the Committee on Cultures of Protozoa is Dr. L. Provasoli, Haskins Laboratories, 305 East 43rd Street, New York 17, N.Y.

#### U.S. National Science Foundation : Research Grants

THE National Science Foundation (2,144 California Street, N.W., Washington 25, D.C.) has announced the award of the final group of research grants, approved during the fiscal year which ended on June 30, in its programme for the support of basic research. This group consists of twenty-nine grants, totalling 263,535 dollars, for biological and physical sciences, and the fields covered are as follows: astronomy, chemistry, developmental biology, earth sciences, engineering, environmental biology, experimental psychology, genetic biology, mathematics, microbiology, molecular biology, physics, regulatory biology, and systematic biology. Altogether ninety-eight grants have been awarded during the past year, totalling 1,181,175 dollars, and these were distributed to sixty institutions in thirty-five States and Hawaii, the average grant amounting to 11,032 dollars for 1.9 years, or about 5,800 dollars a year. While grants were selected primarily on the basis of scientific merit, the Foundation is attempting in its programme for the support of research to encourage the development of research activities in smaller institutions throughout the United States. This policy is aimed not only at increasing the research potential of the nation, but also at improving the teaching of science at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. Application forms for both predoctoral and postdoctoral graduate fellowships for the academic year 1953-54 can be obtained after October 1 from the Foundation. Completed applications must be returned to the Fellowship Office, National Research Council, by January 5, 1953. The special examination for predoctoral candidates will take place at various places throughout the United States on January 31, 1953.

#### National Smoke Abatement Society

THE annual conference of the National Smoke Abatement Society will be held at Portsmouth during September 24-26 under the presidency of Alderman F. E. Tylecote, of Manchester, emeritus professor of medicine in the University of Manchester. The Des Voeux Memorial Lecture this year will be by W. R. Hornby Steer, standing counsel to the Society, on "Smoke and the Law". The programme includes reports on air pollution and cancer of the lung (Dr. Percy Stocks), prevention of domestic smoke (Dr. J. L. Burns), work of the Fuel Research Station (Department of Scientific and Industrial Research) on atmospheric pollution (Dr. E. T. Wilkins), a session on incentives for the prevention of industrial and domestic air pollution, and a discussion on pollution problems in the iron and steel industry, to be opened by Prof. R. J. Sarjant. Further information can be obtained from the Society, Chandos House, Buckingham Gate, Westminster, London, S.W.1.

#### Announcements

WE regret to announce the death, on September 15, of Sir Richard Gregory, Bart., F.R.S., editor of *Nature* from 1919 until the end of 1938, aged eighty-eight.

THE Medical Research Council has appointed Dr. J. C. Gilson to be director of its Pneumoconiosis Research Unit at Llandough Hospital, near Penarth, Glamorganshire. Dr. Gilson, who was formerly assistant director of the Unit, takes the place of Dr. Charles Fletcher, who resigned on August 31 to take up an appointment at the Postgraduate Medical School of London.

A JOINT Committee consisting of representatives of the Royal Society and the University of Cambridge has appointed Dr. R. J. Eden, of the University of Cambridge, to be Smithson Research Fellow, for four years in the first instance, from October 1. Dr. Eden will work in the University of Cambridge on the theory of fundamental particles.

THE biennial Conference of the Oil and Colour Chemists' Association will be held at Eastbourne during June 3-5, 1953. There will be three technical sessions, each composed of three papers, which will be under the general title of "The Optical Properties of Films of Surface Coating Materials". These papers are being arranged by the Honorary Research and Development Officer of the Association, Mr. P. J. Gay, Hangers Paints, Ltd., Stoneferry Works, Hull.

THE tenth annual meeting of the Electron Microscope Society of America will be held at the Statler Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio, during November 6-8. Programmes and abstracts of papers are available from C. E. Willoughby, DuPont Experimental Station, Wilmington 98, Delaware. Information about local arrangements can be obtained from Mrs. Mary S. Jaffe, LDL-85, General Electric Company, Nela Park, Cleveland 12, Ohio.

A NEW multiple fellowship for long-range investigations in synthetic organic chemistry, with general emphasis on chemotherapy and in particular the preparation of compounds for combating viruses and tumours, has been established at the Mellon Institute of Industrial Research, Pittsburgh, by the firm of Parke, Davis and Co., of Detroit. The leader of the research group is Dr. A. M. Moore, who is a specialist in the synthesis of potential drugs and in the classification of organic compounds, and with him are three senior Fellows (Drs. R. S. Tipson, Alice G. Renfrew and M. S. Morgan) and one Fellow (Pauline C. Piatt). Several other scientific workers and assistants are also joining the group.

WE have received from Messrs. J. E. Buck and Co. a convenient little map measure which will be very useful in measuring the distance of one's route on a one-inch or smaller-scale map. The instrument, which easily goes in the vest pocket, is made of plastic material covering metal wheels. It is set for a scale of one inch to a mile. This measure can be obtained direct from the makers at 47 Brewer Street, Piccadilly, W.1 (5s., post paid).

ERRATUM. In the communication "Micro-spherical Aggregation of Barium Sulphate" in *Nature* of September 6, p. 423, by D. I. Stock, in column 2, line 3, for "of the spheres" read "of the barium sulphate within the spheres".