

progress and problems, including the development of the mineral resources of the British Commonwealth of Nations. The programme will be divided into five parts: pre-sessional visit in Tasmania (April 12-19); inaugural meeting and other official functions, together with technical sessions, in Melbourne (April 20-25); visit to Canberra (April 26-27); further technical sessions in Sydney and tours in New South Wales, South Australia and, if desired, Queensland or Western Australia (April 28-May 23); journey to New Zealand inspecting coal and mineral fields in South Island, followed by a conference in Dunedin and then visits to North Island. The main section of the technical proceedings will consist of a series of volumes dealing in an analytical and comparative manner with Australian deposits and practices, as follows: (1) geology of Australian ore deposits; (2) mining methods; (3) milling methods; (4) extraction metallurgy—(a) ferrous, (b) non-ferrous; (5) miscellaneous and general; (6) coal; and (7) general handbook. In addition, literature describing equipment and practices in the various important mining centres will be available. Further information about the Congress can be obtained from the Secretary, Fifth Empire Mining and Metallurgical Congress, Osborne House, 399 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

#### International Fertility Association

IN Rio de Janeiro last year, delegates from twelve nations founded a new medical society to be known as the International Fertility Association. The aims of this organization are fourfold: to study the problems of fertility and sterility in their broad implications; to stimulate scientific investigation and social awareness in the field of fertility and sterility; to standardize nomenclature, terminology, tests and evaluation of diagnostic methods and therapy throughout the world; and to hold regular international congresses in different parts of the world. The first World Congress on Fertility and Sterility, sponsored by the Association, will be held in conjunction with the American Society for the Study of Sterility, in New York City in May 1953. Further information can be obtained from the secretary-general of the Association, Dr. Carlos D. Guerrero, Miguel E. Schulz No. 19, Mexico, D. F., or from the associate secretary-general, Dr. Abner I. Weisman, 1160 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y.

#### Colonial Service: Recent Appointments

THE following appointments in the Colonial Service have recently been announced: C. A. Collins (inspector of plants and produce, Gold Coast), agricultural officer, Gold Coast; R. G. Heath (chief field officer, Federation of Malaya), deputy director of agriculture, Federation of Malaya; J. D. Jameson (senior botanist, Uganda), senior research officer, Uganda; R. G. Sangster (senior assistant conservator of forests, Uganda), conservator of forests, Tanganyika; Sir James Kirkpatrick (game ranger, Kenya), senior game ranger, Kenya; Z. Wolak (assistant livestock officer, Nyasaland), livestock officer, Nyasaland; W. R. Asfour, agricultural superintendent, British Guiana; D. R. Goodrich, agricultural officer, Nigeria; K. W. Harker, pasture agronomist, Agricultural Department, Uganda; T. E. F. Neavind, agricultural officer, Uganda; J. E. Huddart and C. Walker, veterinary officers, Kenya; D. A. B. Llewellyn, scientific officer, East Africa High Commission.

#### Announcements

MR. HAROLD JAMES PAGE, principal of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture at Trinidad since January 1947 (see *Nature*, 158, 410; 1946), is resigning that appointment at the end of October in order to join the staff of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

THE Lord President of the Council has appointed Sir Wallace Akers, a director of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., and Sir Philip Johnson, a director of Hawthorn Leslie and Co., Ltd., and chairman of the Parsons and Marine Engineering Turbine Research and Development Association, to be members of the Advisory Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. Prof. P. I. Dee has retired from the Council on completion of his term of office. Sir Hugh Warren has resigned his membership of the Council because of the pressure of other duties.

THE Council of the Institute of Metal Finishing announces that the Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co., Ltd., Prize is to be awarded to Mr. W. A. Marshall for his paper on "Non-Electrolytic Smoothing Treatment for Steel". The Johnson Matthey Silver Medal has not been awarded this year, no paper in the field covered by the terms of the award having been received. The Medal is offered for a paper dealing with any aspect of electrodeposition of precious metals.

SIR FRANK WHITTLE has been awarded the Churchill Gold Medal of the Society of Engineers. The award has been approved by Mr. Winston Churchill, who is an honorary fellow of the Society, and is made "for the most noteworthy development in engineering or contribution to contemporary engineering".

THE reconstruction of the war-damaged buildings of Bedford College for Women (University of London) will be celebrated at a meeting in the College on October 28 at 3.0 p.m. Addresses will be delivered by the Chancellor of the University and the Principal of the College; Queen Mary, patroness of the College, hopes to visit the College during the afternoon.

PRIZES of value up to £150, with a maximum of three awards, are being offered for 1953 by the Council of the British Plastics Federation, as administrators of the Bowen (Cables and Plastics) Prize Fund. The awards will be made for papers on original investigations in engineering and/or physical problems relating to compression, transfer or injection moulding. Further information can be obtained from the General Manager of the British Plastics Federation, 47/48 Piccadilly, London, W.1, to whom contributions for the prizes must be submitted not later than July 31, 1953.

AN international congress on medical librarianship will be held in London during July 1953, with Sir Cecil Wakeley, president of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, as honorary president. The congress will include formal sessions for reading and discussion of papers, visits to medical libraries and social functions, and also, it is hoped, an exhibition of medical books and periodicals and library equipment. All those actively engaged or interested in medical librarianship are invited to participate. Further information can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, First International Congress on Medical Librarianship, c/o London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, London, W.C.1.