

20h. 50m. at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively, and is conspicuous in the western sky for some time after sunset. The visible portion of the illuminated disk varies between 0.332 and 0.070 and the stellar magnitude averages about -4.2 , the greatest brilliancy (magnitude -4.3) being attained on March 8. Mars is visible in the early part of the night, and sets at 20h. 55m. approximately throughout the month. About the middle of the month it is a little north of α Piscium, and later it moves into the constellation of Aries. Jupiter sets at 23h. 35m., 23h. 20m. and 22h. 15m. on March 1, 15 and 31, respectively, and lies a little south of δ Arietis during the greater part of the month. Saturn rises at 21h. 50m., 20h. 50m. and 19h. 35m. at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively, its stellar magnitude being 0.6, and lies a little north-east of Spica. Occultations of stars brighter than magnitude 6 are as follows, observations being made at Greenwich: March 19d. 21h. 15.9m., 16 Taur. (*D*); March 19d. 21h. 23.5m., 17 Taur. (*D*); March 19d. 21h. 34.6m., η Taur. (*D*); March 19d. 21h. 42.9m., 20 Taur. (*D*); March 19d. 22h. 03.1m., 21 Taur. (*D*); March 19d. 22h. 34.0m., η Taur. (*D*); March 22d. 23h. 50.6m., ϵ Gemi. (*D*); March 23d. 0h. 48.0m., ϵ Gemi. (*R*); March 26d. 0h. 53.4m., π Canc. (*D*). *R* and *D* refer to reappearance and disappearance, respectively. Vernal equinox occurs on March 20d. 22h.

Announcements

MR. DONALD W. HUDSON, chairman of the National Pharmaceutical Union and a member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, has been appointed an Officier de l'Ordre de la Santé Publique in recognition of his services as chairman of the Franco-British Pharmaceutical Commission.

MR. H. TREFOR JONES, deputy provincial director, Yorks and Lancs Province of the National Agricultural Advisory Service, has been appointed provincial director of the Province in succession to the late Mr. D. H. Findlay.

MR. J. RANNIE, welding engineer to John Brown and Co., Ltd., of Clydebank, has been awarded the William J. Larke Medal for 1952 of the Institute of Welding for his paper "Shipyard Changes with special reference to Steelwork Construction in Oil Tankers".

DR. C. M. WHITTAKER, an honorary fellow of the Textile Institute and former director of Courtaulds, Ltd., will deliver the Mather Lecture for 1953 of the Institute, following the annual general meeting at the University of Bristol on April 29. Dr. Whittaker will speak on "Common Sense on Colour in Textiles".

THE Institute of Metals has awarded the 1952 W. H. A. Robertson Medal and a premium of fifty guineas to Mr. J. F. Waight, an engineer of the West Midlands Gas Board, for his paper on "Gas Equipment for the Thermal Treatment of Non-Ferrous Metals and Alloys" (*J. Inst. Metals*, 80, 269; 1952). This Medal, which was given by W. H. A. Robertson and Co., Ltd., is awarded annually for the encouragement of the writing and publication in the Institute's *Journal* of papers on engineering aspects of non-ferrous metallurgy.

TRINITY COLLEGE, Cambridge, is offering as in former years a number of research studentships and Dominion and Colonial exhibitions, which will be

tenable from next October. The research studentships, which will not exceed £375 a year for a maximum of three years, are open to graduates of universities other than Cambridge (non-graduates of exceptional ability will be considered) who are not more than twenty-six years of age (although time spent in national service may be deducted) and who have not already spent more than two years on advanced study or research. The exhibitions are for students from the British Dominions and Colonies who intend to read for an honours degree, and are worth £40 a year. Applications, to be sent through the head of the candidate's university, must reach the Senior Tutor, Trinity College, Cambridge, not later than May 1.

THE Massachusetts Institute of Technology is offering a number of graduate and advanced research fellowships for study and research in the field of electronics. Graduate student fellowships are for work leading to advanced degrees in physics or electrical engineering and are worth 1,500–2,400 dollars a year; advanced research fellowships, which are worth upwards of 3,000 dollars a year, are for those possessing a Ph.D. degree or its equivalent who wish to pursue advanced studies and research in the field of electronics at the Institute. Applications for these two classes of fellowships should be made to the Director, Research Laboratory of Electronics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass., at least four months prior to the intended date of entrance. A limited number of positions are also available for students to work as research assistants in the Research Laboratory of Electronics while at the same time pursuing a graduate programme of studies on a part-time basis; further information regarding this scheme can be obtained from the Director of the Laboratory.

A FULL-DAY conference will be held by the Northern Branch of Aslib on March 12 in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, Stoke on Trent, under the chairmanship of Colonel G. A. Wade, chairman and managing director of the Wade Group of Potteries. Four lectures will be given as follows: the Iron Library, by W. B. Ingram (Britannia Iron and Steel Works, Ltd., Bedford); the British Ceramic Research Association Information Department, by A. E. Dodd (British Ceramic Research Association); historic pottery, by G. I. V. Bemrose (curator, Stoke on Trent Public Museum); and Aslib, what it is and what it does, by Leslie Wilson (director of Aslib). The fee for the conference is 3s. 6d. Visits have been arranged to various firms and institutions on March 13. Further information can be obtained from Dr. J. C. Withers, "Penmere", 11 Highfield Park, Heaton Mersey, Stockport.

A REPORT of the proceedings of the British Commonwealth Scientific Conference, held in Australia, February–March 1952 (see *Nature*, 169, 856; 1952), has now been published. Besides the opening address of the Prime Minister of Australia and Sir Ben Lockspeiser's reply, and the preliminary statement by the chairman, Dr. I. Clunies Ross, it includes the recommendations and resolutions of the Conference and the text of a statement on the national organization of research adopted by the Conference in full session. Appended are a list of committees and their composition and a summary of action taken on resolutions of the British Commonwealth Scientific Official Conference, 1946.