

Science Abstracts on Index Cards

FROM time to time the Editor of *Science Abstracts* is asked whether an edition printed on index cards can be produced; the reply has hitherto been that the high cost of production and the limited circulation of such an edition would make the subscription-rate prohibitively high—in the neighbourhood of £40 per year for Section B (Electrical Engineering) alone. As an alternative, an edition printed on one side only was made available for anyone wanting to compile a card index of abstracts. However, a recent survey has shown that the labour of cutting and mounting single-sided issues may, in fact, raise the overall cost to a figure comparable with that of a card edition, which would, if so, be preferable for other reasons. Naturally, no precise estimate of the subscription for a card edition can be made until the probable extent of the circulation is known. To enable such an estimate to be made, the Editor of *Science Abstracts*, Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, London, W.C.2, would be glad to hear from those willing to subscribe up to £40 per year for *Science Abstracts*, Section B, printed on index cards, 3 in. × 5 in. A similar card issue of Section A (Physics) could also be contemplated if sufficient demand was known to exist.

Southern Regional Council for Further Education

THE fifth annual report of the Southern Regional Council for Further Education shows that, besides its regional academic board, many industrial and advisory committees have been set up since the Council was established in 1947. Most of the work of the advisory committee is concerned with trying to reconcile the requirements of industry, the requirements of students and the economic provision of further education facilities. Among the Council's activities during 1952 have been the sponsoring of courses in teaching methods which have been arranged for technical and commercial teachers. A number of conferences have also been arranged to make recommendations on metallurgical education facilities required in the region, and to discuss facilities for training agricultural craftsmen and young men in the heating and ventilating engineering industry. The Council has also published papers on the future development of higher technological education; the education and training of technologists in engineering, building, physics, chemistry and agriculture; recruitment of staff for technical colleges; instruction of rural craft workers; courses for building craftsmen; part-time instruction for agriculturists, horticulturists and domestic producers; agricultural education; and education for industrial citizenship.

Extra-mural Function of Universities

IN an address to the Liverpool Branch of the Association of University Teachers, Mr. Thomas Kelly, the director of extra-mural studies in the University of Liverpool, indicated that the extra-mural task of a university is to make the maximum impact on the region within which it stands. The means will vary—classes; lecture courses, long and short; single lectures, recitals; exhibitions—all will have their place. In the vocational field, the university should limit its extra-mural provision to work which cannot easily be provided by other agencies; in the non-vocational field, it should seek to make provision for all groups able to profit by its services. Standards will look after themselves if the right tutors are

appointed. This is the crux of all extra-mural work, and all tutors and lecturers need to be people of special qualifications. Because of this, the extra-mural resources of a university are necessarily limited, and the major task of an extra-mural department is the organization of these scarce resources in the most effective manner. A secondary task is that of studying the history, theory and techniques of adult education itself, and providing facilities for the training of tutors (*Univ. Rev.*, 25, No. 2; February 1953).

International Congress on Electroacoustics

AN International Congress on Electroacoustics will be held in the Netherlands during June 16–24 under the auspices of the International Commission on Acoustics of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics. The Congress will open in the Hague on June 16 and on the following day will move to Delft, where most of the technical sessions will be held, but there will also be technical sessions (and excursions) in Hilversum and Eindhoven. The Congress will be made up of seven sections, each with a chairman who will give a general review of recent developments in the field (so arranged that all members will be able to be present), and these reviews will then be followed by individual papers and discussions. The sections, with the chairman shown in brackets, are as follows: (1) sound recording (R. Vermeulen, Netherlands); (2) public address systems (E. Meyer, Germany); (3) acoustic measurements (L. L. Beranek, United States); (4) hearing-aids and audiometers (P. Chavasse, France); (5) electroacoustics in ultrasonics (G. Bradfield, Great Britain); (6) electroacoustics applied to musical instruments (E. G. Richardson, Great Britain); and (7) sound insulation of light-weight structures (C. W. Kosten, Netherlands). The last-named section will be in the form of a symposium. The official languages of the Congress will be English, French and German. Summaries of the papers will be circulated in advance. Application forms for membership and further information can be obtained from P. A. de Lange, Organizing Secretary of the Electroacoustics Congress, Mijnbouwplein 11, Delft.

Chemical Meetings in Paris during June

THE second Salon de la Chimie will be held during June 18–29 in the Parc des Expositions, Paris, in conjunction with the next session of the Rassemblement des Arts Chimiques. The Salon will be organized by the Société de Chimie Industrielle, which this year will hold its twenty-sixth international congress of industrial chemistry during June 21–27 as a part of the Salon; other chemical bodies will similarly profit by the occasion by holding meetings at the same time, among which will be the following: the second session of chemical engineering, the seventh international congress of aesthetics and cosmetology, and the second symposium on proximate and functional analysis. The Salon will be divided into five sections: laboratory work and apparatus; chemical engineering; raw materials and products; organization, documentation, hygiene, etc.; and plastics. Further information of all these events can be obtained from the Secretary of the Société de Chimie Industrielle, 28 rue Saint-Dominique, Paris 7^e.

Commonwealth Fund Fellowships for Study in the United States

THE Commonwealth Fund has awarded fellowships, tenable in American universities for one year