

correspondents, editors of learned journals, etc.). The first twenty-two pages list the names and addresses of 126 chemical manufacturers, with the name and telephone number of an individual (often two names are given) who is authorized to supply information. A similar short section of two pages follows in which thirteen chemical trade associations are listed, dealing with special sections of the chemical and closely allied industries. The third section, consisting of seven pages, is an alphabetical list of chemical products, each one being indexed to at least one code number that represents the firm handling the product. Finally comes the fourth section, forty-five pages long, which contains a list of proprietary and trade names, and opposite each entry is the chemical name and the firm owning the copyright. Inquiries relating to this booklet should be addressed to the Association at 166 Piccadilly, London, W.1.

Announcements

PROF. F. J. M. STRATON, formerly professor of astrophysics and director of the Solar Physics Observatory in the University of Cambridge, has been elected president of the Society for Psychical Research in succession to Dr. Gilbert Murray.

THE following appointments have been made in the University of London: Dr. C. B. Allsopp, reader in physics at Guy's Hospital Medical School, to the University chair of physics applied to medicine, tenable at the School; Dr. E. M. Crook, senior lecturer in the Department of Biochemistry at University College, London, to the University readership in biochemistry, tenable at the College.

THE second British Instrument Industries' Exhibition will be held in the National Hall, Olympia, London, during June 30–July 11. The Exhibition will cover all spheres of instrumentation in industry, medicine, research and education. The organizers of the Exhibition are F. W. Bridges and Sons, Ltd., Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2.

THE North-Western Branch of the Institution of Electronics will be holding its eighth annual exhibition of electronic devices at the College of Technology, Sackville Street, Manchester, during July 15 (12–10 p.m.), July 16–17 (10 a.m.–10 p.m.), July 18 (10 a.m.–7 p.m.), July 20 (10 a.m.–10 p.m.) and July 21 (10 a.m.–9 p.m.). In addition to the usual commercial section of the exhibition, there will be a scientific and industrial research section, incorporating exhibits from research associations and the universities. Copies of the exhibition catalogue (1s. 6d. post free) will be available early in July. Admission tickets (available after June 1) and further information can be obtained from the secretary, W. Birtwistle, 17 Blackwater Street, Rochdale, Lanes.

A CONFERENCE on nuclear physics at intermediate energies will be held by the University of Pittsburgh during June 4–6, the provisional list of topics to be covered being beta-decay, nuclear reactions and scattering at intermediate energies, energy levels of light nuclei, and photo-induced reactions. Further information can be obtained from Dr. E. Gerjuoy, Department of Physics, University, Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

LAST year, a meeting for Nobel prize-winners in chemistry was held at Lindau, Bavaria (see *Nature*, 169, 868; 1952), and was attended by nearly a

thousand visitors. A similar meeting is being arranged this year, at which Nobel prize-winners in physics will be asked to give addresses; it will be held during June 29–July 2.

A POSTGRADUATE summer school in optical crystallographic methods, organized by the Department of Inorganic and Physical Chemistry of the University of Leeds in association with the Department of Adult Education and Extra-Mural Studies, will be held in the University during August 31–September 11. The course, which will be similar to those held in 1951 and 1952, will provide basic training in the theory and the practical use of the polarizing microscope for the study of crystals and other birefringent materials, and in the applications of the instrument in various branches of science and technology. The general aspects will be dealt with during the first week, and during the second students will specialize in their particular group; for example, chemical, mineralogical or biological. The fee for the course is 15 guineas. Residence is available at a cost of £10. Application forms (to be completed by May 11) and further information can be obtained from the Secretary, Department of Adult Education and Extra-Mural Studies, The University, Leeds 2.

THE report on research at the Royal Technical College, Glasgow, during the session 1951–52 (pp. 36; 1952), gives a brief summary of research work in progress in the various departments, and to each account there is appended a list of the more important publications by members of the staff of the particular department during the year, with the titles of theses approved for higher degrees and particulars of reports prepared. The report replaces the former *Journal of the Royal Technical College*, publication of which has now ceased.

THE Library of the United States Congress and Princeton University are sponsoring a conference on "Islamic Civilization and Culture", to be held in Princeton, N.J., during September 8–17, and in Washington, D.C., September 17–19. Thirty eminent Muslim scholars and intellectual leaders from countries of the Middle East and Asia have been invited to participate, and there will be a similar number of American delegates. The conference will be concerned with three aspects of the subject: classical elements in Islamic culture; Islamic law and society; and intellectual and spiritual movements in Islam to-day. Dr. Bayard Dodge, president emeritus of the American University, Beirut, Lebanon, is the executive director of the conference.

A LIST, under their current titles, of periodicals received in the Technical Library, Rateliff Place, has been issued by the Birmingham Public Libraries (pp. 20; 1953). The list shows the Library's holding of each periodical, irrespective of any change of title, but does not include 1,250 periodicals and transactions of societies taken in the General Reference Library or the five hundred received at the Commercial and Patents Library. Periodicals with distinctive titles are entered alphabetically, neglecting the article, but other periodicals published by corporate bodies are entered under the names of the corporate bodies.

ERRATUM. In the list of awards of Commonwealth Fund Fellowships in *Nature* of May 2, p. 776, for "J. M. Williams" read "R. L. Williams".