

communications offered by members. Zoologists wishing to be present at this Congress should make application through their bankers on Form T.2 for special allotment of exchange for the purpose of attending the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology.

### The Night Sky in June

NEW moon occurs on June 11d. 14h. 55m., U.T., and full moon on June 27d. 03h. 29m. The following conjunctions with the moon take place: June 8d. 08h., Venus  $8^{\circ}$  S.; June 13d. 07h., Mercury  $0.1^{\circ}$  N.; June 21d. 16h., Saturn  $8^{\circ}$  N. In addition to these conjunctions with the moon, Mercury is in conjunction with Mars on June 2d. 10h., Mercury being  $1.0^{\circ}$  N. Mercury is an evening star, setting at 21h., 21h. 55m. and 21h. 35m. on June 1, 15 and 30, respectively. Venus, a morning star, rises at 2h. 20m., 1h. 55m. and 1h. 30m. at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively; the stellar magnitude of the planet averages  $-0.4$ , and the visible portion of the illuminated disk varies from  $0.36$  to  $0.54$ . Mars is an evening star, setting at 21h. at the beginning of the month, but, as it is gradually drawing closer to the sun, it is badly placed for observation during June. Jupiter, a morning star, rises about the same time as the sun on June 1, and at 3h. and 2h. 10m. on June 15 and 30, respectively, but will not be favourably placed for observation until later than the middle of the month, when it can be seen in the constellation of Taurus. Saturn is visible until the morning hours, its times of setting on June 1, 15 and 30 being 2h. 10m., 1h. 20m. and 0h. 20m., respectively, and it can be seen a little north of Spica during this time. No occultations of stars brighter than magnitude 6 take place in June. Summer solstice occurs on June 21d. 17h.

### Announcements

PROF. IRENE MANTON, professor of botany in the University of Leeds, has been elected an honorary member of the Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters.

SIR ERIC RIDEAL, professor of chemistry in King's College, University of London, has been appointed chairman of the Advisory Council on Scientific Research and Technical Development of the Ministry of Supply in succession to Sir John Lennard-Jones.

MR. J. T. SAUNDERS, secretary-general of the Faculties in the University of Cambridge, and formerly lecturer in zoology in the University, has been appointed principal of University College, Ibadan, in succession to Dr. Kenneth Mellanby.

THE Council of the Royal Society has appointed Mr. A. S. Laughton, of King's College, Cambridge, to be John Murray travelling student in oceanography and limnology. Mr. Laughton will carry out research on the physical properties of sediments, part of the work being carried out at the Lamont Geological Observatory, Columbia University, New York, during 1954.

THE following changes in the University of Sheffield have recently been announced. *Appointment*: Dr. A. F. Ruston, senior lecturer in pure mathematics. *Resignations*: D. K. Roberts, lecturer in mechanical engineering and sub-warden of Rammoor House; R. M. Haythornthwaite, lecturer in civil engineering; Dr. K. Burton, lecturer in biochemistry; and F.

Newby, information officer and librarian to the Department of Glass Technology.

THE Oliver Memorial Fund is offering an award worth £50 to a British subject for original work or services in connexion with research, organization or the donor aspect of blood transfusion. Applications or information directing attention to suitable candidates must be submitted before August 31 to the honorary treasurer of the Fund, F. W. Mills, c/o National Provincial Bank, Ltd., Holborn Circus, London, E.C.1.

A CONTINUATION of the seminar on polymer science (cf. *Nature*, 171, 65; 1953) will take place on June 29; a programme and abstracts of lectures can be obtained from the Chemistry Department, University College, London, W.C.1.

THE Royal Microscopical Society will hold a conversazione in its rooms at Tavistock House South (Entrance D), Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1, during June 9-10 (7.30-10 p.m.) in honour of the Coronation of H.M. the Queen, Royal Patron of the Society. The conversazione will comprise demonstrations illustrating the development of the microscope and the advances in microscopical technique made from the time of the granting of the Royal Charter by Queen Victoria to the present day. The exhibition will be open to the public during June 11-12.

THE Institute of Physics has awarded Bowen Prizes of fifteen guineas each to the following for their papers published in the *Journal of the Institute*: G. T. Wright, University of Birmingham (a single-channel pulse-height discriminator of high speed and stability); G. D. Dew, National Physical Laboratory, Teddington (preservation of groove form in replicas of diffraction gratings); H. Aspden, Trinity College, Cambridge (measuring the magnetic permeability of rod specimens). These Prizes are provided by the Scientific Instrument Manufacturers' Association of Great Britain, Ltd., from a fund established by the late Mr. William Bowen, and are awarded to persons not more than thirty-five years of age whose papers are judged to be the best in respect of originality, scientific value, practical utility to instrument makers and users, and presentation.

ON the recommendation of a joint committee of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy and the Institute of Metals, Capper Pass awards have been made as follows for papers, the subjects of which are shown in brackets, published during 1952 in either the *Transactions of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy* or the *Journal of the Institute of Metals*: E. Davis and S. G. Temple, jointly (batch and continuous annealing of copper and copper alloys), C. P. Paton (batch thermal treatment of light alloys), Dr. E. C. Ellwood and T. A. Henderson, jointly (formation and control of magnetite during copper smelting operations), P. M. J. Gray (production of pure cerium metal by electrolytic and thermal reduction processes) and E. A. Hontoir (determination of sulphur in iron pyrites). The awards are each for £50, except the last-named, which is worth £25. They are made annually from a sum of £200 given each year by the firm of Capper Pass and Son, Ltd., Bristol, and are intended to encourage the publication of papers on processes and plant used in extraction metallurgy, assaying and on processes and plant used in all branches of the non-ferrous metal industry.