

Japanese sent many immigrant settlers there and built up an extensive sugar-cane industry between the two World Wars. The destruction of industry in the Second World War was complete. Saipan was an area of intense battle in which 23,811 Japanese military were killed and 1,810 taken prisoner, while the Americans lost 3,144 killed in action and 11,000 wounded. The ethnology is a description of the changing customs and habits of some Chamorro and ex-Caroline islands natives who live in Saipan.

### Symposium in Dublin on Peat

An international symposium on peat will be held in the College of Science, Merrion Street, Dublin, during July 12-17, under the auspices of the Bord na Móna, the statutory corporation set up by the Republic of Ireland to develop the peat resources of the country. On the first day, after the formal opening by the Minister for Industry and Commerce, peat resources and development in each of the following countries that will be represented at the symposium will be discussed: Canada, Denmark, England and Wales, Finland, France, Germany, Northern Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Republic of Ireland, Scotland and Sweden. Subsequent sessions will deal with the following topics: methods of survey; general and technical classification of peats; milled peat; sod peat; dehydration; large- and small-scale plants for utilization of peat; use in gas turbines; peat coke and wax; gasification; and reclamation (afforestation, and also agriculture and soil conditioning). An excursion will be made to the Bord na Móna works. Further information can be obtained from the Bord na Móna, 28 Upper Pembroke Street, Dublin.

### International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics

In connexion with the tenth General Assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics to be held in Rome during September 14-25, the sponsoring body, the Italian National Research Council, is organizing an exhibition, to be held in the same building as the Assembly meetings, of geodetical and geophysical instruments and equipment. The exhibition will be open to the public during September 13-25. Completed application forms, which can be obtained in Britain from the Assistant Secretary, Royal Society, Burlington House, London, W.1, must be sent by July 15 to the following address: Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Mostra internazionale di geodesia e geofisica, Piazzale delle Scienze, 7 - Roma (Italia).

### Announcements

SIR FREDERICK BRUNDRITT, deputy scientific adviser to the Ministry of Defence, formerly chief of the Royal Naval Scientific Service, has been appointed chairman of the Defence Research Policy Committee in succession to Sir John Cockcroft, who has been appointed to the board of the new Atomic Energy Corporation as director of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment.

THE President of the Board of Trade has reappointed Sir Percy Mills as chairman of the National Research Development Corporation and Prof. P. M. S. Blackett, Sir John Duncanson, and Sir Edward de Stein as members for a further period. Sir Henry Hinchliffe and Sir Alan Saunders are also appointed members in succession to Sir Edward Hodgson and Mr. W. E. P. Johnson, who are retiring.

SIR JOHN RUSSELL has been elected a foreign member of the Académie d'Agriculture de France in succession to the late Prof. Winogradsky.

PROF. H. R. ROBINSON, emeritus professor of physics at Queen Mary College, has been elected vice-chancellor of the University of London for the remainder of the present session and for the session 1954-55, in succession to Sir Roderic Hill, who has resigned on medical grounds.

DR. S. WHITEHEAD, director of the Electrical Research Association, has been elected chairman of the Committee of Directors of Research Associations.

THE Institution of Production Engineers will be holding an exhibition and conference in London at the National Hall, Olympia, during July 7-14 (closed on July 11). Besides displays by industry on production engineering research and materials, equipment and apparatus which contribute to productivity, the exhibition will contain a number of items illustrating the work of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, the research associations, and government departments and other institutions. The conference will consist of morning and afternoon sessions on each day of the exhibition, except July 10, when papers on various aspects of the problems of increased productivity—technical, psychological, physiological, etc.—will be read. Applications for tickets to the exhibition or conference should be made to Andry Montgomery, Ltd., 11 Avenue Chambers, 4 Vernon Place, London, W.C.1; further details can be obtained from the Secretary, Institution of Production Engineers, 10 Chesterfield Street, London, W.1.

MR. G. SELIGMAN, president of the British Glaciological Society, writes: "With reference to the obituary notice of Prof. A. B. Dobrowolski in *Nature* of June 12, Mr. E. Gold mentions that his great work on ice, 'The Natural History of Ice', was published in Polish. However, two of the most important chapters of this work, namely, 13 and 14, were translated into English by Prof. B. W. A. Massey, of the University of Poznan, and were published in 1948 under the title 'Glaciers: Structure and Movement Theories', by the Institute of Experimental Physics, Warsaw, as Supplement No. 1 to the *Bulletin of the Polish Geophysical Society*, Part 16 (Warsaw, 1939-48)".

THE directors of Griffin and Tatlock, Ltd., and of W. and J. George and Becker, Ltd., have announced the merging of their two organizations, under the name of Griffin and George, Ltd. Griffin and Tatlock, Ltd., with their associated company, Standley Belcher and Mason, Ltd., manufacture scientific apparatus and laboratory furniture in London and Birmingham, and have branch houses in Manchester, Sheffield, Glasgow and Edinburgh. Griffin and Tatlock (India), Ltd., operates from Calcutta and Bombay. The name of the firm, which originated in 1826, is widely associated with laboratory apparatus under the trade mark 'Microid'. W. and J. George and Becker, Ltd., of London and Birmingham, have manufactured laboratory equipment since 1897. The original firm of F. E. Becker and Co. was founded in 1872, and was purchased by W. and J. George, Ltd., in 1897. The company produces an extensive range of products including optical and electrical apparatus and high precision balances, which are sold under the trade mark 'Nivoc'. The chairman of the new company of Griffin and George, Ltd., is R. McKinnon Wood.