

tricolor. The definitive identification of the individual pigments is deferred. Some ten varieties of the Swiss giant pansy were used, their propagation being by sib-mating. It was ascertained that two flavones, five anthocyanins and five carotenoids were involved in producing the characteristic floral colorations in these varieties. These pigment constituents, in varying proportions and intensities, determine the phenomena of flower colour. The author concludes that pigments of the same kind tend to occur in groups, and this has enabled him to offer an interpretation of the mutual relationships among the varieties investigated.

Engineering Research in India

THE Board of Engineering Research, recently set up by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, India, has as a first step caused a survey to be made of the engineering research in progress in India and of the facilities that exist; this survey has been published by the Council under the title "Engineering Research in India", by V. Cadambe (pp. 144; New Delhi, 1954). The compiler has cast his net widely, and his review covers activities ranging from aviation to architecture that are to be found in government institutions, educational establishments and industry. Standards of skill and knowledge are known to differ widely; but only in the section on applied mechanics is the reader helped by a list of published papers to arrive at a definite understanding of what has been actually accomplished during the past few years. Recommendations covering the entire field are put forward in detail.

Society for the Bibliography of Natural History

THE annual general meeting of the Society for the Bibliography of Natural History was held at the British Museum (Natural History), London, S.W.7, on April 27. Mr. C. Kirke Swann addressed the meeting on natural history books from a bookseller's point of view. The second part of the third volume of the Society's *Journal* was issued in March 1955, containing eight articles, of which one is a select list of bibliographical reference works in zoology. The following have been elected as officers: *President*, J. Ramsbottom; *Honorary Secretary and Treasurer*, A. C. Townsend (British Museum (Natural History), London, S.W.7); *Committee*, A. G. Davis, W. N. Edwards, F. C. Fraser, F. J. Griffin, W. T. Stearn and C. Kirke Swann.

Brazilian Society for the Progress of Science: Annual Meeting

THE sixth annual meeting of the Brazilian Society for the Progress of Science (Sociedade Brasileira para o Progresso da Ciência) was held during November 8-13 at the Faculty of Medicine in Ribeirão Preto, a rapidly growing coffee centre in the interior of the State of São Paulo. The decision to hold the meeting there reflects a deliberate policy aimed at the 'cultural penetration' of the interior of Brazil. The president for the year was Prof. Lauro Travassos, a well-known Brazilian zoologist, and four hundred and twenty scientific workers and others enrolled for the meeting. A hundred and one papers were read at the fifteen sessions, and the great majority of these were devoted to biological subjects. In addition, there were symposia on science and food production, chromatography, venomous animals, and the chemotherapy of tuberculosis; a colloquium on experimental and theoretical physics; and popular lectures and film-

shows. Lectures given at the inaugural and closing sessions centred mainly around the problem of financial aid for science, and the Governor of São Paulo State spoke in support of the proposal that $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the income of the State should be devoted to scientific research; this would provide about £600,000 a year for research in the State of São Paulo. A number of scientific workers from abroad attended the sessions, including Prof. Robert Stämpfli (University of the Saar) and a representative of the British Council; local newspapers took the opportunity of giving publicity to the meeting in Oxford of the British Association. The next meeting of the Society will be held at Recife during June/July.

Announcements

CAPTAIN KENNETH ST. BARBE COLLINS has been appointed hydrographer of the Navy in succession to Vice-Admiral Sir Archibald Day, who has held this appointment for five years.

PROF. JAMES KENDALL will deliver the Leonard Dobbin Memorial Lecture on "Michael Faraday" on June 6 at 4.30 p.m.; this will be the first Alembic Club Lecture to be delivered under the auspices of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

DR. N. H. CHAMBERLAIN, senior lecturer in rayon technology in the Department of Textile Industries, University of Leeds, has been awarded the Warner Memorial Medal of the Textile Institute in recognition of outstanding work in textile science and technology, and particularly for work published in the *Journal of the Textile Institute*.

THE second congress of the International Diabetes Federation will be held in Cambridge during July 4-8. The congress will cover the problems of laymen, medical practitioners and scientific workers; thus some sessions will discuss social problems (national and international) where the emphasis will be more on the medical side, some will be for laymen only, covering social problems of a purely welfare nature, and others will deal with clinical and scientific matters. The languages of the congress will be English and French. Further information can be obtained from the organizing secretary of the congress at 152 Harley Street, London, W.1.

THE Summer Meeting of the Physical Society will be held in the Lecture Theatre of the George Holt Physics Laboratory, University of Liverpool, during July 5-6, the subject of the meeting being "High-Energy Nuclear Physics". Contributions are expected from the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell; University of Birmingham; University of Glasgow; University of Liverpool; University College, London; University of Oxford; and University of Rochester, New York. Accommodation can be arranged in Derby Hall Hostel, North Mossley Hill Road, Liverpool 18, if application forms are sent there before June 16. The meeting is open to all on application to the Physical Society, 1 Lowther Gardens, Prince Consort Road, London, S.W.7.

In the account of the activities of the Commonwealth Fund, New York, published in *Nature* of April 23, p. 716, two mistakes have occurred in the last paragraph. The appropriations should read: 100,000 dollars for advanced fellowships in medicine and allied fields, and 685,890 dollars for the two-year budget of the Division of Education, the name of which has recently been changed to Division of International Fellowships.