

### Linnean Society of London

The following have been elected officers of the Linnean Society of London for the session 1955-56: *President*, Dr. H. Hamshaw Thomas; *Treasurer*, Colonel F. C. Stern; *Secretaries*, Dr. George Taylor (botany) and Mr. H. R. Hewer (zoology); *New Members of Council*, Mr. P. R. Bell, Dr. Margaret E. Brown, Dr. A. J. Cain, Mr. C. C. Hentschel and Dr. H. Hamshaw Thomas. The following were appointed vice-presidents for the session 1955-56: Dr. A. Tindell Hopwood, Lieut.-Colonel R. B. Seymour Sewell, Colonel F. C. Stern and Mr. E. J. H. Corner. Dr. B. O. Dodge (New York), Prof. E. Melin (Uppsala) and Prof. W. R. Taylor (Michigan) were elected foreign members of the Society, and Mr. Gerald Atkinson was elected an associate *honoris causa*.

### Physical Chemistry of Enzymes: Faraday Society Discussion in Oxford

THE Faraday Society will be holding a general discussion on "The Physical Chemistry of Enzymes" in the University Laboratory of Physiology, Parks Road, Oxford, during August 10-12, under the chairmanship of the president of the Society, Prof. R. G. W. Norrish. A general introduction to the subject will be given by Dr. M. Dixon (Cambridge). The discussion will be in two parts, dealing respectively with characterization and physical properties and with kinetics and mechanisms, and twenty-nine papers will be read, advance proofs of which will be ready early in July. College accommodation is available in Oxford and must be booked by August 2. All inquiries should be directed to the Secretary of the Society at 6 Gray's Inn Square, Gray's Inn, London, W.C.1.

### The Botanical Research Fund

THE Botanical Research Fund is a small private trust fund founded in July 1913. The first Trustees to be appointed were Dr. E. M. Berridge, Mr. A. D. Cotton and Miss Gulielma Lister. The purpose of the Fund is to encourage research in botany in all its branches and to assist research workers, more especially women and particularly those with some previous experience of research and who, for some reason, may not be eligible for grants from public or university funds. The method is to make short-term grants in aid of maintenance, research expenses or assistance. The grants may be renewed in special circumstances; but assistance over lengthy periods is not contemplated. Further information can be obtained from the hon. secretary, Dr. E. M. Delf, 243 Haverstock Hill, N.W.3.

### Announcements

UNDER the terms of the scheme to commemorate the late Lord Rutherford of Nelson, the Council of the Royal Society has appointed Mr. N. W. Tanner, a graduate of the University of Melbourne, as a Rutherford Scholar for three years from October 1, to carry out research in nuclear physics in the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge.

THE following appointments have been made in the University of Sheffield: Dr. A. L. Cullen, to the chair of electrical engineering; Dr. G. B. Greenough, to be senior lecturer in physical metallurgy; and J. O. Isard, to be lecturer in the Department of Glass Technology.

THE Italian Society of Geophysics and Meteorology is offering two prizes of 100,000 lire each (about £60)

for an original work on the physics of the solid earth or hydrosphere and on the physics of the atmosphere, respectively. The prizes are open to persons of any nationality, and joint contributions are permissible. The work, written in Italian, must be sent before February 29, 1956, to the Società Italiana di Geofisica e Meteorologica, via Balbi 5, Genova.

FOR the first time, the Fisheries Research Board of Canada has awarded scholarships similar to those of the National Research Council of Canada. One fellowship worth 1,400 dollars, seven studentships worth 1,100 dollars each, and four bursaries worth 800 dollars each have been awarded for the year 1955-56. The funds for these awards have been made available by the Fisheries Research Board, and the selection of candidates was made by the Board with the help of the National Research Council.

THE General Electric Co., Ltd., has decided to award annually two scholarships to employees in its home establishments or associated companies so that they can take a degree, do research or generally pursue a course of higher learning in a technical or scientific subject (including management or commerce). In general, there will be no restrictions on a candidate's age or choice of subject. Scholars will undertake to remain with the Company for three years after the completion of their course, and will spend an agreed period in one of the Company's establishments during vacations. They will continue to receive their normal emoluments, and the Company will pay for their maintenance and fees at the university or other establishment where the scholarship is held.

THE annual meeting of the Society of Chemical Industry will be held in Birmingham during July 11-16. Included in the programme will be the presentation, on July 13, of the Society's Medal to Sir Eric Rideal, followed by his address on "Colloid Science"; and on July 14 the Chance Memorial Lecture, given by Mr. H. V. Potter, of Bakelite, Ltd., who will speak on "Welfare in Industry". A historical exhibition illustrating the rise of the chemical industry in the area during the past two hundred years will be shown in the University of Birmingham throughout the meeting. Further information can be obtained from the honorary secretary of the Birmingham and Midland Section of the Society, J. H. Bennitt, c/o Bakelite, Ltd., Redfern Road, Tyseley, Birmingham 11.

A CONFERENCE on the "Use of Isotopes in Agriculture" will be held during January 12-14 at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan. It will be sponsored by the council of participating institutions of the Argonne National Laboratory. There will be sessions both for invited and for contributed research papers. Details concerning the submission of papers will be published later. The guest speakers from abroad are to be Dr. S. J. Folley (Shinfield, Reading) and Dr. A. Gustafsson (Stockholm). Co-ordinated with this, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Oak Ridge Institute for Nuclear Studies will sponsor a related conference on "Atomic Energy and Agriculture" at Atlanta during the Georgia meetings of the American Association during December 26-30. At East Lansing the papers will deal especially with laboratory problems, experimental approaches and results. The Atlanta sessions will be concerned with the present status and future outlook for applications of atomic energy in agriculture.