Farnham Royal, Slough, Bucks (1, Part 1; April 1955; pp. 54; 25s. a year). The journal is edited by W. A. Pool, who is also the editor of the *Veterinary Bulletin* and the "Index Veterinarius". The first issue contains three articles, all of which are valuable summaries of knowledge of the subjects with which they deal. Prof. R. Lovell, professor of bacteriology in the Royal Veterinary College, London, contributes a 27-page review on intestinal diseases of young calves, with special reference to *Bacterium coli*. A section of the review deals with acute gastro-enteritis of babies. The bibliography covers more than four pages, and reflects the scope and detail with which the subject is treated. The second article, by Dr. C. Horton-Smith, of the Animal Health Trust's Poultry Research Station, Houghton Grange, Huntingdon, is a valuable review, also well documented, of coccidial and other forms of parasitism in their relation to poultry husbandry. He discusses the risks and advantages of the free-range, semi-intensive, intensive (with built-up litter), folding and wire-floored cage systems of poultry management in relation to the infection of chickens with the pathogenic species of Coccidia and with tapeworms and roundworms. Everyone who is concerned with poultry management should read this up-to-dato and detailed review. The third article, by Dr. Phyllis Croft, of the Group Laboratory, Mile End Hospital, London, discusses euthanasia. She deals first with the appreciation of pain by animals and then with methods used to produce euthanasia. A feature of this article is the humane spirit evident in the author's discussion of the development of the methods now being used and of the reasons why older methods have been condemned by the British Veterinary Association and others. If succeeding issues of this new journal reach the standard attained by this first issue, the journal will be an indispensable addition to the reorganization of veterinary literature that has been going on during recent years.

The Mauritius Institute

The project for an institute in Mauritius began in 1880 with the object of establishing an institute, museum and library for the "purpose of promoting the general study and cultivation of the various branches and departments of Art, Science, Literature and Philosophy and for the instruction and recreation of the people". The present building was completed in 1884 and the Institute is administered by a Board of Directors. Plans have been prepared to make the Institute more or less autonomous, and the necessary legislation is being drafted. A number of local scientific and cultural societies have become incorporated with the Institute, which at the present time comprises a library, an art gallery and a museum. The Natural History Museum is in Port Louis and the historical material at Mahebourg. At the latter the exhibits include furniture, objects connected with the Grand Port battle, and early maps, lithographs and water-colours recording the life, scenery and customs of the people at different periods. The Natural History Museum is now regional in character, and emphasis is centred on Mascarene topics illustrating biological, ecological and economic relationships. A concentrated effort is now being made to modernize the exhibition part of the Museum according to present-day standards. Research has always played an important part in the activities of the Institute, and the annual list of original papers is impressive.

First Ascent of Mont Blanc

When Mount Everest was finally conquered by Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norkey on May 29, 1953, the event aroused enormous interest, and all the resources of ancient and modern methods of communication by runner, telegraph and wireless were available to spread the news rapidly all over the world. It arrived in Great Britain three days later, during the night of June 1–2, and one of its first recipients was the Queen. In the *Notes and Records of the Royal Society of London*, Sir Gavin de Beer and Max H. Hey show that conditions were very different when Mont Blanc was first ascended by Dr. Michel-Gabriel Paccard and Jacques Balmat on August 8, 1786 (11, No. 2; March 1955). The news was carried by messenger from Chamonix to Geneva for the information of H. B. de Saussure, who received it on the morning of August 10. Thereafter the spread of the news was sporadic, uncertain and slow, depending on the private correspondence of de Saussure and his friends and of tourists who chanced to be at Chamonix at the time. It was first published in the *Leipziger Zeitung* of August 23, 1786; but the first publication in Great Britain appears to have been in the *Scots Magazine* for November of that year. Yet it also was a great and important event, and a small number of persons in Great Britain must have learned the news privately.

Institution of Telecommunication Engineers, India

The Institution of Telecommunication Engineers was inaugurated in India in November 1953, and at the first annual general meeting held recently in New Delhi, considerable progress in membership and activities was reported. The Institution comprises all the specialized branches of telecommunications in India, and its membership of more than a thousand is drawn from various government-operated communications agencies, the three defence services, research institutes and industry. Like most professional bodies, the Institution prescribes minimum educational qualifications and experience for entry into its several categories; but direct admission into the lower categories is also possible by passing the examinations which are to be conducted by it. The first issue of a quarterly *Journal* is about to be published. Talks and discussion meetings are arranged periodically in New Delhi, the headquarters of the Institution, and similar activities are being planned in Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Poona, Bangalore and Jabalpur. Further particulars can be obtained from the honorary secretary of the Institution at Post Box No. 481, New Delhi.

Colorimetry and Theories of Colour Vision

In an address given to the Physical Society Colour Group on May 18, Dr. D. B. Judd, of the National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C., said that colorimetry can contribute to the understanding of the mechanisms underlying the seeing of colours in three ways: by determining metamers, that is, several groups of different spectral stimuli which when mixed produce identical sensations; by the characterization of the attributes of chromatic sensations, particularly hue sensation; and by determining the spacing of subjective colours. As regards the first, the law of additivity, on which the interpretation of all colour matches is based, is not at present thought to be rigidly valid, although it is certainly a good approximation to the truth. Dr.