

agreed on financial co-operation on lines which should satisfy the aims of both the Trust and the Council for the expansion of research facilities and meet the conditions essential to the provision of government financial support. Under these arrangements the Trust will contribute one-third of the net annual maintenance expenditure up to £10,000 a year and the Agricultural Research Council will contribute the other two-thirds, with freedom to each party to give more if they wish and if it is in the interests of the Station. The Station is to have an independent status and will be known as Houghton Poultry Research Station. It will be governed by a board of nine members who have been appointed by the Lord President of the Council, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Secretary of State for Scotland, three of them having been nominated by the Animal Health Trust. They are as follow: Mr. T. H. Turney (chairman), Prof. E. C. Amoroso, Mr. H. Finn, Mr. G. Guttridge, Mr. F. Grove, Prof. K. Mather, Lord Stamp, Prof. E. G. White and Dr. W. R. Wooldridge.

New Zealand Heavy-Water Scheme

THE United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, after consultation with the New Zealand Government, has decided to withdraw from participation in the Wairakei Scheme. This scheme provided for utilizing geothermal steam for the generation of electric power and for the manufacture of heavy water, the New Zealand Government being interested in the former product and the Atomic Energy Authority in the latter. It has now been found that the cost of constructing the heavy-water plant would be much higher than was originally estimated. A company, Geothermal Development, Ltd., was formed for this purpose, and this will be wound up in due course. The New Zealand Government is to continue with the power station project.

Combustion Institute

THE great interest in research in the field of combustion in the post-war period has been made evident by the support accorded the three symposia held in 1948, 1952 and 1954. To undertake the responsibility of organizing such symposia, a sub-committee was formed in the United States, with representatives from industry, government and universities, and this sub-committee, in conjunction with the honorary members of the Standing Committee in Belgium, France, Great Britain and Netherlands, recommended that a "Combustion Institute" should be founded. The Institute was incorporated in the State of Delaware on July 1, 1954, and at the first meeting of its members, held in Pittsburgh on September 1, 1954, during the fifth symposium, a board of directors of fifteen members was elected, and two working committees were established—the Executive Committee and the Combustion Institute Committee. The latter comprises representatives from a number of different countries, and it is intended that the symposia should continue to be international in character. It is in no way the intention of the Combustion Institute to compete with other societies either in its meetings or publications, but its main object is to encourage activity in this important field crossing the boundaries of so many scientific and engineering disciplines. The first symposium under the auspices of the newly formed Institute will be held at Yale University during August 19–24. The British members of the Com-

bustion Institute Committee (Sir Alfred Egerton, Dr. J. S. Clarke and Mr. P. Lloyd), with Dr. J. W. Linnett, form the British Committee. Further information can be obtained from the assistant secretary, Miss H. Smith, c/o Joseph Lucas, Ltd., Great King Street, Birmingham 19.

Geochemical Society

AT a meeting of the Geological Society of America, held in New Orleans on November 7, the organization of a new society, the Geochemical Society, was completed, and a constitution was adopted which specifies that "The object of the Society shall be to encourage the application of chemistry to the solution of geological and cosmological problems" and that "any person who is qualified to advance the objects of the Society shall be eligible for membership". Thus membership is open to physicists, biologists, mathematicians, oceanographers, meteorologists, etc., as well as chemists and geologists. Those wishing to become charter members should send their names, addresses, fields of interest, and a year's subscription (2 dollars) to the treasurer, Dr. George T. Faust, U.S. Geological Survey, Washington 25, D.C. Names of those who might be interested, but who are not on the "List of Persons doing Research of Interest to Geochemists" (*Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, 6, 132; 1954) would also be appreciated. The following have been elected officers of the Society: *President*, Earl Ingerson (U.S. Geological Survey, Washington); *Vice-President*, Julian R. Goldsmith (University of Chicago); *Secretary*, John C. Maxwell (Princeton University); *Treasurer*, George T. Faust; *Councillors-at-Large*, J. W. Greig, W. F. Libby, W. T. Pecora, W. W. Rubey, G. R. Tilton and H. S. Yoder.

The Hakluyt Society

THE Hakluyt Society exists to publish original narratives of important voyages and travels and other geographical records. The volumes, two of which are generally issued for each year, are made up of the original documents together with introductory material of great value to the geographer, historian, ethnologist and, not infrequently, to other students of the natural sciences. Since its beginning in 1846, the Society has issued one hundred volumes in its first series and one hundred and seven in its second (current) series. Throughout the greater part of its history, its annual subscription remained unchanged at one guinea, and only in 1955 was it increased to two guineas, a modest sum to pay for two volumes of its publications. At irregular intervals the Society produces an 'extra' series. The great collections of Richard Hakluyt and Samuel Purchas have already appeared in this series, these being little more than reprints of the original works. Perhaps the most ambitious and the most important work in this series is the definitive publication of the "Journals" of Captain James Cook, edited by Dr. J. C. Beaglehole. Here the Society is not merely following its normal practice in printing journals and other documents that have not previously been published from the original manuscripts, but is adding a volume dealing particularly with the scientific results of these great voyages. Vol. 1, covering the first voyage, and a portfolio of original charts and views drawn on all three voyages, have recently been published; the whole project will be completed in four volumes. Last year Mr. J. N. L. Baker succeeded Mr. Malcolm Letts as president