published with four, instead of six, issues per volume, but will contain the same number of pages per volume as formerly. It is hoped to publish the issues at monthly intervals and with this increased rate of publication to make possible rapid publication of papers, short research notes, up-to-date reports on spectroscopic meetings and items of general interest to spectroscopists. The editorial and editorial advisory boards have been reconstituted and the editors are now Mr. E. H. S. van Someren and Dr. H. W. Thompson (United Kingdom) and Drs. V. A. Fassel and F. A. Miller (United States).

Imperial Chemical Industries Transfer Scholarships Scheme Extended

Imperial Chemical Industries is to extend its transfer scholarships scheme and has offered three new scholarships to each of the Universities of Bristol, Birmingham and Sheffield. These new scholarships will be available for the academic year 1957/58. The transfer scholarships scheme, first announced in March 1956 (see *Nature*, **177**, 606; 1956), is designed to open the door to an honours course in various pure and applied sciences to able young men who have not specialized in science subjects at school but who wish to change over to science at a university. The collaborating universities have agreed to provide appropriate transfer courses and the Imperial Chemical Industries scholarships finance the students during the necessary additional university year, no account being taken of parents' income. The scheme has, until now, included the University of Cambridge; the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London; King's College, Newcastle upon Tyne (University of Durham); the University of Liverpool; and the University of Oxford. Some fifty scholarships were made available last year, their value being based on State Scholarship rates. Further particulars can be obtained from the registrars or bursars of the universities concerned.

The Professional Engineers Appointments Bureau

THE Professional Engineers Appointments Bureau, of 9 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, in its report for 1956 continues to provide evidence of the unabated demand for technological man-power. An interesting feature of the work during the year has been the increasing number of Canadian and American firms using the Bureau's service. It is not, however, the policy of these firms to recruit engineers from Britain whose experience can be described as general, and an appointment is unlikely to result where the experience of a candidate is not in some specialized field of engineering. More engineers appear to want to emigrate to Canada, the Rhodesias and other Commonwealth countries. Despite a decrease in the number of engineers registering with the Bureau, those placed in 1956 increased. The number of vacancies notified did not fluctuate appreciably, but a larger proportion was for senior administrative posts. The more senior appointments now attract a reasonable selection of qualified applicants, which suggests larger numbers of more experienced engineers are considering changing their posts than a year ago. Average salaries of successful placings were higher than for previous years, and it is now difficult to find sufficient candidates from those registered who are seeking salaries much below £800 per annum, compared with past years, when it was relatively simple to fill the junior posts. Employers and engineers have found the Bureau particularly useful in obtaining information on the current position of employment, whether it be the supply of, or demand for, members of the Institutions of Civil, of Mechanical or of Electrical Engineers. The Bureau offers facilities to members, graduates and students of these Institutions who are contemplating a change of post, and to employers wishing to fill a vacancy.

Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston

THE annual report for 1955–56 of the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston, Tasmania (pp. 8; 1957), states that the director, Mr. W. F. Ellis, spent a month at an archæological excavation on an aboriginal shelter in South Australia. He was also present when a previously unknown aboriginal petroglyph site on the west coast of Tasmania was investigated. The essential nature of this type of activity for museums can scarcely be over-estimated. A display entitled "Bauxite to Aluminium" is typical of the modern outlook of this Museum, as is also the impressive list of publications by the staff which is included in this report.

Australian Mathematical Society

THE Australian Mathematical Society was founded at a meeting of more than one hundred mathematicians from all parts of Australia, held in Melbourne during August 1956. Papers were read on a wide range of subjects in pure and applied mathematics and statistics, and the general principles of the constitution of the Society were laid down. The following officers were elected: *President*, Prof. T. M. Cherry; *Treasurer*, Prof. C. H. Davis; *General Secretary*, Mr. P. J. Ryan; *Secretary (Publications)*, Prof. T. G. Room. Some half-dozen visitors from overseas were present, among them Prof. A. W. Tucker, of Princeton University, who, from his experience with the American Mathematical Society and the *Canadian Journal of Mathematics*, was able to contribute much to the clarification of thought on the constitution and publications. One of the main objects of the Society is the publication of an *Australian Journal of Mathematics*. There will be no technical difficulty in having the journal printed in Australia, and there is no likelihood of any shortage of contributors of adequate standing. Steps are being taken to secure the necessary financial support. The second meeting of the Society will be held in the University of Sydney during August 28–31.

Molluscan Anatomy for Parasitologists

'KNOW your species' is a requirement of supreme importance to those concerned with the control of animal hosts of parasitic infections. The difficulty of identifying molluscan intermediate hosts from conchological data alone has led to the production of a short "Guide to Molluscan Anatomy for Parasitologists in Africa" by Dr. C. A. Wright (pp. 20. London: British Museum (Natural History), 1957. 1*s*. 6*d*. net). Dr. Wright gives clear and simple directions for the preparation and dissection of three kinds of snail hosts from that continent, dealing chiefly with the digestive and reproductive systems, illustrated by competent diagrams. He warns dissectors, however, that they should obtain corroboration of their identifications from the literature as well as from a malacologist. A list of references is given, and the conchological key to the families of African gastropods by Alves and Clarke is recommended. The malacologist will help and advise the