

contributions have been collected and will be published by the Cambridge University Press as a book, which will be made available to members approximately three weeks before the meeting begins. Publication to the general public will take place on the first day of the meeting. At the meeting the published papers will be taken as read and the two days devoted mainly to discussions following short commentaries by the authors concerned. Inquiries should be addressed to the Secretary, Society for General Microbiology, c/o Institute of Biology, 41 Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7.

Oversea Service Division, Colonial Office

THE following appointments have recently been made in the Oversea Service Division, Colonial Office: H. C. Miller (chairman of the Yallahs Valley Land Authority, Jamaica), director of agriculture, Jamaica; W. G. Stuart (chief agricultural officer, Jamaica), deputy director of agriculture (research), Jamaica; A. J. Browning (senior assistant conservator of forests, Sierra Leone), senior assistant conservator of forests, Cyprus; J. A. N. Burra (assistant conservator of forests, Cyprus), conservator of forests, Jamaica; J. L. A. Seward (principal forester, Northern Rhodesia), assistant conservator of forests, Northern Rhodesia; R. B. McVilly (chief surveyor, grade 2, Federation of Malaya), deputy director of Federal surveys, Federation of Nigeria; A. D. Campbell (veterinary officer, Eastern Nigeria), principal veterinary officer, Eastern Nigeria; D. C. Hague (veterinary officer, Kenya), provincial veterinary officer, Kenya; R. L. Wooldridge (veterinary officer, Kenya), provincial veterinary officer, Kenya; R. S. Pitt, agricultural officer, British Honduras; C. T. Bundy, assistant conservator of forests, Nyasaland; R. R. H. Lemon, geologist, Gold Coast; A. E. Wright, geologist, Geological Survey Department, Tanganyika; Dr. C. G. Johnson, senior principal scientific officer, West Africa Cacao Research Institute, Gold Coast; D. G. Earnshaw, veterinary investigation officer, Northern Nigeria; J. B. Peters, veterinary officer, Uganda; V. W. Smith, veterinary research officer, Federation of Nigeria; B. Anderson, soils chemist, Tanganyika; Miss R. Arnstein, statistician, East Africa High Commission; M. J. Cole, botanist, plant breeder, Tanganyika; F. E. Dean, principal scientific officer, East Africa High Commission.

Announcements

DR. LEO MARION, director of the Division of Pure Chemistry, National Research Council of Canada, has been made an honorary member of the Société Chimique de France. Dr. Marion is the first Canadian to receive this honour.

DR. WALTER A. WOOD, director of the Arctic Institute of North America in New York, has been elected president of the American Geographical Society. Dr. Wood has been a member of the Society's Council since 1954, but his participation in the Society's affairs is of considerably longer standing. For some years he was a member of its staff, and during 1939-42 served as head of its Department of Exploration and Field Research.

MR. R. C. DICKIE, chief chemist of Marchon Products, Ltd., of Whitehaven, has been appointed an additional member of the Standing Technical Committee on Synthetic Detergents (see *Nature*, 179, 237; 1957).

THE Metal Physics Committee of the Institute of Metals is organizing a discussion on "The Metal Physics of Corrosion and Oxidation", to be held at Church House, Great Smith Street, London, S.W.1, on April 30, starting at 2.30 p.m. Visitors will be welcome; tickets of admission are not required.

A CONFERENCE of the Oil and Colour Chemists' Association on "Catalytic Processes relating to the Surface-Coating Industries" will be held at Torquay during May 21-25. Further details can be obtained from Mr. R. H. Hamblin, Oil and Colour Chemists' Association, Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, London, E.C.4.

THE sixty-second Annual Congress of the South-Eastern Union of Scientific Societies will be held at Hastings, in the Lower Hall, White Rock Pavilion, during April 25-28. Further details may be obtained from the hon. local secretary, Mrs. K. N. Quarterman, 59 Braybrook Road, Hastings.

A JOINT meeting of the Clay Minerals Group of the Mineralogical Society and the Basic Science Group of the British Ceramic Society will be held in Balliol College, Oxford, during April 11-13, the subject being "Clay Minerals and Ceramics". Further details can be obtained from Dr. R. M. S. Perrin, School of Agriculture, University of Cambridge.

A CONFERENCE on the "Rheology of Elastomers", organized by the British Society of Rheology, is to be held at the British Rubber Producers' Research Association, Welwyn Garden City, during May 29-31. Inquiries should be addressed to the hon. secretary, Mr. N. Wooley, 52 Tavistock Road, Edgware, Middlesex.

A CONFERENCE and Open Day for grammar school teachers is being held in the Departments of Botany and Zoology, University College of Swansea, during March 29-30. Prof. C. D. Darlington will open a discussion on "Objectives in the Teaching of High School Biology" under the chairmanship of Principal J. S. Fulton, and Dr. I. Isaac will open one on "Advanced Level Botany" under the chairmanship of Prof. H. E. Street. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, Botany Department, University College of Swansea, Singleton Park, Swansea.

THE International Geographical Union is to hold a Regional Conference in Tokyo and Nara during August 29-September 3, organized jointly with the Scientific Council of Japan. The programme includes the presentation of papers (in English and French) in the several fields of geography, cartographical exhibitions and excursions to various parts of Japan. Abstracts of papers should be submitted, before March 1, to the Secretariat of the Conference Organizing Committee, Science Council of Japan, Ueno Park, Tokyo, from which further information can also be obtained.

MR. L. L. WHYTE writes: "Owing to a misunderstanding, the dates of R. J. Boscovich were printed on p. 284 (Feb. 9, 1957) as 1711?-1787, as in the 'Encyclopædia Britannica'. In fact, there is no uncertainty. Boscovich was born on May 18, 1711, in Ragusa, and died on February 13, 1787, in Milan (V. Varičak, Engl. transl. of review of 1922 edition of 'Theoria', *Bull. int. Acad. yougosl. Sci., Zagreb*, 1924, p. 45). The date of birth given in the 1922 Latin-English edition of his 'Theoria . . .' is incorrect".