

established by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology held at Monaco in 1913, while the most recent were brought into existence by the Fourteenth Congress at Copenhagen in 1953, but owing to the large number of documents now involved it has become difficult for specialists to ascertain what names have so far been registered. This difficulty will be removed by the new publications, each of which will be supplied both with a full alphabetical index and also with alphabetical indexes arranged by major groups. The groups so selected will normally be classes, but in the case of large classes containing well-recognized orders, these supplementary indexes will be on an ordinal basis. All inquiries should be addressed to the International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature at its Publications Office, 41 Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7.

#### Royal Society and Nuffield Foundation Commonwealth Bursaries

THE following awards under the Royal Society and Nuffield Foundation Commonwealth Bursaries scheme have been announced: Mr. J. Attridge, assistant lecturer in zoology, Birkbeck College, University of London, to enable him to collect and study Karroo vertebrate fossils in Southern Rhodesia during June-October 1958; Colonel S. S. Bhatnagar, St. Xavier's College, Bombay, for the study of procedures for the characterization of chemical and pharmacological principles of plants, at Cambridge during April and May 1958; Dr. A. J. Buller, senior lecturer in physiology, St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School, London, to enable him to gain practical experience in studying the nervous system by the microelectrode techniques, at Canberra, for about ten months from March 1958; Mr. J. Dainty, reader in biophysics, University of Edinburgh, for research on the ionic relations of plant cells and the electrical properties of plant cell membranes, at Sydney, during March-September 1958; Dr. W. P. U. Jackson, of the Department of Medicine, University of Cape Town, for the study of specific methods and techniques in endocrine research (prediabetes, plasma insulin activity, calcium and phosphate metabolism) in London, Cambridge and Louvain, during June-August 1958; Mr. C. St. J. Lamb, lecturer in electrical engineering, New South Wales University of Technology, to enable him to assist in the development of instrumentation of nuclear reactors used for the production of electrical energy, at Erith, Kent, for a year from January 1958.

#### University News:

#### Birmingham

THE title of reader in physiology has been conferred on Dr. I. C. Whitfield, senior lecturer in physiology. The following appointments have also recently been made: Dr. R. L. Holmes, to be senior lecturer in anatomy; Dr. T. R. Lomer, to be lecturer in physics; Dr. G. Gregory, to be staff tutor in the Institute for Engineering Production; F. D. Hobbs, to be Paviers lecturer in highway engineering in the Department of Civil Engineering; and L. Kay, to be lecturer in electrical engineering.

Two new graduate courses have been established in the Faculty of Science: one is a course in the Department of Pure Mathematics leading to a diploma in mathematical statistics, and the other is a course in operational research in the Department of Engineering Production leading to the degree of M.Sc. by examination.

#### London

THE title of professor of pathology in the University of London has been conferred on Mr. M. H. Ashton in respect of his post at the Institute of Ophthalmology. The title of reader in the University has also been conferred on the following: Dr. A. Armitage (history and philosophy of science) at University College, Dr. Ivy Pinchbeck (social studies) at Bedford College, Dr. C. A. B. Smith (genetical statistics) at University College, and Mr. R. J. Wilkins (civil engineering) at University College.

#### Malta

IN accordance with the terms of the Royal University of Malta (Constitution) Act of 1957, a Statutory Commission has been formed to "advise the Government on any matter relating to or connected with the University which the Government may refer to them for advice and report, including the expedience of amending or repealing and replacing any Statute for the time being in force or any Regulation made thereunder. No major act of the University which may involve expenditure shall be entered into by the University without the prior approval and advice of the Commissioners who, before giving such approval and advice shall make a report on the matter to the Government and shall consult with the Government on the total amount of funds available. The Commissioners shall also, if so requested by the University, advise the University in the working out of new policies".

Members of the newly appointed Statutory Commission are as follows: Sir Ivor Jennings, Master of Trinity Hall, Cambridge (*chairman*), L. J. F. Brimble, J. S. Fulton and Sir Charles Snow.

#### Announcements

SIR WILLIAM G. OGG, who has been director of Rothamsted Experimental Station since 1943, will retire on September 30, and the Lawes Agricultural Trust Committee has appointed Mr. F. C. Bawden to succeed him.

PROF. E. LEDERER, of the Institut de Biologie Physico-Chimique, Paris, known for his work on paper chromatography, will be visiting professor in the Department of Chemistry, King's College, University of Durham, Newcastle upon Tyne, for a period of about six weeks, starting on March 4.

THE Institution of the Rubber Industry and the Plastics Institute are holding a joint conference on February 27 at the Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, Westminster, S.W.1. The subject will be "Recent Advances in Polymer Technology". Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, The Plastics Institute, 6 Mandeville Place, London, W.1.

THE Spectroscopic Panel of the Hydrocarbon Research Group of the Institute of Petroleum is organizing a conference on molecular spectroscopy, to be held at the Institution of Electrical Engineers in London during February 27-28. The programme will cover the whole field of spectroscopy. The main topics to be discussed will be nuclear magnetic resonance, technical developments, intermolecular forces and factors affecting intensities of absorption bands. Further information can be obtained from E. Thornton, c/o British Petroleum Co., Ltd., Chertsey Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex.