

physics which have been given there with such success in recent years. The Institute has also decided to make grants to headmasters of selected public schools from which Salters' Exhibitions may be awarded to able boys who might otherwise be unable to complete a scientific education. By these new developments, the Institute hopes that the study of science in schools may be enlivened and encouraged and that indirectly the flow of scientists of high calibre to the universities and eventually to industry and other fields may be increased.

Royal Netherlands Geographical Society : Honorary Members

THE following have been elected to honorary membership of the Royal Netherlands Geographical Society : Prof. J. Büdel, University of Würzburg, distinguished for his researches on peri-glacial phenomena and on the morphology of the humid tropics ; Prof. H. C. Darby, University of London, author of "A Historical Geography of England" and "Medieval Fenland and the Draining of the Fens" ; G. J. A. Mulder, Netherlands, author of various text-books on geography including "Geography of the Mediterranean Region" and editor-in-chief of the "Manual of Geography of the Netherlands".

The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society : Officers

At the recent annual general meeting of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society the following officers were elected : *President*, Mr. C. E. Young ; *Vice-Presidents*, Miss A. C. Alexander, Mr. A. H. Goulty, Sir Geoffrey Jefferson, Dr. F. C. Toy ; *Hon. Secretaries*, Dr. G. T. Ashley, Dr. L. Cohen ; *Hon. Treasurer*, Mr. H. Hayhurst ; *Hon. Librarians*, Mr. L. L. Ardern, Dr. W. H. Brindley ; *Hon. Curator*, Mr. N. G. C. Pearson.

The Night Sky in July

FULL moon occurs on July 1d. 06h. 04m. U.T., new moon on July 16d. 18h. 33m. and full moon on July 30d. 16h. 47m. The following conjunctions with the Moon take place : July 9d. 15h., Mars 3° S. ; July 14d. 06h., Venus 3° N. ; July 23d. 04h., Jupiter 2° N. ; July 27d. 03h., Saturn 3° S. In addition to these conjunctions with the Moon, Mercury is in conjunction with Pollux on July 1d. 11h., Mercury being 4.9° S., Venus with Aldebaran on July 5d. 06h., Venus being 4.0° N., and Mercury with Regulus on July 26d. 05h., Mercury being 1.6° S. Mercury is an evening star, setting about an hour after the Sun, but conditions are not favourable for observation. Venus is a morning star, visible low in the south-east before sunrise. It rises at 1h. 55m., 1h. 50m. and 2h. 10m. on July 1, 15 and 31, respectively ; its stellar magnitude is -3.3. During the month its distance from the Earth increases from 120 to 137 million miles and the visible portion of the apparent disk from 0.812 to 0.890. Mars rises at 0h. 10m., 23h. 30m. and 22h. 50m. at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively ; conditions for observation are rapidly becoming more favourable. Its stellar magnitude increases during the month from +0.3 to -0.1, its distance from the Earth decreasing from 101 to 86 million miles. Mars continues to move eastwards among the stars, passing from Pisces to Aries on July 26. Jupiter sets at 0h. 10m., 23h. 15m. and 22h. 10m. on July 1, 15 and 31, respectively ; it is near Spica. The stellar magnitude of Jupiter is -1.6, its distance from the Earth on

July 15 being 500 million miles. Saturn sets at 2h. 45m., 1h. 45m. and 0h. 35m. at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively ; it is near θ Ophiuchi. It has a stellar magnitude of +0.4 and a distance of 850 million miles from the Earth on July 15. There is one occultation of a star brighter than magnitude 6 visible at Greenwich : July 24d. 21h. 05.8m., ν Lib. (disappearance). The Earth is at aphelion on July 5, its distance from the Sun being 94.6 million miles.

Announcements

THE British Overseas Mining Association Educational Trust has been established by the Association to provide scholarships tenable at mining schools and universities in the United Kingdom for courses in mining engineering and related subjects. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary of the Association, 8 Great Winchester Street, London, E.C.2.

THE Oliver Memorial Fund is offering an award of £50 to a British subject for original work or services in connexion with the research, organization or donor aspects of blood transfusion. Applications or information on possible candidates for the award should be sent to the honorary secretary, Mrs. F. E. Bedborough, 105 New Park Avenue, London, N.13.

THE thirteenth annual exhibition and convention organized by the Northern Division of the Institution of Electronics will be held at the Manchester College of Science and Technology during July 10-16 (excluding Sunday, July 13). It will include the largest British display of electronic devices held outside London.

A ONE-DAY meeting of the Polarographic Society will be held at Ardeer, Ayrshire, on September 26, by kind permission of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd. Further information can be obtained from Mr. A. F. Williams, Research Department, Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., Nobel Division, Stevenston, Ayrshire.

A CONFERENCE on Mass Spectrometry is being organized by the Mass Spectrometry Panel of the Institute of Petroleum Hydrocarbon Research Group and Committee E-14 of the American Society for Testing Materials. It will be held in the Beveridge Hall, Senate House, University of London, Gower Street, London, W.C.1, during September 24-26. Further information can be obtained from Dr. R. R. Gordon, National Coal Board, Coal Research Establishment, Stoke Orchard, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

THE seventh Conference on Hot Laboratories and Equipment is to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, during April 1959. Abstracts of papers to be presented at the Conference should be sent to the programme chairman, L. G. Stang, jun., Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York, before September 15. Papers are invited on all phases of hot laboratories and equipment for handling radioactive material, including design, construction, operation, maintenance, decontamination, remodelling, shielding calculations, costs, etc.

ERRATUM. In the communication entitled "Passage of Phosphate through the Human Tooth", by Dr. P. Pincus, in *Nature* of March 22, p. 844, paragraphs 5 and 6, for "inorganic phosphate" and "inorganic form" read "organic phosphate" and "organic form".