sponsored by their employers will be accepted into the course. Further information can be obtained from the Head of the Department of Commerce and Management, 1, Melbourne Avenue, Sheffield, 10.

Developmental Biology

The first number has recently appeared of a new journal, *Developmental Biology*, published by the Academic Press, and produced by an editorial board consisting of Prof. J. Brachet, Prof. E. Hadorn, Dr. P. Weiss with Prof. M. V. Edds of the Department of Biology, Brown University, as managing editor (*Developmental Biology*, Vol. 1, No. 1; April 1959. Pp. x+124. Volume 1 (6 issues) 14 dollars. New York and London: Academic Press, Inc., 1959). The manuscripts in English should be sent to *Developmental Biology*, Department of Biology, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, U.S.A.: those in French to J. Brachet, Laboratory of Animal Morphology, University of Brussels, Brussels, Belgium, and those in German to E. Hadorn, University of Zurich, Switzerland. Many of the classical divisions of biology no longer correspond to the way in which research is organized and thought develops in biology to-day. The formation of this journal is an attempt to produce some degree of rationalization by bringing together studies of all aspects of development and growth. This is well exemplified by the contents of the first number, which contains articles dealing with the chick embryo, with *Drosophila* larvæ, with the ribonucleic acid involved in differentiation of a fern and with the function of SH groups in morphogenesis. In the editorial to the first number the editors say that they are prepared to accept articles written from a wide variety of points of view, for example, analytical or descriptive, technical or theoretical, using either a molecular approach and/or an organismal approach. Micro-organisms, plants and animals are all equally regarded as relevant to the problems of developmental biology.

Native Life in Angola

The Portuguese Companhia de Diamantes de Angola is noted for the interest it takes in archæology and the native cultures of the region in which it operates. Business firms are not usually directly concerned with interests of a cultural nature outside their own money-making projects, and this makes it all the more remarkable that the Angola Diamond Mining Co. has published already a large number of splendid volumes, full of illustrations which deal with many aspects of the past and present history of the country. A recent volume (Companhia de Diamantes de Angola (Diamang). Servicos Culturais. Dundo–Lunda–Angola. Museu do Dundo. Publicacões Culturais No. 37: Flagrantes da Vida na Lunda. Introducão de José Osório de Oliveira. Pp. 192. (Lisboa: Companhia de Diamantes de Angola 1958)) is a superb publication of large format containing no less than 148 full-page illustrations of the countryside and its inhabitants. We can see basket-makers at work, fishing scenes, a moment in a divination ceremony, a Lunda chief with his robes and ceremonial insignia, etc. The first 44 pages are devoted to an introduction by Dr. José Osório de Oliveira, there being Portuguese, French, and English versions. An account of some of the cultural activities of the company is given and also of the country and its people. On the last page the author writes: "The honour attributed to the leaders of 'Diamang' in having anticipated in Africa that which the experts convoked by UNESCO counselled is nothing more than justice, for one cannot fail to look upon the company as the keystone of local native life". This is true, and furthermore, both archæologists and anthropologists all over the world have reason to thank the Company for the Dundo Museum and many other contributions to learning.

Summer Tanager

Following a series of depressions and strong westerly winds, an unusual bird was observed on Bardsey Island on September 11, 1958. It was somewhat smaller than a song thrush, olive green above and deep yellow below, with a heavy blunt bill and peculiarly short legs. Subsequent observations suggested that the bird was a summer tanager, *Piranga rubra*, which had not previously been recorded in any European list; the few red feathers on the head and the back suggested that the specimen was a young male. Details of the observation and of the highly successful work carried out at Bardsey Bird and Field Observatory during 1957 are described in the annual report of that Observatory for 1957, which can be obtained from W. M. Condry, Eglwysfach, Machynlleth, Montgomeryshire.

Chromosome Numbers in *Solidago*

In further studies of the genus *Solidago*, J. R. Beaudry and D. L. Chabot (*Canad. J. Bot.*, 37, No. 2; 1959) have observed the chromosome numbers in 25 taxa of the genus. In all, the chromosome numbers of 42 taxa have now been published. The basic number of the genus is nine. Thirty-three taxa are diploid ($2n = 18$), five are tetraploid ($2n = 36$), three are aggregate taxa containing both diploid and tetraploid cytodemes, and one is hexaploid ($2n = 54$). Polyploidy has thus contributed to the evolution of the genus *Solidago* but it seems that most of the species have differentiated gradually. *S. decemflora* DC. of western North America differs from *S. nemoralis* Ait. of the same continent by morphological characters, its geographical distribution, and its chromosome number, the first taxon being tetraploid and the second diploid; the two are thus good species and not merely varieties of the same species. *S. rigida* is considered to be an aggregate, consisting of two entities which are distinguished not only by their morphology and geographical distribution but also by their chromosome numbers; the eastern one (*S. rigida* L.) is tetraploid, whereas the western one (*S. parvirigida* Beaudry) is diploid. The bog and marsh goldenrods, *S. Purshii* and *S. uliginosa*, also possess different chromosome numbers, the first being diploid and the second tetraploid.

Soil Fungi in the Belgian Congo

J. Meyer has given a comprehensive account of soil and litter fungi in the Belgian Congo (region of Yangambi) (Publications de l'Institut National pour l'Étude Agronomique du Congo Belge. Série Scientifique, No. 75: "Moisissures du Sol et des Litières de la Région de Yangambi (Congo Belge)", par J. Meyer. Pp. 211+4 planches. Bruxelles: Institut National pour l'Étude Agronomique du Congo Belge, 1959. 190 Belgian francs). In this work, the author has recorded his taxonomic observations on the very considerable number of fungi observed or isolated, leaving the questions of sociology, synecology, etc., to be dealt with later. The generally