

Soviet Rubber Technology

THE appearance of a regular translation of the monthly Soviet journal *Kauchuk i Rezina* under the title *Soviet Rubber Technology* (No. 1, June 1959. English translation of *Kauchuk i Rezina*, Vol. 18, January 1959. Pp. 64. Annual subscription rates: Ordinary, U.K. £10 10s. Abroad 50 U.S. dollars, or equivalent. R.A.B.R.M. Members and U.K. non-profit-making institutions £5 5s. Obtainable from Maclaren and Sons, Ltd., 131 Great Suffolk Street, London, S.E.1) is a welcome addition to the scientific literature of the U.S.S.R. available in the English language. The translation, which is being carried out by the Research Association of British Rubber Manufacturers under the auspices of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research Translations Unit, combines technical competence and accuracy with a pleasant and readable style. It is stated that the journal "deals with the efficient use of raw material, the automation of manufacturing processes in the rubber industry and improvements to the design of tyres and industrial rubber goods. Articles describing the most important chemical research of interest to the rubber industry are also included". The first issue includes, in addition to original research contributions, more general articles reviewing industrial organization in the U.S.S.R., and news items. The scientific papers are about equally divided between chemistry (polymerization processes, compounding, vulcanization, etc.) and physics (properties of rubber compounds, fatigue and adhesion of tyre cord, etc.). The journal gives a good general insight into the technical and industrial problems of the Soviet rubber industry.

The Wellcome Trust

THE second report of the Wellcome Trust covers the period September 1, 1956–August 31, 1958 (Pp. 72+3 plates. London: The Wellcome Trust, 1959), in which £1,059,919 was allocated by the Trustees, compared with £1,170,164 in the twenty years 1937–56 covered by the first report. The fourth and final report on the findings of the Wellcome Marston Archaeological Research Expedition to the Near East, published in June 1958, deals further with excavations undertaken by the late Mr. J. L. Starkey and others at a mound known as Tell el-Duwier, about half-way between Jerusalem and Gaza. Total expenditure by the Trustees on the Lachish expedition, including costs of publication, has amounted to £35,496. During the period 1956–58 grants made in aid of research in human and animal medicine and the contributory sciences have totalled £925,357. In making these grants the Trustees have followed their previous policy of supporting enterprises the merits of which were endorsed by the best available scientific opinion, but which had not hitherto received the help they needed. Priority was given to tropical medicine, pharmacology, pharmacy, therapeutics, veterinary medicine and the history of medicine. The report contains a full list of research grants and of travel grants during the period. Travel grants were made to 167 research workers, expenditure increasing from £11,410 in 1955–56 to £20,022 in 1957–58 and in addition five block grants were made to the organizing committees of international congresses or of smaller specialist symposia abroad, bringing the total expenditure to £42,175 on 257 persons in the period. The Trustees have also instituted a system with the Carlsberg Foundation of

'Carlsberg-Wellcome Travelling Research Fellowships' to encourage friendly co-operation on an exchange basis between Danish and British research workers in sciences bearing on human and animal medicine and two fellowships were awarded in each of the academic years 1957–58 and 1958–59. Capital grants for building projects during the period amounted to £543,500, with a further £115,160 to assist medical research libraries and museums, which included some building projects, and a further £171,065 allocated for expenditure on major items of research equipment. In support or endowment of senior research posts the Trustees allocated £72,983, and towards various grants for research expenses and assistance, £25,107. New grants totalling £3,932 were made for work in the history of medicine and £957 to assist other scientific publications. A grant was made to the Royal College of Physicians to cover the expected cost of producing a new edition of the 1928 Harvey film, by the use of colour photography, synchronized sound-track, animated diagrams and other appropriate improvements of cinematographic technique.

English Rural Life

THE Report of the Museum of English Rural Life for 1958 (University of Reading. Museum of English Rural Life—Report 1958. Pp. 24. Reading: The University, 1959. 1s.) is far from formal, for it includes, in fact is mainly devoted to, a summary of the principles of display in a museum. This part is contributed by Miss Margaret Fuller and Mr. C. A. Jewell and is of interest and value to all museum curators especially those who deal with the difficult problem of exhibiting folk-life material. In this report the policy of the Museum in relation to other regional museums is more clearly defined than it has been in the past and it is noted that it states its major task to be the formation of a national archive of information on all aspects of country life. It is hoped that in the future a considerable proportion of the objects in the Museum will be available to supplement other collections or to form the nucleus of new folk sections.

Genetical Effects of Population Subdivision

P. A. P. MORAN has advanced a theory relating to some genetical effects of population subdivision (*Australian J. Biol. Sci.*, 12, 2, 109 (1959)). The genetical effects of the subdivision of a population into partially isolated subgroups are considered in two particular cases. In the first a probability model is studied in which the subpopulations are of finite size with migration between them. In the absence of selection, the asymptotic rate of progress to homozygosity is shown to be very little affected by the subdivision. In the second case a deterministic model is studied in which there are two subpopulations in which selective forces are equal and opposite. A stable dimorphism is then shown to exist if there is any small amount of intermigration.

Fine Structure in Cells

G. Setterfield, H. Stern and F. B. Johnston have given an account of the fine structure in cells of pea and wheat embryos, based on observations using phase-contrast and electron microscopes (*Canadian Journal of Botany*, 37, 65 (1959)). The aim was to provide a basis for relating biochemical data on isolated cell fractions with the cytological structure *in situ*. Pertinent observations include the following: