

2,527,500 dollars (about £900,000) from Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Green of Dallas, Texas. This represents the March 31 market value of 30,000 shares of stock of Texas Instruments Inc., in which form the gift was made. The money will be used to construct a multi-story building on the Institute site, and will be a centre for the study of Earth sciences. Laboratories for research work in geophysics, meteorology, oceanography and related fields will form an important part of the new building.

#### University News:

London

DR. P. GROOTENHUIS, lecturer at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, has been appointed to the University readership in mechanical engineering tenable at that College. The title of reader in sociology in the University of London has been conferred on Mr. T. B. Bottomore, in respect of his post at the London School of Economics and Political Science. The title of professor emeritus in the University has been conferred on: Prof. R. J. S. McDowall on his retirement from the Halliburton chair of physiology at King's College; Prof. Margaret M. A. Murray on her retirement from the chair of physiology at Bedford College; Prof. J. H. Woodger on his retirement from the professorship of biology at the Middlesex Hospital Medical School; and Prof. H. J. Collins, on his retirement from the Chadwick chair of civil engineering at University College.

#### University College of Rhodesia and Nyasaland

MR. W. LLOYD JENKINS has been appointed lecturer in the Department of Chemistry with responsibility for teaching agricultural chemistry. Previously he was a lecturer in agricultural chemistry in the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.

#### The Night Sky in October

NEW moon occurs on Oct. 2d. 12h. 31m. U.T., full moon on Oct. 16d. 15h. 58m., and new moon on Oct. 31d. 22h. 41m. The following conjunctions with the Moon take place: Oct. 6d. 00h., Jupiter  $4^{\circ}$  S.; Oct. 8d. 05h., Saturn  $5^{\circ}$  S.; Oct. 28d. 14h., Venus  $0.9^{\circ}$  N. In addition to these conjunctions with the Moon, Venus is in conjunction with Regulus on Oct. 1d. 08h., Venus being  $5.7^{\circ}$  S., and Mercury with Spica on Oct. 4d. 09h., Mercury being  $2.1^{\circ}$  N. There will be a total eclipse of the Sun on October 2, visible as a partial eclipse at Greenwich. The path of totality begins at sunrise on the eastern seaboard of the United States, crosses the North Atlantic, Canary Islands and North Africa, ending in the western Indian Ocean at sunset. The partial eclipse which will be seen at Greenwich begins at 11h. 01m., reaches its greatest magnitude of 0.33 at 11h. 58m. and ends at 12h. 56m. The eclipse belongs to a series which began in 1599. Mercury is too close to the Sun for observation. Venus is a morning star, rising at 2h. 55m., 2h. 30m. and 2h. 35m. on October 1, 15 and 31, respectively. Its stellar magnitude is approximately  $-4.3$ ; greatest brilliancy is reached on October 8. Its distance increases during the month from 36 to 55 million miles and the visible portion of the apparent disk increases from 0.211 to 0.443. Mars is too close to the Sun for observation, conjunction being on October 29. Jupiter is also too close to the Sun for observation. Saturn sets at 21h. 20m., 20h. 25m. and 19h. 30m. on October 1, 15 and 31, respectively. Its stellar magnitude is  $+0.8$ ; it

remains in Sagittarius. Occultations of stars brighter than magnitude 6 are as follows, observations being made at Greenwich: Oct. 10d. 20h. 13.4m.,  $\tau$  Cap. m. (*D*); Oct. 17d. 20h. 04.4m.,  $\xi$  Ari. (*R*); Oct. 20d. 23h. 35.1m., 318 B. Tau. (*R*); Oct. 21d. 23h. 38.6m., 130 Tau. (*R*); Oct. 28d. 4h. 22.0m., 58 Leo. (*R*). *D* and *R* refer to disappearance and reappearance, respectively. The Giacobinids are active on October 9 and the Orionids during the third week of the month; conditions for both are unfavourable.

#### Announcements

LORD NETHERTHORPE, president of the National Farmers' Union, and Prof. F. W. Rogers Brambell, professor of zoology in the University College of North Wales, Bangor, have been appointed to fill vacancies in the membership of the Agricultural Research Council caused by the retirement of Sir Solly Zuckerman and Mr. Frank Rayns.

DR. A. G. OGSTON has resigned from the chairmanship of the Editorial Board of the *Biochemical Journal* and the Committee of the Biochemical Society has appointed Dr. W. V. Thorpe as his successor. Correspondence and communications should still be sent to the Secretary to the Editorial Board, Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine, Chelsea Bridge Road, London, S.W.1.

THE following officers of the Association of Consulting Scientists have been elected: *Chairman*, Dr. J. G. Davis; *Hon. Treasurer*, Dr. G. W. Ferguson; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. W. H. Stevens, 15 Hawthorne Road, Bromley, Kent.

A MEETING will be held on October 31 at the University of Nottingham with the object of forming a Society for Forensic Science. Further information can be obtained from Mr. S. S. Kind, 18 Hall Lane, Harrogate, Yorkshire.

THE eighth German Plastics Convention will take the form of an International Symposium on the Ageing of Plastics; it will be held during October 19-21 at Düsseldorf, Germany. Further information can be obtained from the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Deutsche Kunststoff-Industrie, Frankfurt (Main), Karlstr. 21.

THE German Society for Electronmicroscopy is holding a conference on various aspects of electronmicroscopy at the Departments of Pathology and Anatomy, Albert-Ludwigs-University, Freiberg im Breisgau, Germany, during October 18-21. Further information can be obtained from Tagung der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Elektronenmikroskopie e.V. Pathologisches Institut der Universität, Freiburg, Albertstr. 19.

THE City of London College, in collaboration with the Plastics Institute, has arranged a series of eight lectures on plastics which will be given on successive Mondays at the College, commencing on October 5. Further information can be obtained from Mr. A. Fawthrop, head of the Department of Shipping and Commercial Products, City of London College, London, E.C.2.

ERRATUM. The author of the communication "Appearance of Granules in the Cytoplasm of Tumour-cell Cultures in Contact with Lysozyme" in *Nature* of July 18, p. 202, is Mrs. Dirc Babudieri Callerio, and not Prof. Carlo Callerio as printed.