

initially the dorsal fin (used as a radiator) was much warmer. Gas samples taken from the whale's breath showed that the animal's lungs were not functioning well. It extracted only a third as much oxygen from the inhaled air as a human being does.

#### National Academy of Sciences—National Research Council

DR. KINZEL, vice-president for research of the Union Carbide Corporation, has been appointed chairman of the Division of Engineering and Industrial Research, National Academy of Sciences—National Research Council, in succession to Vice-Admiral Edward Lull Cochrane. The Division of Engineering and Industrial Research is one of eight divisions of the Academy—Research Council, a private organization of distinguished scientists devoted to the furtherance of science for the general welfare and to advising the Federal Government, upon request, on any matter of scientific or technical interest.

#### Textile Institute: Officers

DR. A. R. URQUHART, assistant director at the British Cotton Industry Research Association, and honorary secretary of the Textile Institute since 1958, has been elected chairman of the Council of the Textile Institute, in succession to Mr. G. Loasby, who has resigned due to business commitments. Mr. J. C. H. Hurd, head of the School of Textiles of Leicester College of Technology and Commerce, follows Dr. Urquhart as honorary secretary of the Institute. Mr. A. Draper, director of William Birtwistle Allied Mills, Ltd., Preston, continues in office as vice-chairman of Council, and Mr. A. F. W. Coulson, director of R. Greg and Co., Ltd., Stockport, continues in office as honorary treasurer.

#### Harrison Memorial Prize

APPLICATIONS for the Harrison Memorial Prize for research in chemistry are invited, and should be submitted to the selection committee not later than September 1. The prize is open to natural-born British subjects less than thirty years of age on December 1, 1959, and consists of a bronze plaque and a payment of 100 guineas. The selection committee consists of the Presidents of the Chemical Society, Royal Institute of Chemistry, Society of Chemical Industry and Pharmaceutical Society. Further information can be obtained from the President, Chemical Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W.1.

#### University News :

THE following appointments to lectureships are announced: Dr. A. K. Galwey and Dr. B. D. Flockhart (physical chemistry); Dr. A. Scott (zoology); R. Tavener-Smith (geology); and W. E. Glover (physiology).

#### Belfast

#### London

PROF. K. G. DENBIGH, professor of chemical technology in the University of Edinburgh (see *Nature*, 176, 583; 1955), has been appointed to the University chair of chemical engineering science tenable at the Imperial College of Science and Technology from October 1960 in succession to Prof. P. V. Danckwerts, who has taken over the Shell chair of chemical engineering in the University of Cambridge. Dr. G. H. Williams, lecturer at King's College, has been appointed to the University readership in organic chemistry tenable at Birkbeck College.

#### Announcements

THE Liverpool Geological Society Medal has been presented to Dr. J. C. Harper, senior lecturer in the Department of Geology, University of Liverpool, in recognition of his work on the Ordovician and Silurian faunas of North Wales and Ireland, and his services as an officer of the Society.

MR. J. H. GLOVER has been co-opted as secretary of the Polarographic Society in succession to Mr. W. J. Parker, who has resigned. All communications to the Society including subscriptions should be sent direct to Mr. Glover at 75 Craven Gardens, Wimbledon, London, S.W.19.

THE Institute of Welding has organized a Christmas Lecture with demonstrations, for young people, on "The Magic Arc", which is to be given by Prof. H. O'Neill. The lecture will take place on January 5 at the Institute, 54 Princes Gate, Exhibition Road, South Kensington, S.W.7. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary of the Institute at the above address.

THE Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers is organizing the fifth International Congress on High-Speed Photography, to be held in Washington, D.C., during October 16-22. In order to facilitate the organization of the Congress, it is desirable that intending authors should present their papers through their national delegate. Summaries must be received by February 16. Further information can be obtained from Dr. R. F. Saxe (United Kingdom national delegate), Queen Mary College, Mile End Road, London, E.1.

A COLLOQUIUM entitled "Proteins of the Biological Fluids" has been organized by St. Jans Hospital, Bruges, during May 6-7. This is the eighth colloquium of its kind to be held by the Hospital. Further information can be obtained from Dr. Hub Peeters, St. Jans Hospital, Bruges, Belgium.

AN International Symposium on Fermentation will be held in Rome during May 9-14, under the auspices of the Istituto Superiore di Sanità (Italian Institute of Public Health), the American Chemical Society (Fermentation Subdivision) and the Società Chimica Italiana. It will consist of scientific papers and panel discussions by invited participants, and is open to all interested scientists. Subjects covered will include fermentation technology (oxygen transfer, fermentor design, etc.), fermentation chemistry and fermentation biology. All inquiries should be addressed to: Fermentation Symposium, Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Viale Regina Elena 299, Rome.

A SYMPOSIUM on 'Inhaled Particles and Vapours' has been organized by the British Occupational Hygiene Society, and will be held in Oxford during March 29-April 1. Further information can be obtained from Dr. J. S. McLintock, Medical Service, National Coal Board, Hobart House, London, S.W.1.

ERRATA. With reference to the communication entitled "Crystal Structure of L-Serine Phosphate" in *Nature* of December 12, p. 1863, Prof. J. Monteath Robertson points out that in the last line on p. 1863, 103 per cent should read 10.3 per cent. Formula II is incorrect and should be:

