methods and aims, which merits wide reading by scientific workers. Prof. Boutry points out that owing to the rapid increase of the bulk of published scientific information, the probability that printing a paper in a periodical will suffice to ensure that the scientific information it contains will reach the appropriate scientific worker has steadily decreased in recent decades and is likely to continue doing so, nor have editors of abstracting periodicals any certain means of procuring all the literature they should review or learning of its existence. Needless repetition and duplication hamper the work of abstracting periodicals and no mechanical or automatic methods can improve the quality of the literature published or reviewed, or reduce useless duplication. Looking to the future, Prof. Boutry makes various proposals. Authors, he suggests, should voluntarily accept and comply with certain rules in writing their manuscripts. Particularly he advocates submission with the paper of an author's abstracts in two versions, one of which should be written in English or French, composed in accordance with the "Guide for the Preparation and Publication of Synopses" (Unesco). He also deprecates publication of incomplete and incorrect "Letters to the Editor". Editors are asked to agree voluntarily to see that these practices are followed and to waive copyright in respect of such abstracts for members of the Board, while national committees of science and national scientific societies are asked to help in tracking and listing serial or non-periodical publications in their countries and to discourage excessive printing of non-periodical publications.

Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland

THE fifty-eighth annual report of the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland covers the year ended September 30, 1959, in which investment policy has absorbed an exceptional amount of the time of the Executive Committee (pp. iii+73. Edinburgh: Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland, 1960). The new investment policy has substantially improved the income of the Trust, which reached a record high level of £176,564 in consequence. The largest single payment was £33,000 to the University of Glasgow towards the cost of the new arts building, while Edinburgh received £20,000 towards the cost of its new Staff Club. During the year there were on the books two Fellows, three senior scholars and 68 scholars of whom 30 were new appointments, and annual expenditure on the research scheme reached a record level of nearly £27,000. Counting mathematics and geography as arts subjects, forty of the awards were in arts and thirty-three in science; and 22 of the latter were to chemists, including biochemists. Under the new regulations, which discouraged applications from students benefiting from the improvement of local authority bursaries in 1957, while the number of beneficiaries fell from 1,430 in 1957–58 to 568 in 1958–59, the average payment per beneficiary rose from less than £15 to £30 and the total expenditure on fees only fell from £21,500 to just over £17,000. Appendixes to the report include the memorandum of evidence submitted to the Anderson Committee on Grants to Students and the usual reports on the work of Fellows and Scholars and on research grants other than travel grants as well as a list of publications since September 30, 1958, by Fellows, Scholars and recipients of grants. It is noted that three out of the six scholars who have completed their third year of work in chemistry have undertaken post-graduate research in the United States or Canada, but that information suggests that at least half such British research graduates in chemistry eventually return. Assistance given to the Scottish Dictionaries Joint Council was consolidated into an annual grant of £5,000 until 1963 and assistance to Scottish learned societies towards the cost of publications has been restricted to the present level of £2,500 per annum.

Instrument Abstracts

A USEFUL journal for all who work with instruments is compiled by the British Scientific Instrument Research Association (No. 1, Vol. 1, January 15, 1960). It contains details of a wide range of publications in instrument technology with abstracts of many of them. Besides a general section there are sub-sections on astronomy, atomic physics, biology and medicine, chemistry, control, data handling, electricity, electronics, fluid mechanics, geophysics and meteorology, heat, light, magnetism and electromagnetism, materials and design, mechanics, navigation, sound, surveying, and telecommunications. The publications listed have been taken from many countries including France, Germany, Holland, United States and the U.S.S.R. *Instrument Abstracts* is published monthly by Taylor and Francis, Ltd., Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, London, E.C.4. The annual subscription is £4.

U.S.S.R. and the International Geophysical Year

A SERIES of publications concerning various activities in the U.S.S.R. during the International Geophysical Year has been issued. Included are: a classified bibliography of 616 items covering all branches of activities in the U.S.S.R. during the International Geophysical Year ("Bibliographical Index of Literature in Russian Language for 1958." Pp. 63. Moscow: Publ. Acad. Sci. U.S.S.R.); a report on thirteen fulfilled plans of observations, four reports and some articles dealing with geophysical researches carried out with rockets in the United States (Information Bulletin No. 7. Pp. 114. Moscow: Publ. Acad. Sci. U.S.S.R.); a collection of twelve articles dealing with geomagnetism and ionosphere investigations ("Magneto-Ionosphere Disturbances". Pp. 75. Moscow: Publ. Acad. Sci. U.S.S.R.). In each case the text is in Russian; however, there is also a contents in English.

Russian for Scientists

A VERY slender pamphlet by Prof. J. W. Perry, entitled "Scientific Russian Without Tears", has been issued recently. Unfortunately it is far too short to be of much value to a novice and far too elementary for an advanced student of the Russian language (pp. ii+26. (Reprinted from *The Chemical Bulletin.*) (Chicago: Chicago Section, American Chemical Society, Inc., 1959.) 1 dollar). Its only possible use is as an auxiliary to a normal dictionary in the case of a scientist trying to read Russian scientific literature, but in this case a dictionary of scientific terms would obviously be better. It is "Without Tears" for the simple reason that the majority of words included are international, for example, atom, vector, canal, parameter, etc., and only a knowledge of the Cyrillic alphabet is necessary to read them in Russian. A novice who is struggling with the intri-