

work shall be conducted at an American institution. Applications and inquiries should be sent to the Lalor Foundation, 4400 Lancaster Pike, Wilmington 5, Delaware, and applications must be received by January 16, 1961.

#### Non-Destructive Testing of Materials

THE British Council is organizing a course on the non-destructive testing of materials in London for two weeks beginning October 16. The course is designed for overseas industrial technologists and scientific research workers. Its aim is to provide them with a broad survey of work in progress in the United Kingdom on the development of non-destructive testing techniques and the uses to which these techniques are being put by industry. The course will consist of lectures, discussions and visits. The main emphasis will be on the scientific background. The inclusive fee for this course, which is residential, will be £47. Further information can be obtained from Miss B. Sinclair, The British Council, 65 Davies Street, London, W.1.

#### The Leopoldina German Academy of Sciences : Elections

THE Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher Leopoldina, Halle, recently elected the following new members, among others, in the sections indicated: *Physics*, Prof. Hans Kopfermann (Heidelberg); *Geophysics*, Prof. Alfred Ehnert (Göttingen); *Chemistry*, Prof. Horst Böhme (Marburg), Prof. Harry J. Emeléus (Cambridge), Prof. Gunnar Hägg (Uppsala), Prof. Karl Myrbäck (Stockholm), Prof. Linus Pauling (Pasadena), Prof. Tadeusz Urbaniski (Warsaw), Prof. K. Venkataaraman (Poona); *Botany*, Prof. Rudolf Mansfeld (Gatersleben).

#### The Night Sky in October

FULL moon occurs on Oct. 4d. 22h. 17m. U.T., and new moon on Oct. 20d. 12h. 03m. The following conjunctions with the Moon take place: Oct. 9d. 09h., Aldebaran  $0.3^\circ$  S.; Oct. 11d. 22h., Mars  $5^\circ$  N.; Oct. 22d. 21h., Venus  $6^\circ$  S.; Oct. 24d. 22h., Jupiter  $5^\circ$  S.; Oct. 25d. 21h., Saturn  $4^\circ$  S. In addition to these conjunctions with the Moon, Venus is in conjunction with Antares on Oct. 28d. 20h., Venus being  $3^\circ$  N. Mercury and Venus are too close to the Sun for observation. Mars rises at 21h. 15m., 20h. 50m. and 20h. 10m. at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively. It is in Gemini, and is a very prominent object, of magnitude  $+0.1$  on October 15, when its distance from the Earth is 88 million miles. Jupiter sets at 20h. 50m., 20h. 05m. and 19h. 15m. on October 1, 15 and 31, respectively. It is in Sagittarius, and may be seen low in the southwest after sunset, but conditions are not favourable for observation. Saturn is in Sagittarius, east of Jupiter, and sets at 22h. 00m., 21h. 10m. and 20h. 15m. at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively. Its stellar magnitude is  $+0.7$  and its distance from the Earth on October 15 is 940 million miles. There is one occultation of a star brighter than magnitude 6 visible at Greenwich: Oct. 9d. 0h. 24.9m.,  $\gamma$  Tau. (*D*); Oct. 9d. 1h. 41.7m.,  $\gamma$  Tau. (*R*). *D* and *R* refer to disappearance and reappearance, respectively. The Giacobinids are active on October 9, but conditions are unfavourable, and little activity is expected. The Orionids are active during the third week of the month, conditions being favourable; the radiant is near R.A.  $+6$ h. 24m., Dec.  $+15^\circ$ .

#### Announcements

DR. G. JONES, of the Rowett Research Institute, Bucksburn, Aberdeen, has been appointed to hold the Sophie Fricke Royal Society Research Fellowship in the Rockefeller Institute for the academic year 1960-61. Dr. Jones will leave the United Kingdom in October for the Rockefeller Institute, where he will be working on the fractionation and characterization of leaf proteins.

SIR WILLIAM SLATER, until recently secretary of the Agricultural Research Council, has been appointed chairman of the governing body of the Glasshouse Crops Research Institute in succession to Mr. T. Ainslie Robertson.

MR. V. CORY, at present deputy county advisory officer in the National Agricultural Advisory Service, Essex, has been appointed county advisory officer for Yorkshire (West Riding) in succession to Mr. J. Gibbons, who has been appointed county advisory officer for Somerset. Mr. Cory will take up his new post on October 3.

THE Association of British Chemical Manufacturers, 86 Strand, London, W.C.2, has published a booklet entitled "Chemical Plant Instrumentation. Some Notes on the Use of Measuring Instruments" (6s. to members; 7s. 6d. to non-members, post paid). The nine topics covered in some fifty pages include temperature and pressure measurement, gas chromatography, continuous gas analysis by infra-red, glass electrode pH-meter and smoke-density meters. The information will be of interest to the managements of industrial firms.

THE Institute of Physics and the Physical Society is arranging a conference on statistical mechanics (with special reference to irreversibility), to be held at Queen Mary College, London, on December 19 and 20. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, Institute of Physics and the Physical Society, 47 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1.

THE annual meeting of the Physical Chemistry Society of France will be held at l'Hotel du Col de Voza, Chamonix-Mont Blanc (Haute Savoie), during June 26-30, 1961. The subject of the meeting will be "The Structure, Synthesis and Function of Deoxyribonucleic Acid". Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, Société de Chimie Physique, 10 Rue Vauquelin, Paris V<sup>e</sup>.

THE AGARD Avionics Panel has arranged a symposium on "Radio Navigation" in conjunction with the Tenth AGARD General Assembly during October 3-9 in Istanbul. The proceedings will cover general problems concerned with navigation, including papers on wave-propagation, radio-navigation including Doppler and air-traffic control, space and astro-navigation and display methods and automatic approach and landing. Further information can be obtained from the Advisory Group for Aeronautical Research and Development, Organisation du Traité de l'Atlantique Nord, 64 rue de Varenne, Paris 7<sup>ème</sup>.

ERRATUM. Writing in connexion with the communication entitled "Staining for Iodine in Chromatograms of Human Plasma" in *Nature* of August 20, p. 691, Dr. J. D. H. Slater states that the limit of sensitivity quoted as  $0.2 \mu\text{gm./100 ml.}$  should have been  $2.0 \mu\text{gm./100 ml.}$  (line 19, p. 692). The authors have since developed a considerably more sensitive technique.