

Department of Civil Engineering from the Cement and Concrete Association; 7,000 dollars to the Department of Biomolecular Structure from the Muscular Dystrophy Association of America.

#### London

DR. C. B. B. DOWNMAN has been appointed to the Sophia Jex-Blake chair of physiology at the Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine; Dr. I. Doniach to the chair of morbid anatomy tenable at the London Hospital Medical School; and Dr. J. Hamilton to the second chair of physics tenable at University College. Among the appointments to readerships are: Mr. A. J. Buller (physiology), tenable at King's College; Mr. J. C. de Courcy Henderson (reinforced concrete structures), tenable at the Imperial College of Science and Technology. Titles of "professor in the University of London" have been conferred on Dr. H. Elliot (physics), in respect of his post at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, and on Dr. W. J. Hickinbottom (organic chemistry), in respect of his post at Queen Mary College. Titles of professor emeritus have been conferred on Prof. T. J. Bosworth (veterinary pathology), Prof. E. S. Pearson (statistics), Prof. Dorothy S. Russell (morbid anatomy), Prof. W. Smith (bacteriology), and Prof. E. E. Turner (chemistry).

Prof. E. T. C. Spooner, University professor of bacteriology and immunology, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, has been appointed dean of the School in succession to the late Sir James Kilpatrick.

#### Sheffield

THE following appointments to lectureships have been announced: Mr. F. W. G. Warren (applied mathematics); Dr. D. N. Jones (chemistry); Dr. R. N. Dixon (chemistry); and Dr. J. M. West (metallurgy).

#### "Roughness of the Moon as a Radar Reflector"

THE portion of this issue of *Nature* including the communication with the above title (p. 490) was printed before the mistake referred to below was noticed. Dr. B. H. Briggs writes: "Owing to an unfortunate error, the dotted curve in the graph is approximately  $\exp(-20 \theta)$  and not  $\exp(-10 \theta)$  as stated. The detailed agreement between the optical observations and the radar results of Hughes is therefore not as close as was originally thought, though it remains true that both methods indicate a mean slope of the order of  $3^\circ$ . I am indebted to Dr. Hughes for pointing out the above error".

#### Announcements

THE Medical Research Council's Neuropsychiatric Research Unit, under the direction of Dr. D. Richter, has been transferred from the Whitchurch Hospital, Cardiff, to the Council's Laboratories at Carshalton, Surrey.

DR. R. L. SMITH-ROSE, who is retiring from the post of director of the Radio Research Station of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (*Nature*, 185, 353; 1960), has been appointed chairman of the Post Office Frequency Advisory Committee in succession to Sir Lawrence Bragg.

PROF. F. D. RICHARDSON, professor of metallurgy in the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, will deliver the fourth Robert Horne

Memorial Lecture of the Society of Chemical Industry in the Chemistry Department, University of Bristol, on September 29, at 6.30 p.m. He will speak on "The Extraction of Metals and the Chemistry of Metals". The Lecture is open to the public.

AN international colloquium is to be held at the University of Grenoble on "The Physics of Electrostatic Forces and Their Applications" during September 27-October 1. The Colloquium is organized by Le Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique. Further information can be obtained from Prof. Noël Felici, Faculté des Sciences, Université de Grenoble, Grenoble.

THE European Association for Potato Research has announced its intention to organize a series of triennial conferences to review the position of potato research. The first of these conferences is to be held at Brunswick during September 12-17. Further information can be obtained from Tagungsbüro der EAPR, Institut für Pflanzenbau und Saatguterzeugung, Bundesallee 50, Brunswick.

THE Plastics and Polymer Group of the Society of Chemical Industry has arranged a three-day symposium on "High-temperature Resistance and Thermal Degradation of Polymers", to be held during September 21-23 at the William Beveridge Hall, Senate House, University of London. Further information can be obtained from the Convenor, Plastics and Polymer Symposium Sub-Committee, 14 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1.

THE Institution of Gas Engineers and the Corrosion Group (Birmingham and Midlands Section) of the Society of Chemical Industry are organizing a joint symposium on "The Protection of Gas Plant and Equipment from Corrosion", at the College of Advanced Technology, Birmingham, during September 22-23. Further information can be obtained from the Symposium Secretary, Department of Chemistry, College of Advanced Technology, Costa Green, Birmingham, 4.

THE Chemical Society of London has announced that it will consider a number of applications for the assistance of research in any branch of chemistry. About £700 per annum is available for this purpose. Applications should be made to the General Secretary, The Chemical Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W.1, not later than November 15.

THE Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (Australia) has issued a List of Publications to December 31, 1959, including both those of the Organization itself and of its predecessors (Pp. 45. Melbourne: Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization, 1960). The publications are arranged under handbooks and monographs: journals; bulletins; pamphlets; circulars; land research series; soil publications; leaflets; semi-technical periodicals; divisional publications; and miscellaneous publications. There is also a subject index.

ERRATUM. In the communication entitled "Two Types of Catalase-like Activity in the Lactic Acid Bacteria", by R. Whittenbury, in *Nature* of July 30, p. 433, there is an error in Table 1. The number of catalase-positive organisms recorded for *L. cellobiosus* and *L. viridescens* are 2 and 0, respectively; they should read 0 and 2.