

69; 1960), many kilometres in length and propelled by fuel, the energy of which is wholly transformed into luminous energy.

A New Elementary Particle

IN a brief note Din Da-Tzao and E. N. Kladnitskaya (*Priroda*, 8, 17; 1960) give an account of the discovery in the Dubno laboratory of a new elementary particle—an antisigma minus hyperon. This discovery was made by a group of research workers under the leadership of V. I. Weksler and Van Gan-Chan. As shown by the particle track photograph this particle was produced through the collision of a pi-meson with the nucleus of a carbon atom.

French Scientific and Technical Books 1950-60

A COLLECTED catalogue of French scientific and technical books 1950-60, with an introduction by P. Piganiol, comprises a selection of books at present on sale and published between 1950 and 1960 (*Catalogue Collectif des livres Français de Sciences et Techniques*, 1950-1960. Pp. viii+242. Paris: Cercle de la Librairie, 1961). The books are classified by subject in five main sections under science, and eleven under technology, and alphabetically by title within the sub-sections. There are alphabetical subject and author indexes.

The Society for General Microbiology

THE Society for General Microbiology held its annual general meeting on April 10, at the Royal Institution. For the forthcoming year the following officers were elected: *President*, Prof. R. Lovell; *Treasurer*, Prof. K. E. Cooper; *Editors*, Prof. B. C. J. G. Knight and Mr. A. F. B. Standfast; *Meetings Secretary*, Dr. B. W. Lacey; *General Secretary*, Dr. S. T. Cowan. The Marjory Stephenson Memorial Lecture, "The Development of Microbiology", was given by Prof. B. C. J. G. Knight, and a symposium on the Microbial Reaction to Environment was held on April 11 and 12. The subject of the Society's symposium in 1962 will be "Microbial Classification".

Electron Microscopy

THE Electron Microscopy Group of the Institute of Physics and the Physical Society is holding its annual conference at the University of Nottingham during July 10-14. The conference will be concerned mainly with the physics of the electron microscope and its applications. Among the main topics to be discussed are: "Electron Microscopes and Electron Optics"; "Electron Microscopy of Thin Films"; "The Theory and Scope of Electron Diffraction Methods"; "Miscellaneous Techniques and Applications of Electron Microscopy". The conference will also include a symposium on "The Physics of Sectioning and the Embedding Process". Further information can be obtained from the Administration Assistant, Institute of Physics and the Physical Society, 47 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1.

Seminars on Nuclear Science

THE European Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organization for European Economic Co-operation has arranged with the Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell and the Centre d'Etudes Nucléaires at Saclay for two international seminars on nuclear energy. Designed for the teaching staffs of universities and higher technical colleges, each seminar will accept about fifty applicants, who will

have the opportunity to study the latest advances in nuclear science and techniques, to do certain practical work, and to visit nuclear installations. The Harwell seminar will take place during July 10-21, and that at Saclay, June 28-July 7. The costs of both seminars are being borne by the European Nuclear Energy Agency, and participants will only be required to pay travelling and living expenses. Further information can be obtained from the Organization for European Economic Co-operation, European Nuclear Energy Agency, 38 Boulevard Suchet, Paris 16e.

Announcements

PROF. K. E. BULLEN, professor of applied mathematics in the University of Sydney, has been awarded the William Bowie Medal for Unselfish Co-operation in Research by the American Geophysical Union, in recognition of his contributions to knowledge of the interior of the Earth.

DR. K. J. IRVINE is to succeed Mr. W. E. Bardgett, at present research manager for research and development of the United Steel Companies, Ltd., when the latter retires on July 1. Dr. Irvine will take the title of metallurgical research manager.

THE Institute of Fuel is organizing a second conference on "Waste Heat Recovery", which will be held in Bournemouth during May 15-19. Further information can be obtained from the Institute of Fuel, 18 Devonshire Street, Portland Place, London, W.1.

THE theme of the 1961 convention of the British Institute of Radio Engineers is to be "Radio Techniques and Space Research". The Convention is being held in the University of Oxford during July 5-8. Further information can be obtained from the General Secretary, British Institution of Radio Engineers, 9 Bedford Square, London, W.C.1.

THE Royal Meteorological Society is holding a two-day meeting at the University of Exeter during July 12-14. The meeting will include symposia on "Winds and Circulation in the Upper Atmosphere" and "Medium-scale Diffusion in the Atmosphere". Further information can be obtained from the Assistant Secretary, Royal Meteorological Society, 49 Cromwell Road, London, S.W.7.

THE fifth international conference on "Ionization Phenomena in Gases", sponsored by the Association of the German Physical Societies (Plasma and Discharge Physics Group), will be held at Munich during August 28-September 1. Further information can be obtained from Prof. K. H. Höcker, Technische Hochschule Stuttgart, Herdweg 51, Stuttgart.

THE 1961 biennial conference of the Oil and Colour Chemists' Association is to be held at Torquay during May 30-June 3. The general title of the conference will be "Physics in Surface Coatings". Further information can be obtained from the General Secretary, Oil and Colour Chemists' Association, Wax Chandlers' Hall, Gresham Street, London, E.C.2.

ERRATA. IN the note entitled "The Geological Society of London", appearing on p. 492 of May 6 issue of *Nature*, the final sentence refers to newly elected members of the Society's Council. Furthermore, Dr. P. A. Sabine, one of the newly elected secretaries, is the chief petrographer, H.M. Geological Survey.