

1961 at its various Field Centres. *Malham Tarn Field Centre* (near Settle, Yorkshire): grasses, sedges and rushes (July 5–12); mosses and liverworts (August 23–30); identification and ecology of lichens (August 30–September 6); ecology of freshwater animals (August 30–September 6); meteorology, organized in conjunction with the Royal Meteorological Society (September 6–13); fungi (September 6–13); Pennine fossils (September 13–20); rivers and streams (September 20–27); karstic land-forms (September 20–27); spider ecology (September 20–27). *Flatford Mill Field Centre* (East Berghold, near Colchester, Essex): art of botanical illustration (July 19–26); landscape painting courses (August 9–23); animal life in the soil (August 9–16); insect ecology (August 16–23); field archaeology (August 23–September 6); small mammals (September 16–23); autumn art week (October 4–11). *Slapton Ley Field Centre* (Slapton, Kingsbridge, Devonshire): outdoor painting course (August 9–16); natural history fortnight (August 9–23); introduction to the study of lichens (August 16–23); introduction to the study of seaweeds (August 16–23); natural history of south-western woodland (August 30–September 6); geology and scenery for beginners (August 30–September 6); introduction to the study of lower plants (September 20–27). *Dale Fort Field Centre* (Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire): weather and bird movements, organized under the auspices of the Royal Meteorological Society and the British Trust for Ornithology (September 6–13). Further information on each of the courses can be obtained from the Warden of the Field Centre concerned.

#### Keele Foundation Year Course

THE Nuffield Foundation has made a grant of £5,000 to the University College of North Staffordshire to pay for an investigation into the effects of the Keele Foundation Year course. This course, unique to Keele, is taken by all students in the first year of the four-year degree course and is designed to introduce the student to some of the methods and information necessary to an estimate of the inheritance, the problems and the achievements of modern western European man. The grant will pay the salary of a Research Fellow and an assistant who will attempt to establish any relationship there may be between performance in the Foundation Year course and such factors as previous educational record, subsequent performance in the degree course, career after graduation, etc. It is hoped that the information obtained may give valuable indications of ways in which the Foundation Year course can be further developed or modified and that this may be the first stage of a continuing inquiry.

#### Announcements

THE Meldola Medal for 1960 has been awarded to Dr. J. N. Bradley, for his work in the field of physical chemistry, with special reference to the kinetics of reactions involving free radicals and reaction in shock waves studied by mass spectrometry. The award is made by the Royal Institute of Chemistry with the concurrence of the Society of Maccabaeans.

DR. R. CONRAD, assistant director of the Medical Research Council's Applied Psychology Research Unit at Cambridge, will act as consultant in applied psychology to the General Post Office for an initial period of two years.

At a meeting held on May 11, the Council of the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers appointed Mr. H. W. Vallender as deputy director of the Association.

THE following appointments at the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization have been announced: Dr. Hans Dietrich Cremer, to be chief of the Applied Nutrition Branch; Dr. Arthur H. Doff, to be assistant chief of the Research Branch of the Radiological Health Division.

THE sixteenth annual electronics, instruments and components exhibition and convention of the Institution of Electronics will be held at the College of Science and Technology, Manchester 1, during the periods July 6–8 and 10–12 inclusive. This programme will incorporate a scientific and industrial research section, a manufacturers' section and a number of lectures and films. Further information can be obtained from the general secretary, W. Birtwistle, Institution of Electronics, 78 Shaw Road, Rochdale, Lancs.

THE Department of Mathematics of the Hatfield College of Technology is organizing a summer school on "Mathematics of Automatic Control" during June 26–30, the object being to enable mathematicians and engineers working on problems of automatic control to study some of the relevant mathematical techniques developed in recent years in Britain, America and the U.S.S.R. Further details can be obtained from the Academic Registrar, Hatfield College of Technology, Hatfield, Herts.

THE annual meeting of the American Society of Pharmacognosy will be held at the University of Houston during June 19–21. Among the subjects to be considered are: opportunities for Ph.D. pharmacognosists; specific techniques of thin-film chromatography; uridine nucleotides in glycoside biosynthesis; chemo-taxonomy of selected groups within the Coniferae; research on south-western drug plants; the pharmacognosy of the anti-cancer plants, the periwinkles. Further information can be obtained from Melvin R. Gibson, School of Pharmacy, Washington State University, Pullman, Washington.

ELLIOTT BROTHERS (LONDON), LTD., a member of the Elliott-Automation Group, is organizing a private symposium and exhibition on "Analytical Instrumentation of Industrial Process Control" at the Connaught Rooms, London, during June 13–14. Included will be papers on: the application of analysis instruments in the United States; the continuous measurement of moisture; analysis instruments from the point of view of the user; experience with plant stream analysers at Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., Billingham; trends in continuous process analysis. The exhibition will include a selection of 'Quality Control' instruments supplied by the Analytical Instruments Division of Elliott Brothers (London), Ltd. Further information can be obtained from John Geddes, Elliott-Automation, Ltd., 34 Portland Place, London, W.1.

ERRATA. The following corrections are necessary in the communication entitled "Minimum Range to Artificial Earth Satellites" in *Nature* of April 22, p. 333. In the first line of the paragraph containing equation (5), for " $\rho_s = \rho_p = \infty$ " read " $\rho_s = \rho_p = \infty$ ". Further, the numerator on the left-hand side of equation (5) should read " $\lambda(\dot{f})_{f=f}$ "; in some copies the differentiation sign has not registered.