

needed to stimulate export is a considerable easing of the burden of taxation. He does not suggest any particular reductions in expenditure and admits that much expenditure is desirable or essential, but the argument is one with implications which the scientist might be wise to consider.

Nutrition Society of Canada

At the fourth annual meeting of the Nutrition Society of Canada, held at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, on May 30, the following officers were elected: *President*, Dr. E. H. Bensley, Montreal; *Vice-President*, Dr. R. H. Common, Macdonald College; *Treasurer*, Dr. J. A. Campbell, Ottawa; *Secretary*, Prof. E. V. Evans, Guelph; *Councillors*, Dr. J. M. Bell (1964), Saskatoon, Dr. L. P. Dugal (1963), Ottawa, and Dr. W. W. Hawkins (1962), Halifax. A feature of the annual dinner of the Society was the announcement of the winner of the second Borden Award of the Nutrition Society of Canada for research in nutrition. This year's winner, Dr. Donald Fraser, of the Research Institute, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Ontario, was cited for his work on vitamin D-refractory rickets in children and on varied aspects of calcium and phosphorus metabolism. The special speaker at the dinner was Dr. Ross A. Chapman, assistant director, Scientific Services, Food and Drug Directorate, Ottawa, whose topic was "Research in the Food and Drug Directorate". The one-day Society programme included a session of short research papers and a symposium on "Current Problems in Nutrition".

New Thinking in School Mathematics

A REVISION of the school curriculum in mathematics is needed for two main reasons. First, the gap between school mathematics and new mathematics is increasing, though it is more than ever important that the average intelligent citizen should understand that mathematics is the true foundation of our technological society. Secondly, the shortage of mathematics teachers might be partially remedied by ensuring that no time is wasted by teaching valueless or outmoded material. The Organization for European Economic Co-operation arranged a survey and a seminar at Royaumont attended by about fifty representatives from Europe and North America. A report, edited by Howard Fehr, is now available (Pp. 246. Paris: Organization for European Economic Co-operation, 1961. 10 N.F.; 15s.; 2.50 dollars; 8.50 D.M.). Part 1 summarizes the proceedings of the seminar. There was a general demand for a reduction in old-fashioned geometry, the inclusion of modern ideas in algebra, possibly with an abstract basis, and the introduction of probability and statistics. The implementation of such a programme would require new text-books and equipment, revised courses for teacher-training, and the re-education of serving teachers. Part 2 gives the results of the survey of present practices and trends, with much valuable information concisely presented. The volume should be studied carefully by all teachers of mathematics; even if they quail at some of the ultra-radical suggestions, they will appreciate the insistence on pattern and structure as the essence of mathematics.

Coryndon Memorial Museum, Nairobi

THE annual report of the Coryndon Memorial Museum for 1959 is, as usual, a record of much pro-

gressive work. This included the establishment of a Snake Park and Snake Study Centre surrounded by a Botanical Garden, to which there was immediate popular approval (Pp. 24 + 1 plate. Nairobi: Museums Trustees of Kenya and Coryndon Memorial Museum, 1961. 1s.). All Departments of the Museum are in urgent need of cabinets for storage, especially in view of the almost indescribable dust problem in dry, windy weather. A number of new exhibits was completed. These include a habitat group depicting the swordfish, two giant fossil human milk teeth from the Olduvai Gorge and a leopard habitat group.

Western Australian Museum

THE annual report of the Western Australian Museum for the year ended June 30, 1960, records the separation as from May 27, 1960, of the Museum and the Art Gallery. The Trustees of the combined institution have been replaced by two Boards of five members each. Consequent on this separation the Art Gallery moved out of the present James Street wing. Appropriately, the report includes an illustrated short historical sketch of the Museum, together with a comprehensive statement regarding future policy in relation to the various Departments. An account is also given of the major expeditions undertaken during the year, and these include one to investigate the fauna and flora of the Bernier and Dorre Islands in Shark Bay, another to Northwest Cape, and assistance given to the Bernice P. Bishop Museum of Hawaii when it had a mollusc-hunting expedition in Western Australia. The practice of including a short summary of papers published by members of the staff is useful and worthy of commendation.

Treatment of Varicose Veins

VARICOSE veins of the lower extremities are a frequent and highly disabling condition. Their surgical management has undergone a great number of variations since varicosities were treated by puncturing and drainage in the Hippocratic era. The exact aetiology of varicose veins still remains obscure; the disease may tend to be progressive, and morbidity causes economic strain on the patient and the community. Yutaka Kato and Robert A. Nabatoff, of the Department of Surgery, the Mount Sinai Hospital, New York City, N.Y., have carried out complete stripping of varicose veins of the lower extremities under local anaesthesia (*Yokohama Med. Bull.*, 11, No. 6; December 1960). This permits, almost immediately, post-operative ambulation and minimizes thrombo-embolic phenomena. The number of incisions depends on the number of incompetent perforator veins. All incompetent perforators are accurately mapped out pre-operatively, and all are ligated flush with the deep veins prior to the stripping procedure. Since all the veins communicating with the diseased great saphenous system and all 'blow-outs' in other locations are interrupted, and since the remaining varicose vein segments are stripped out, very few, if any, injections of sclerosing solution are necessary following operation.

The American Philosophical Society

Year Book 1960 of the American Philosophical Society contains, besides the lists of present and former officers of the Society and of former and present members, the charter and laws of the Society, and a brief history of the Society by E. G. Conklin (Pp. 786. Philadelphia: American Philosophical Society,