

necessary for dealing with the later stages of the project. The Library's British National Book Centre has now extended its service to include foreign libraries, and some 19,977 specially requested books and periodical volumes and parts were allocated to 126 foreign libraries, while in return 3,987 offers of foreign material were made by the foreign libraries benefiting. Of the total issues of 90,612 volumes, 16,555 were to university libraries, 10,255 to special outlier libraries, 2,653 to Government departments, 3,414 to industrial and research organizations, and 4,520 to overseas libraries. The university libraries lent 29,826 books, compared with 28,611 in the previous year. The Library itself supplied 641 microfilms and 326 photostat copies, and of these 491 microfilms and 187 photostat copies came from co-operating libraries in the United Kingdom. Foreign libraries supplied 732 microfilms and photostat copies.

The Institute of Personnel Management

THE annual report of the Council of the Institute of Personnel Management for 1960-61 records an increase of 441 in membership to 4,938, and the Information Service is now handling about double the number of inquiries in 1959 (Pp. 31. London: Institute of Personnel Management, 1961). During the year, views on the proposed Government Bill on Health, Welfare and Safety in Shops, Offices and Railway Premises were submitted by the Institute to the Ministry of Labour. A paper by A. B. Cherns on priorities for research in the social services in industry was published in the Institute's journal, and during the year a sub-committee on research was formed which convened a meeting of representatives of research bodies in this field to advise it, at which the proposal that the Institute should develop its research role was welcomed. Two important new broadsheets have been published, one by H. E. Roff and T. E. Watson, dealing with job analysis, and the other by J. R. Armstrong on supervisory training, and an address by Sir Ben Lockspeiser, "Man and his Machines, Automation and Computation—their Origins and Effects", given at the 1960 National Conference, has been published as an occasional paper. Particulars of this conference and of the regional conferences held during the year are also given in the report.

Science and Public Health

THE annual report for 1960 of the scientific adviser, Dr. S. G. Burgess, of the Scientific Branch, Public Health Department, London County Council, at present organized in eight sections, records that 42,090 samples were examined during the year (Pp. 60. London: London County Council, 1961. 1s. 3d.). Some 90 per cent of the increase of 6,800 samples is due to the analysis of air samples necessitated by safety precautions against the leakage of inflammable sludge gas at the Northern Outfall Works. During the year the resources of the Board were made available to the Metropolitan borough councils, and investigation of noise, and nuisance arising from noise, in a large area of London was commenced in collaboration with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. A light-weight concrete based on an expanded aggregate was used for the construction of a thirteen-storey block of flats, and the Scientific Branch co-operated with the architect in solving many problems associated with the design. The practicability of laying hot asphalt over an expanded polystyrene roof insulation was also investigated, a new

washing technique developed which offers considerable savings in laundry processes, while other special investigations were concerned with methane gas detectors, impurities in sludge gas and deposits in sludge gas lines and flame traps. New laboratories were completed at the Northern Outfall Works and a new Building Materials Laboratory at County Hall, London.

Corrosion Science

THE first quarterly issue of a new international journal devoted to the science of corrosion and protection of metals and entitled *Corrosion Science* made its appearance in August (1, No. 1. An International Journal of the Science of Corrosion and Protection of Metals. Pp. 76. (London and New York: Pergamon Press, 1961. Annual subscription: (A) for libraries, Government establishments and research institutions, 140s., 20 dollars; (B) for individuals who write directly to the publishers certifying that the journal is for their personal use, 70s., 10 dollars). The journal is published by Pergamon Press under the guidance of an executive editorial board consisting of C. Edleeanu, J. G. Hines, T. P. Hoar and L. L. Shrier of Great Britain, M. Pourbaix of Belgium and M. J. Pryor of the United States. The standard of reproduction is of the usual high quality associated with Pergamon Press. The editorial notice mentions, among other things, that papers on corrosion are at present published in many diverse chemical, metallurgy and engineering journals, and expresses the hope that the new journal will help to concentrate this information. That there will be an adequate flow of papers of appropriate quality to the new journal seems assured, in view of the continually increasing amount of work in this field.

The first issue of a new journal always presents some difficulties for both publisher and reader, for the former in deciding how to obtain appropriate papers, and for the reader in deciding whether the first issue is likely to be representative of the eventual standing of the journal. In the present case there are five papers occupying 75 pages, with sufficient breadth of content to offer something of interest to the majority of corrosion scientists. The composition of the executive editorial board is such that the journal should establish itself as of high repute and with a continuing breadth of appeal.

The Australian Museum, Sydney

THE September issue of the *Australian Museum Magazine* (13, No. 11; September 15, 1961) contains illustrated articles on the boomerang, insect migration, vampire bats—true and false—the piranha and meteorites. It is recorded that Mr. F. A. McNeill retired from the curatorship of the Department of Crustacea and Coelenterates after 47 years service. He was a specialist on Australian Crustacea. An exhibit on whales and whaling has been completed. It contains models of fifteen different species, of whaling ships and of whales being flensed on deck. Maps show the areas in the Antarctic in which whaling is carried out, the location of shore stations, and the areas in which whales are protected.

Automatic Data Processing

A PUBLICATION issued by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (*Automatic Data Processing*. By Derek Wragge Morley. Pp. iv+76+8 plates. London: H.M.S.O., 1961. 6s. net) seeks to provide guidance to the public about available tech-