

research in Scotland was normally channelled through the Scottish Council for Research in Education. Work in hand included continued research into intelligence and intelligence tests, the teaching of arithmetic and writing, and the influence of nursery schools on a child's subsequent educational performance. An important project had been initiated, in co-operation with the University of Edinburgh, bearing on educational requirements for success in higher education, and the Scottish Education Department intended to assist directly the University of Aberdeen in research into programmed teaching.

University Development in Scotland

In replying for the Government in a debate on a fifth university for Scotland in the House of Commons on April 19, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Sir Edward Boyle, said that the Government's decision that no further universities in England, Wales or Scotland would be nominated before the Robbins Committee reported next year remained firm. He pointed out, however, that pressure on university places was still less severe in Scotland than in England. During the past five years the number of students increased by 20 per cent to more than 18,000, of whom a quarter came from outside Scotland, and Sir Edward anticipated that with the increased Exchequer grants recently announced the Scottish universities and the Royal College of Science and Technology would be able to provide for a further substantial expansion of student members. In addition to these places the central institutions and colleges of further education accommodated 4,000 students in advanced courses, broadly comparable with first degree courses, and this number was planned to rise to 6,000-7,000 by 1970, while the seven teacher training centres, with about 5,500 students, would accommodate at least 6,500 students by 1970. Scotland's needs had been fully recognized, claimed Sir Edward, and the amount allocated to Scotland had risen since last June from £9.3 million to £12.5 million as a result of continuous review by the University Grants Committee.

The University Museum, Oxford

THE seventy-third annual report of the delegates of the University Museum, Oxford, for the year ending July 31, 1961, records that the new microbiology building and the extension to the Pharmacology Department came into use during the year. The additional storey on the Lindemann building of the Clarendon Laboratory was completed. In the Museum the first-floor rooms on the north-west side of the court were modified for the purposes of the Scientific Collections Committee by the insertion of an additional floor.

Dinosaurs

THE Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History) are supplying a popular demand by the publication of a small pamphlet on dinosaurs. They are fortunate in that it was written by Dr. W. E. Swinton before he left England for an important museum post in Toronto. A brief historical sketch of the group is followed by a general description of dinosaurs and details of the various orders. A final chapter discusses the problem of their extinction. There is a useful note on restorations and a full glossary of the technical terms used in the text. The

hand-book is well illustrated, including a coloured plate which accounts for the rather high price. (*Dinosaurs*. Pp. xi+44 (11 plates). London: British Museum (Natural History), 1962. 5s.)

Archæology in Saudi Arabia

Two so-called neolithic collections of flint implements from the southern corner of Saudi Arabia where it borders on the Yemen are described by Philip Smith of the University of Toronto and George Maranjian of the Arabian American Oil Co. in the February issue of *Man*. Some of the tools found are illustrated. Arrow-heads, both leaf-shaped and tongued with barbs, occur, as well as scrapers, grinding stones, etc. No pottery has been found. There is no means of dating these finds and the animal bones recovered are too fragmentary to be identified, but it is thought sheep and goats may occur. Carbon dating for a somewhat similar site east of Jiladah, which was examined by Henry Field, is given as approximately 3,000 B.C. One of these collections has been given to the Peabody Museum at Harvard, the other is on loan to the same museum. Henry Field and F. E. Zeuner have both directed attention to flint tools from this region, but these latest finds are of considerable interest.

Science Abstracts : Subject Index (Section A)

Science Abstracts is published in two separate sections—Section A (Physics) and Section B (Electrical Engineering). Five-year cumulative author- and subject-indexes for the years 1950-54 have been in preparation since October 1955. The author-index containing approximately 100,000 entries, arranged alphabetically, was published in the autumn of 1956, and the subject-index for Section B in April 1959. The new subject-index for Section A is now available. It contains more than 100,000 entries arranged under nearly 1,200 different subject headings, and provides comprehensive bibliographies of all subjects covered by the Section. The price is 35s. (4.90 dollars) and it can be obtained, together with copies of any of the previously issued cumulative indexes, from the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, London, W.C.2.

Conferences, Meetings and Training Courses in Atomic Energy

THE list of *Conferences, Meetings and Training Courses in Atomic Energy* published every two months by the International Atomic Energy Agency is divided into three parts. The first part covers fully all meetings which will be held during the next twelve months, and the second covers meetings during the subsequent twelve months, although in many cases specific information is lacking. This second part is issued in order to assist the planning of future meetings and to prevent duplication. The third part gives specialized training courses at different levels, and some of the sources from which the information has been derived are listed in the annex. The Agency intends this list to be as comprehensive as possible and therefore publishes the fact that it welcomes suggestions and additions giving the fullest information available. The names and addresses of more than forty sales agents for the International Atomic Energy Agency are given at the end of the list. Copies are available from the International Atomic Energy Agency, Kaerntnering, Vienna 1.