

Operational Research for Management

THE University of Hull is offering as from October a one-year postgraduate diploma course in operational research for management. Operational research is one of the several management tools designed to provide industry with the means of reaching informed decisions. It is an important basis of modern scientific management. In no sense does it attempt to replace management. Although related to them, it is to be distinguished from such other management aids as work study, ergonomics and organization and methods. The techniques of operational research are mainly mathematical and statistical in character; many of them were used primarily for military purposes, but to-day they are used increasingly in modern industry. Applicants for the course should have some prior knowledge of mathematics, but it will otherwise be open to graduates in any subject and, in special circumstances, to non-graduates also. In addition to graduates in economics and statistics, a training in operational research can add considerably to the qualifications of physicists, chemists and engineers intending to go into industry, and much of the course will be concerned with the application of scientific techniques to practical management and industrial problems. Further information can be obtained from the Registrar.

The Paul Instrument Fund Awards

THE Paul Instrument Fund Committee has made grants as follows: £2,736 to Dr. S. Evans, senior assistant in polar research, University of Cambridge, for the development of an instrument for measuring the depth of continental ice sheets by a radar technique; £10,500 over a period of two years to Dr. W. R. S. Garton, reader in physics, University of London, and Dr. R. C. M. Learner, research associate, Imperial College of Science and Technology, for the construction of a high-resolution broad-range vacuum spectrograph; £3,600 to Prof. J. W. S. Pringle, Linacre professor of zoology, University of Oxford, for the construction of apparatus for making various physical measurements on muscle by sinusoidal dynamic analysis. The Paul Instrument Fund Committee, composed of representatives of the Royal Society, the Institute of Physics and the Physical Society and the Institution of Electrical Engineers, was set up in 1945 "to receive applications from British subjects who are research workers in Great Britain for grants for the design, construction and maintenance of novel, unusual or much-improved types of physical instruments and apparatus for investigations in pure or applied physical science".

The Leopoldina German Academy of Sciences : Elections

THE Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher Leopoldina, Halle, recently elected the following new members in the sections indicated: *Mathematics*, Prof. L. Collatz (Hamburg); Prof. L. Rédei (Szeged); Prof. R. Sauer (München). *Physiology*, Prof. G. von Békésy (Cambridge, Mass.). *Physiological Chemistry*, Prof. F. B. Straub (Budapest). *Pharmacology*, Prof. J. H. Burn (Oxford); Prof. U. S. von Euler (Stockholm); Prof. J. H. Gaddum (Cambridge); Prof. O. Kraymer (Boston, Mass.); Prof. L. Lendle (Göttingen); Prof. K. Repke (Berlin-Buch); Prof. B. K. M. Uvnäs (Stockholm); Prof. W. Wilbrandt (Berne). *Hygiene*, Prof. P. Grabar (Paris); Prof. E. G. Nauck (Hamburg). *Internal Medicine*, Prof. M. Gülzow (Rostock); Prof. N. Henning (Erlangen).

Announcements

DR. C. BLOOMFIELD has been appointed by the Lawes Agricultural Trust Committee to succeed the late Dr. A. Muir as head of the Pedology Department of Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, Herts.

At the annual general meeting, held on June 20, Dr. J. O. Irwin was elected president of the Royal Statistical Society for the ensuing year. Prof. P. Armitage, Mr. B. P. Emmett and Miss S. V. Cunliffe were elected honorary secretaries, and Mr. C. T. Saunders was elected honorary treasurer. Prof. P. Armitage was awarded the Society's Guy Medal in Bronze.

THE Council of the Plastics Institute has accepted an offer from Temple Press, Ltd., to mark the Centenary of Plastics year. This award, to be known as the 'Plastics' Centenary Award, will comprise a cash award of £75 to be given every two years, to the candidate who achieves the best overall results in the Plastics Institute Examination. A detailed specification for the award can be obtained from the Plastics Institute, 6 Mandeville Place, London, W.1.

THE North Atlantic Treaty Organization is offering financial support for short courses, of two weeks or more duration, at which scientific topics are discussed at an advanced level. The grant may be used for administrative expenses, publication of proceedings, or to subsidize the expenses of foreign visitors. Further information can be obtained from the Scientific Affairs Division, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Place du Maréchal de Lattre de Tassigny, Paris 16^e.

THE fifth international congress on "Electron Microscopy", organized by the Electron Microscope Society of America, will be held in Philadelphia during August 29-September 5. Further information can be obtained from the Fifth International Congress for Electron Microscopy, 7701 Burholme Avenue, Philadelphia 11, Pa.

THE ninth international symposium on "Combustion", arranged by the Department of Thermal Engineering at Cornell University under the auspices of the Combustion Institute, will be held at Cornell University during August 27-September 1. Further information can be obtained from the Combustion Symposium Office, Upson Hall, Sibley School of Mechanical Engineering, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

THE third international meeting of the Collegium Internationale Neuro-Psychopharmacologicum will be held in Munich during September 2-5. The programme will include the following symposia: methods of comparison of behaviour changes with drugs in animals and man; effectiveness of drugs in relationship to psychological and social forms of treatment; ten years of psychopharmacology; critical assessment of the present and future. Further information can be obtained from Prof. W. de Boor, Kerpenerstrasse 4, Cologne, or Prof. F. A. Freyham, Saint Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, D.C., or Dr. P. D. Bradley, the Medical School, Birmingham.

ERRATUM. In the biographical note concerning Mr. A. Stratton that appeared on p. 918 of the June 9 issue of *Nature*, the penultimate sentence should read: "In 1951 he obtained an M.Sc. (London) degree in mathematics and in 1957 a B.Sc. (Exeter), *ad eundem*".