

possibility that environmental factors have a minor modifying influence are the principal problems now awaiting clarification.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

THE following officers have been elected to the Boards of the Institution of Electrical Engineers' new Divisions, which will replace the former Specialized Sections on October 1: *Electronics Division Board*, Mr. J. A. Ratcliffe, director of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Radio Research Station at Slough (chairman); Mr. G. G. Gouriet (deputy chairman); Dr. R. C. G. Williams and Mr. A. J. Young (vice-chairmen). *Power Division Board*, Mr. D. B. Irving, chairman of the London Electricity Board (chairman); Mr. C. D. Wilkinson (deputy chairman); Mr. C. H. Flurschein and Mr. D. T. Hollingsworth (vice-chairmen). *Science and General Division Board*, Dr. D. Taylor, co-ordinator of research and development for the Plessey Group of Companies (chairman); Dr. J. R. Mortlock (deputy chairman); Mr. C. G. Garton and Prof. J. M. Meek (vice-chairmen).

Sixth-Form Biology in the Future

A CONFERENCE on sixth-form biology is to be held by the Joint Biology Committee, in the Senate House, University of London, on November 10. Interest will be directed less to details of syllabuses than to considerations which are in keeping with contemporary progress in biological science and the flow of educational thought. Those taking part include Dr. L. M. J. Kramer, senior biology master, Eton College; Miss M. Going, headmistress, Church of England College, Birmingham; Miss B. G. Ashton, head of the Science Department, Edgbaston High School, Birmingham; Mr. P. Kelly, head of the Biology Department, Bexley Grammar School; Dr. J. T. Aitkin, reader in the Department of Anatomy and Embryology, University College, London; and Dr. C. D. Pigott, lecturer in the Department of Botany, Cambridge. Further information can be obtained from the Association of Agriculture, 36 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

Nuclear Studies at the Liverpool College of Technology

THE prospectus of post-graduate courses and research in nuclear studies to be held at the Liverpool College of Technology during the 1962-63 session is now available. The programme again includes the well-established series on "Radiation Safety and Health Physics". These courses, which have received the full support of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority Health and Safety Branch, are of seven months and two weeks duration. The long course leads to a College Diploma in Health Physics and has been recognized by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research as suitable for the tenure of its advanced course studentships. Two-week courses in radiobiology and one-week courses in radiation chemistry and radiometric analysis are also being offered. The prospectus is available from the principal lecturer in nuclear studies, J. W. Lucas, City of Liverpool College of Technology, New Building, Byrom Street, Liverpool 3.

Burroughs Wellcome Research Fellowships

THE Australian Academy of Science is inviting applications for Burroughs Wellcome fellowships.

Awards will be made in such a way that there are not more than three fellowships occupied at any time, each tenable for two years. The fellowships may be awarded in any branch of medical sciences. They must be occupied in one of the following professorial departments of an Australian university: medicine, psychological medicine, preventive medicine, experimental medicine, pediatric medicine (child health), pharmacology, or pharmaceutical science. Applicants should, in general, hold the Ph.D. degree or have equivalent status and experience. Preference will be given to applicants who are under the age of 30 years on July 1 in the year in which the application is received. The fellowships are valued at £2,000 per annum. There is no printed form of application. Each applicant will be required to state the general nature and scope of the research he wishes to undertake, and the university department which is prepared to accept him. He should submit copies of scientific papers that he has already published and should furnish the names of three referees who can speak from personal knowledge of his capacity for research. Applications, which will close on September 30, should be sent to the Assistant Secretary, the Australian Academy of Science, Gordon Street, Canberra City, A.C.T.

Announcements

THE death is announced from Stuttgart of Dr. Otto Fauser, a Regierungsbaudirektor of the pre-war German Reich, a well-known member of the older group of soil scientists, and a regular and enthusiastic participant in their conferences and excursions.

MR. T. L. BIRELL has been elected president of the Plastics Institute for 1962-63. At present, Mr. Birrell is a part-time director of Yarsley Research Laboratories, Ltd. He was one of the original signatories to the British Plastics Moulding Trade Association (the forerunner of the British Plastics Federation) and was chairman of the Plastics Institute in 1942-43, and president for one year in 1952-53.

THE Bradford Institute of Technology is holding a short course for graduates on "Polymer Structure and Properties" during November 2-3. Lecturers include Dr. C. W. Bunn, Dr. L. B. Morgan, Dr. A. Keller, Dr. I. Goodman and Dr. M. Gordon. Further information can be obtained from Dr. W. R. Moore, Department of Chemical Technology, Bradford Institute of Technology, Bradford 7.

THE Congress on the History of Pharmacy at the University of Nottingham, a notice of which appeared on p. 546 of the August 11 issue of *Nature*, has been postponed and will now be held during September 20-23, 1963. In its place, the third British Congress on the History of Medicine will be held in London during September 26-28, 1962, the theme of which is "The Evolution of Hospitals in Britain". Further information can be obtained from Dr. F. N. L. Poynter, Wellcome Historical Medical Library, the Wellcome Building, Euston Road, London, N.W.1.

ERRATUM. In the article entitled "Effect of Strain and Group Size on the Response of Mice to 'Seconal' Anaesthesia", by J. H. Mackintosh, which appeared on p. 1304 of the June 30 issue of *Nature*, the numbers of animals used in the experiments have been omitted. Each figure in Table 1 represents at least 27, but usually about 40 mice.