

Gem Diamonds: Lecture Course and Certificate

A COURSE has been running this session at the College of Arts and Crafts, Birmingham, in the School of Jewellery and Silversmithing, on "Gem Diamonds". This course, the first of its kind to be established in Europe, is restricted to qualified Fellows of the Gemmological Association of Great Britain. Extending over thirty-five sessions, it is being given by Mr. N. Harper. The comprehensive syllabus covers crystallography, geological occurrence and genesis, mining and marketing, cutting, polishing, synthetics, etc. The course is both theoretical and practical, and those taking it will handle both rough diamonds and cut gem-stones. Organized by the Gemmological Association, those Fellows who complete the course are invited to take an examination and, if successful, will be awarded a 'Diamond certificate'. Prof. S. Tolansky, Royal Holloway College, London, has agreed to act as examiner and will set and mark the theoretical papers. The practical examination will be conducted by I. Balfour, of the London office of De Beers. The course is now in full swing and about a dozen Fellows of the Gemmological Association are expected to sit for the first certificate examination on June 5. Further information concerning the course can be obtained from the Gemmological Association of Great Britain, 2-4 Cary Lane, London, E.C.2.

Courses in Technology

FACILITIES for advanced courses in technology have greatly improved during recent years but these facilities are not generally as well known as they deserve. The publication of a *Bulletin of Special Courses in Higher Technology* by the London and Home Counties Regional Advisory Council for Technological Education is therefore welcome and meets a real need. The *Bulletin* is published in two parts: Part 1, issued in July, gives details of advanced courses held in the autumn term, and Part 2, published in December, contains information about similar courses held in the spring and summer terms (Pp. 97. London: London and Home Counties Regional Advisory Council for Technological Education. 3s. 6d., 1962). The current *Bulletin* provides particulars of more than 300 part-time (usually evening) courses and nearly a hundred full-time courses (of less than three-month duration), the subjects ranging from Boolean algebra and technical writing to photoelasticity and ultra-sonics. To illustrate the wide range of classes available to prospective students in the area, the following have been picked at random from the *Bulletin*: transistor theory, high-vacuum techniques, nuclear engineering, metrology, mathematical aids to management, the interpretation of air photographs and trade with Japan.

University News:

Birmingham

DR. J. WALKER, at present reader in reactor physics, has been appointed to the newly established chair of applied nuclear science in the Department of Physics from April 1. Titles of reader have been conferred on Dr. V. G. Welsby (electrical engineering) and Dr. J. Hardwicke (experimental pathology). Dr. H. Thompson has been appointed senior lecturer in the Department of Pathology. The following appointments have also been announced: *Lecturer*, Dr. S. Garber (industrial metallurgy); Dr. I. J. Maddix (pure mathematics). *Research Fellow*, Dr. L. A. Biran (Imperial Chemical Industries Research Fellow in the Department of Medical Biochemistry and Pharmacology); H. G. Clarke (Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Neurosurgery); Dr. O. J. Fagbemi (Imperial Chemical Industries Research Fellow in the Department of Mechanical Engineering); Dr. J. Keilson (pure mathematics).

London

MR. A. V. BRADSHAW, reader in extraction metallurgy at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, has been

appointed to the chair of applied metallurgy tenable at that College. Dr. R. E. Burge, reader in biophysics at King's College, has been appointed to the chair of physics tenable at Queen Elizabeth College. Dr. E. M. Crook, reader in biochemistry at University College, has been appointed to a chair of biochemistry tenable at St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College. Mr. B. R. Jones, senior lecturer at the Institute of Ophthalmology, has been appointed to the chair of clinical ophthalmology tenable at the Institute. Dr. E. S. Perkins, reader in ophthalmology at the Institute of Ophthalmology, has been appointed to the Semble chair of experimental ophthalmology tenable at the Institute. Dr. S. J. Wyard has been appointed to the readership in physics tenable at Guy's Hospital Medical School, and Mr. H. S. Smith, Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge, has been appointed to the readership in Egyptian archaeology tenable at University College. Titles of reader have been conferred on: Dr. R. Niedergelke (biophysics) in respect of his post at University College; Dr. B. R. Coles (physics) in respect of his post at the Imperial College of Science and Technology; Dr. J. S. Wilkie (history and philosophy of science) in respect of his post at University College.

Announcements

DR. B. R. Nijhawan, director, National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur (India), has been elected an honorary vice-president of the Iron and Steel Institute, London, at the international symposium on "Iron and Steelmaking", recently held in Jamshedpur (India) and jointly organized by the National Metallurgical Laboratory and the Indian Institute of Metals in collaboration with the Iron and Steel Institute. Dr. Nijhawan has also been elected vice-president of the Mining, Geological and Metallurgical Institute of India.

THE following appointments to the Board of Bristol Siddeley Whittle Tools, Ltd., have been made: Sir Arnold Hall (chairman), Air Commodore Sir Frank Whittle (deputy chairman), Mr. H. Ballantyne, Mr. B. Davidson, Dr. S. G. Hooker and Mr. S. W. Mansell.

THE third international conference on "The Mössbauer Effect" will be held at the Laboratory of Atomic and Solid State Physics, Cornell University, during September 4-7. Further information can be obtained from A. J. Bearden, Laboratory of Atomic and Solid State Physics, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

A SYMPOSIUM on "Chemical Process Hazards with special reference to Plant Design", organized by the Institution of Chemical Engineers (North Western Branch), will be held at the Manchester College of Science and Technology during April 2-4. Further information can be obtained from A. V. Bailey, 2 Finney Drive, Wilmslow, Cheshire.

AN international conference on "Plant Tissue Culture", sponsored by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and other agencies, will be held at the Pennsylvania State University during May 28-June 1. The programme will cover the problems of nutrition, metabolism, morphogenesis, cytology, genetics and pathology. Further information can be obtained from F. Wally Lester, Continuing Education Conference Center, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.

THE 1963 conference of the Institute of Metal Finishing will be held in Edinburgh during April 30-May 4. The programme will include the following technical sessions: aluminium coatings and anodized aluminium; internal stress in electrodeposits; nickel and chromium coatings; discussion forum on metallic coatings; organic coatings; discussion forum on organic coatings; miscellaneous electrolytic processes. Further information can be obtained from the Conference Secretary, Institute of Metal Finishing, 32 Great Ormond Street, London, W.C.1.