

into considering that this figurine has its closest analogues in the toad-like figures represented in many areas and belonging generally to the latter first millennium B.C. and after (from sites such as Dernovo, Bornholm and Vetulonia), although earlier examples are known (Vinča, Eberstadt). Such forms are generally believed to be closely linked with fertility cults, often associated with the idea of the embryo and womb, and the author produces many examples of this from Europe and Asia. It is, however, also possible that the Maissau figurine should lie not so much with this toad-like group as with the mother goddess idea, which is so well represented in the Mediterranean and the continental Neolithic, with perhaps a basis back, again in Austria, in the Upper Palaeolithic Venus figurines of more than 20,000 years ago.

Constituents of Tobacco Smoke

THE Tobacco Research Council (formerly the Tobacco Manufacturers' Standing Committee) have published a second supplement to their Research Paper No. 3, *The Constituents of Tobacco Smoke: An Annotated Bibliography*, which appeared in 1958 (Pp. ii+24. London: Tobacco Research Council, 1963). The second supplement, which is edited by E. G. N. Berry, refers to publications appearing during the period 1960-62, and more than one hundred references to papers on the estimation or identification of constituents of tobacco smoke are given. As in the earlier volumes, references are listed in sections based on classes of compound, and the bibliography provides a handy reading list in which publications on any particular compound or group of compounds in tobacco smoke can be easily located.

Antioxidants in Food: Detection and Determination

THE coming into force of the Antioxidant in Food Regulations, 1958, has posed new problems for public analysts and other chemists as it has meant that certain foods have to be examined regularly for an additional number of compounds. The recent publication of a booklet by the Association of Public Analysts, entitled *The Detection and Determination of Antioxidants in Food*, will therefore be welcomed by many food chemists (Pp. ii+25. London: The Association of Public Analysts, 1963. 10s.). A scheme of analysis is presented in which the permitted antioxidants can be separately detected and determined on the same methanol extract. Gallates and butylated hydroxyanisole are determined by the blue colours produced with ferrous ammonium sulphate and Gibbs reagent respectively. The recommended methods for butylated hydroxytoluene make use of the new colorimetric test of Szalkowski and Garber (*J. Agric. Food Chem.*, 10 (6), 490; 1962), in which a purplish-red colour is produced with *o*-dianisidine and sodium nitrite. For a screening test the figure obtained is doubled to allow for the incomplete extraction of the antioxidant by the methanol. For more accurate results, however, it is necessary to separate the butylated hydroxytoluene first by steam distillation. Methods are also described for the identification of the permitted and various non-permitted antioxidants by reverse-phase paper chromatography and the corresponding R_F values are tabulated. Numerous practical tips, the effect of possible interfering substances and the results of collaborative trials are also included, together with summaries of the British and U.S. Regulations relating to antioxidants.

The Industrial Pest Control Association

THE following have been elected officers and executive committee of the Industrial Pest Control Association for the year 1963-64: *President*, Dr. E. R. Goodliffe (Rat-souris, Ltd.); *Vice-President*, Mr. D. Boocock (S.D.C. Pesticides, Ltd.); *Honorary Treasurer*, Mr. D. M. Simpson (Cooper McDougall and Robertson, Ltd.); *Executive Committee*, Mr. S. Egleton (Verminex, Ltd.), Mr. S. Farrow

(London Fumigation Co., Ltd.), Mr. B. Kesterton (British Insecticides, Ltd.), Mr. A. G. Stutely (Sorex (London), Ltd.) and Mr. E. L. Williams (Shell Chemical Co., Ltd.); *Secretary*, Mr. W. A. Williams, Cecil Chambers, 86 Strand, London, W.C.2.

Committee on Scientific Library Services

THE Library Association has appointed a Committee on Scientific Library Services to review the existing provision of specialist library services for scientists, technologists and other specialist workers, and to make recommendations on the services needed and the staff required to provide them. Major-General C. Lloyd has accepted the chairmanship, and representatives of the Library Association include the chairmen of the Council and of the Executive, Mr. D. J. Foskett and Mr. F. M. Gardner. Representatives will be invited from universities, colleges, research establishments and industry.

Announcements

DR. A. D. BOOTH has been appointed to a specially created inter-disciplinary research professorship in auto-netics at Western Reserve University, Cleveland. The appointment will be held in parallel with the post of dean of the College of Engineering at Saskatchewan which Dr. Booth holds (see *Nature*, 195, 946; 1962).

DR. JOHN O'CONNOR has been appointed research associate at the Institute for Scientific Information, Philadelphia. Dr. O'Connor, a specialist in information retrieval, is at present carrying out research on high-quality subject indexing by electronic computer. He was formerly associated with the University of Pennsylvania and Remington Rand Univac.

THE fifth international conference on "Medical Electronics" will be held in the University of Liège during July 22-26. Further information can be obtained from Dr. F. Bostem, 23 Boulevard Frère Orban, Liège.

THE third European Mycological Congress will be held in Glasgow during August 31-September 7. Further information can be obtained from Dr. J. G. Manners, Botany Department, the University, Southampton.

AN international symposium on "Pollen Physiology and Fertilization" will be held at the University of Nijmegen during August 29-31. Further information can be obtained from Prof. H. F. Linskens, Department of Botany, Driehuizerweg 200, Nijmegen, The Netherlands.

THE sixteenth International Congress of Zoology, organized by the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council and the American Institute of Biological Sciences, will be held in Washington during August 20-27. Further information can be obtained from Dr. G. B. Moment, c/o National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington 25.

A JOINT international conference on "Creep and Fracture", organized by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and the American Society for Testing Materials, will be held in New York during August 25-29 and in London during September 30-October 4. Further information can be obtained from the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 1 Birdcage Walk, Westminster, London, S.W.1.

ERRATUM. In the communication by W. L. Templeton and V. M. Brown, entitled "The Accumulation of Calcium and Strontium by Brown Trout in Waters in the United Kingdom", published in the April 13 issue of *Nature*, on p. 199, column 2, line 51 should read: "1/2,000th of the M.P.C. as calculated here", not "1/2,000th of the (M.P.C.)_w as calculated here", and line 54 should read "one-twentieth of the calculated M.P.C.", not "one-twentieth of the calculated (M.P.C.)_w".