

transcriptions are given where possible. The overall work is an outstanding contribution to folklore studies, and it is hoped to extend this to other areas which also form a part of the Acadian group of French Canada.

Bulletin No. 188 of the National Museum of Canada describes the moulds of early historic times in Quebec (*Les Moules du Québec*. Pp. vii+141 (75 plates). Par Robert-Lionel Seguin. Ottawa: Imprimeur de la Reine, 1963. 2.50 dollars). This is the first in a series of *Bulletins d'Histoire*. The moulds are classified on the basis of function of their products, and represent the household equipment of a time when manufactured products were otherwise not available. The most common are moulds for the shaping of food, maple sugar, butter and pastry. Some of these wooden moulds are skilfully carved to produce animal and other figures. Moulds for religious purposes, for the making of altar breads, are also included. The itinerant tinkers' moulds include sets for religious figures and domestic objects such as spoons, goblets and buttons. The report is well illustrated and documented. Typical household sets might well have been grouped or listed together. Further *Bulletins* in this series should continue to provide more insight into the way of life of seventeenth to nineteenth century Quebec.

Archæology in South Africa

THE *South African Archaeological Bulletin* for June (17, No. 66; 1963), which has recently been published, contains a number of interesting articles. Dr. J. T. Robinson describes at some length the Sterkfontein stratigraphy and the significance of the extension site, and later, in part 2, R. J. Mason describes the tools found; both parts are well illustrated. So much has been said about this site, where almost the earliest works of man have been found, that it is admirable that in this number of the *Bulletin* a more or less complete account of the artefacts of these Australopithecines, as well as of where they lived, is now easily available. In a supplement to the *Bulletin*, R. J. Mason pays tribute to the work of the late C. Van Riet Lowe and lists his principal publications during the period 1922-57. There is also a report on the Research Unit of the University of the Witwatersrand, to which the Archaeological Survey has been transferred.

The American Society for the Study of Sterility

THE following three awards will be presented at the annual meeting of the American Society for the Study of Sterility to be held at Bal Harbour, Florida, during May 15-17, 1964. The *Ortho Medal* and a sum of 1,000 dollars will be awarded to a recipient selected by the Awards Committee of the Society on the basis of his outstanding contributions in fertility and sterility or related subjects in recent years. The money is to be used by the recipient for expenses in visiting medical and research centres of his choice. The *Rubin Award*, consisting of a certificate of merit and the sum of 250 dollars, will be awarded to the author(s) whose paper is deemed by the Awards Committee to be the most significant contribution among those appearing in the Society's journal, *Fertility and Sterility*, during the year 1963. The *Carl G. Hartman Grant-in-aid* of 500 dollars will be awarded to the most meritorious research project in fertility and sterility or related subjects, as chosen by the Awards Committee. Applications for the grant-in-aid should be sent to Dr. Michael Newton, American Society for the Study of Sterility, 2500 North State Street, Jackson 6, Mississippi, before March 15, 1964, from whom further information can also be obtained.

The Night Sky in January

New moon occurs on Jan. 14d 20h 44m U.T. and full moon on Jan. 28d 23h 23m. The following conjunctions with the Moon occur: Jan. 17d 01h, Saturn 2° N.; Jan. 17d 17h, Venus 3° N.; Jan. 20d 19h, Jupiter 4° N. Venus

is in conjunction with Saturn on Jan. 9d 22h, Venus being 0.6° S. There is a partial eclipse of the Sun on January 14, invisible at Greenwich. Mercury is a morning star, but is not well placed for observation. Venus is an evening star, setting at 18h 30m, 19h 15m and 20h 5m on Jan. 1, 15 and 31, respectively. Its stellar magnitude is -3.4; its distance decreases during the month from 128 to 111 million miles, and the visible portion of the apparent disk from 0.862 to 0.786. Mars is too close to the Sun for observation. Jupiter sets at 0h 20m, 23h 30m and 22h 40m at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively. Its stellar magnitude is -1.9 and its distance from the Earth on January 15 is 470 million miles. Saturn sets about two hours after the Sun, and conditions for observation are now unfavourable. The Quadrantid meteors are active on January 3-4, the radiant being near R.A. 15h 28m, Dec. +50°. The Earth is at perihelion on January 2, its distance from the Sun being 91.3 million miles.

Announcements

A SYMPOSIUM on "Major Weather Hazard Affecting British Agriculture" will be held in the Department of Geography and Anthropology, University of Wales, on March 18. Further information can be obtained from Mr. J. A. Taylor, Department of Geography and Anthropology, Alexandra Road, Aberystwyth, Cardiganshire, Wales.

THE eighteenth annual symposium on fundamental cancer research entitled "Cellular Radiation Biology", organized under the auspices of the M. D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute, University of Texas, will be held in Houston during March 2-4. Further information can be obtained from the M. D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute, University of Texas, Houston, Texas.

THE third European regional conference on "Electron Microscopy", organized by the National Committee for Electron Microscopy of the Czechoslovak Academy of Science under the auspices of the International Federation of Societies for Electron Microscopy, will be held in Prague during August 26-September 3. Further information can be obtained from the Organizing Committee, Albertov 4, Prague 2.

A TWO-DAY course on "Expanded Plastics" will be held at the Bradford Institute of Technology during February 6-7. The programme will include: chemical aspects of expanded polymers; the physical and mechanical properties of expanded polymers; developments in urethane foams; developments in expanded polystyrene; expanded polyvinyl chloride; expanded ebonite. Further information can be obtained from R. P. Sheldon, Department of Chemical Technology, Bradford Institute of Technology, Bradford 7.

A CONFERENCE on "Low and Medium Energy Nuclear Physics", arranged by the Institute of Physics and the Physical Society, will be held in the University of Sussex during September 9-11. Topics under consideration will include: nuclear structure; electromagnetic and weak interactions; two nucleon potential and Brueckner theory; nuclear reactions. Further information can be obtained from the Administration Assistant, the Institute of Physics and the Physical Society, 47 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1.

A JOINT computer conference on "The Impact of the Users' Needs on the Design of Data Processing Systems", arranged by the British Computer Society, the British Institution of Radio Engineers and the Institution of Electrical Engineers under the aegis of the British Conference on Automation and Computation, will be held in Edinburgh during March 31-April 3. Further information can be obtained from the Computer Conference Secretariat, Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, London, W.C.2.