

Science Films from France

THE Service du Film de Recherche Scientifique has published a list of scientific films which may be obtained through French diplomatic posts in all countries—embassies, legations or consulates (*Liste des Films de la Cinémathèque*. Pp. 41. Paris: Service du Film de Recherche Scientifique, 98 Blvd. Raspail, 1963). Classified generally into general biology, medicine, physics and chemistry, technology, ethnology, and documentary, the films are mostly 16 mm and sound, while many of them are coloured. The large majority are of recent date, and information is also provided about films which will be appearing shortly. Details of all the films, which range from treatment of simple to most complex subjects, are provided in a carefully prepared index.

Information Scientists in India

THE report of a Conference of Information Scientists at Mysore, May 18–21, 1963, organized by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research to assess the present position in the light of Indian needs and resources and world trends, to pool experience as a basis for further development and to make recommendations, has now been issued by the Council (Pp. viii+76. New Delhi: Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, 1963). It includes Dr. S. H. Zaheer's inaugural address, notes on the discussions at each of the four sessions dealing, respectively, with library and documentation services, research on information problems, industrial research and extension services, and with information dissemination services, and the recommendations of the Conference. These include the establishment at New Delhi of a National Science Library to serve as a basis for documentation services, a means of co-operative acquisition of documents and location for a union catalogue. The desirability of publishing *Indian Science Abstracts* is to be examined by a committee appointed for the purpose, and a scheme for training technical translators is to be worked out. It was recommended that the Council's laboratories should provide facilities for teaching Russian, French and German to research workers and that each national laboratory should possess a competent operational research team to assist in planning and following the progress of projects and allotting priorities. The Council's present publication policy was endorsed, but the preparation of review articles on developing areas of research should be encouraged, and more attention given by the national laboratories to the preparation of technical digests, data sheets, etc. The Council's proposal to publish a popular science journal in English was welcomed, but creation of a pool of science writers in Indian languages was recommended as well as the organized and systematic undertaking of literature searches. These and other recommendations are well designed not only to fill the existing gaps and remove present weaknesses but also to ensure that the facilities provided are appropriate to their purpose and continually brought under review.

Technical Services for Industry in Northern Ireland

SOME of the services provided for industry in Northern Ireland by the Department of Industrial and Forensic Science have been described in a booklet entitled *Technical Services for Industry in Northern Ireland* (Pp. 24. Belfast: Department of Industrial and Forensic Science, 1963). The facilities include an advisory and information service as well as laboratories equipped for many kinds of scientific and technical investigations. The booklet indicates the great variety of work undertaken by the Department and also the close liaison which the Department has established with technical resources of the United Kingdom and other countries. A considerable number of local firms are already familiar with the services offered and use them in connexion with technical problems

of all kinds. Many, however, are unaware of the assistance which is available, and efforts are being made to give greater publicity to the work of the Department. Direct visiting of firms has been undertaken as one measure, but this is necessarily limited in extent, and the publication of the booklet is intended as a further means of establishing a closer contact with a larger section of local industry. Copies of the booklet are available free of charge from the Department of Industrial and Forensic Science, 5–11 Verner Street, Belfast, 7.

Principles of Classification

DURING recent years an increasing interest in the basic principles of classification has been evident in a wide range of disciplines. There is a growing realization that the logic and philosophy of classification are common to them all. Many workers, however, have not known of the extensive work on classification in subjects other than their own, and a recent symposium sponsored by Aslib showed that the interchange of ideas between workers in different disciplines was likely to be of great value. As a result, a group of those interested in the principles of classification proposes to found a new organization, the aims of which will be to arrange interdisciplinary meetings and facilitate communication in this field. The following have agreed to act as *pro tem* officers of the new organization: *Chairman*, Prof. W. S. Allen, professor of comparative philology, University of Cambridge; *Secretary*, J. S. L. Gilmour, director, University Botanical Garden, Cambridge; *Treasurer*, P. H. A. Sneath, National Institute for Medical Research, London, N.W.7. The Association hopes to hold its first meeting soon. Further information can be obtained from the secretary.

Archæology of the Lake Superior Region

A SHORT report of *An Archaeological Survey along the North Shore of Lake Superior* appears in No. 3 of the *Anthropology Papers of the National Museum of Canada* (Pp. 9. By J. V. Wright. Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1963). The survey yielded 55 sites, of which nearly half could be assigned to the Middle and Late Woodland complex. A summary of the prehistory of the north shore shows that occupation extends back to an estimated 6–7000 B.C., although the first widespread industries belong to the later Old Copper Culture. From Middle Woodland times, the Rainy River Aspect is common over the entire area, from south-east Manitoba to the Bruce Peninsula of Ontario, and homogeneity in the pottery is especially marked. Late Woodland industries are less common, but the stratified Pic River site has produced Blackduck/Manitoba ceramics of 1000 ± 80 B.P., considered to represent prehistoric forerunners of the Assiniboine, intruding into traditional Algonkian territory.

Cytoplasmic Particles of Egg and their Role in Development

INVITED by Prof. G. Reverberi (Palermo), more than twenty postgraduate students of developmental biology from eight different countries attended the first international summer course on "Advances in Experimental Embryology" at the Zoological Station, Naples, during September 30–October 27. The course was sponsored by the scientific division of NATO. The "Stazione Zoologica" was chosen as, from the days of Driesch and Boveri, it has been the home of much important embryological research. The lecturers in the course were: B. I. Balinsky (Johannesburg); E. J. Boell (New Haven); J. Brachet (Brussels); A. M. Daleq (Brussels); C. de Duve (Brussels and New York); T. Hultin (Stockholm); G. E. Pallade (New York); J. Runnström (Stockholm). Additional contributions were made by invited specialists as well as by participants of the course in certain phases of the topics considered. The principal subjects discussed