

mountains and the strength of the Earth, discussing in particular the laws of imperfect elasticity, and giving a clear statement of many of the views which he holds. He concluded his lecture by directing attention to a number of fields where additional work is needed. Further gravity surveys are required, both a world-wide general survey and more localized surveys of important regions. Detailed comparisons between vertical movements of the surface and gravity anomalies would be useful. On the physical side, there is scope for further work on stress-strain relations near the elastic limit, and a quantitative theory of plastic instability is needed. Finally, differences of properties (such as travel times of seismic waves) between different land masses are now known, and there are many problems arising in the interpretation of these differences.

Kingsley's Turbidimetric Method for Determination of Serum Total Cholesterol

THE sodium ethylate turbidimetric method for the determination of total cholesterol in serum, originated by Velu and Velu and later modified by Kingsley, is a suitable method as a screening test because of its simplicity and rapidity. An evaluation of the method has been carried out, with special reference to its accuracy and turbidity-producing mechanism, by Dr. Masaka Kawade and Dr. Kazuo Saiki, of the Department of Clinical Pathology and Internal Medicine, Mie Prefectural University School of Medicine, Tsu (*Mie Medical Journal*, 12, No. 3; 1963). A high correlation was obtained between the method of Kingsley and that of Zak. The materials responsible for turbidity production are the dissociated lipid moieties of lipoproteins other than phospholipids, namely, cholesterol, its ester and triglycerides. The participation of triglycerides in turbidity production has been eliminated mainly by using serum for standard material. Kingsley's method is a useful technique for a test because of its simplicity and rapidity. In special cases with hyperglyceridemia, however, it gives higher cholesterol values than are obtained by a colorimetric method.

Diffusion in Gel Techniques for Immunological Analysis

THE Editor has been informed that copies of Ouchterlony's review on "Diffusion in Gel Techniques for Immunological Analysis", alluded to by Mr. J. F. Soothill in his review of Dr. F. Peetoom's book, *The Agar Precipitation Technique and its Application as a Diagnostic and Analytical Method* (*Nature*, 201, 1154; 1964), are available from Technical Information Services, LKB-Produkter A.B., Stockholm 12, "at a very nominal charge".

University News: Edinburgh

THE following appointments to lectureships have been announced: Dr. M. H. Palmer (chemistry); Dr. C. M. Glonnie (mathematics); Dr. G. S. Pawley (natural philosophy).

St. Andrews

THE following appointments to lectureships (unless otherwise stated) have been announced: *St. Salvator's College*, P. D. L. Constable (statistics); C. M. B. Henderson (geology); Dr. R. K. Mackie (Imperial Chemical Industries Research Fellow in chemistry). *Queen's College*, Dr. P. M. Spencer (physics); J. M. Anderson (physics); W. M. Young (physics).

Sussex

MR. J. MAYNARD SMITH, at present reader in zoology in University College, London, has been appointed professor of biology and dean of the new School of Biological Studies, which is to open in October 1965.

The Night Sky in June

New moon occurs on June 10d 04h 23m U.T. and full moon on June 25d 01h 09m. The following conjunctions

with the Moon occur: June 2d 18h, Saturn 3° N.; June 7d 17h, Jupiter 3° N.; June 30d 00h, Saturn 3° N. Mercury is in conjunction with Mars on June 1d 17h, Mercury being 3° S., and Mercury with Aldebaran on June 15d 03h, Mercury 5° N. There is a partial eclipse of the Sun on June 10, invisible at Greenwich. There is a total eclipse of the Moon on June 24-25, visible at Greenwich. Moon enters penumbra June 24d 21h 58m, Moon enters umbra 23h 09m, total eclipse begins June 25d 00h 16m, mid-eclipse 01h 06m, total eclipse ends 01h 57m. Moon leaves umbra 03h 03m, Moon leaves penumbra 04h 14m. Moonset at Greenwich is at 03h 54m. Magnitude of eclipse 1.56. Mercury is too close to the Sun for observation. Venus is at inferior conjunction on June 19, and is not favourably situated for observation. Mars and Jupiter rise before the Sun, but are not favourably situated for observation. Saturn rises at 0h 45m, 23h 50m and 22h 50m on June 1, 15 and 30, respectively. Its stellar magnitude is +1.0 and its distance from the Earth on June 15 is 876 million miles. It is in Aquarius. There is one occultation of a star brighter than magnitude 6 visible at Greenwich: June 3d 02h 27.1m, τ Aqr. (reappearance). The summer solstice occurs on June 21d 08h 57m.

Announcements

PROF. A. R. COLLAR has been appointed chairman of the Aeronautical Research Council in succession to Prof. G. Temple, who retired on March 31, having completed his three-year term of office. Prof. Collar is Sir George White professor of aeronautical engineering in the University of Bristol and was president of the Royal Aeronautical Society during 1963-64. Prof. Temple will remain on the Council as an independent member.

PROF. R. MATTHEWS, emeritus professor of botany in the University of Aberdeen, has been awarded the Royal Society of Edinburgh's Neill Prize for the period 1961-63, for his distinguished writings on the geographical relationships of the British flora, and for many other outstanding contributions to botany, horticulture, agriculture and Nature conservation in Scotland.

THE ninth annual meeting of the Health Physics Society will be held in Cincinnati during June 14-18. Further information can be obtained from Harry F. Kolde, Taft Sanitary Engineering Center, Cincinnati 26, Ohio.

A SUMMER school in "Theoretical Chemistry" will be held in Oxford during July 9-23. Further information can be obtained from the director, Prof. C. A. Coulson, Mathematical Institute, 10 Parks Road, Oxford.

A CONFERENCE on "Precision Electromagnetic Measurements" will be held in Boulder, Colorado, during June 16-18. Further information can be obtained from the Technical Information Office, National Bureau of Standards, Boulder Laboratories, Boulder, Colorado.

THE seventh International Embryological Conference will be held in Edinburgh during September 6-10, 1965. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary to the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Embryology and Experimental Morphology*, Department of Zoology, University College, Gower Street, London, W.C.1.

AN international symposium on "Magneto-Hydrodynamic Electrical Power Production", organized by the European Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Institut National des Sciences et Techniques Nucléaires, will be held in Paris during July 6-10. The purpose of the symposium will be to examine present-day research on magneto-hydrodynamic processes for direct conversion of energy into electricity. Further information can be obtained from the European Nuclear Energy Agency, 38 Boulevard Suchet, Paris 16^e.