

Ramsay Memorial Fellowships Trust, University College London, Gower Street, London, W.C.1. Applications must reach them not later than January 13, 1965.

The Night Sky in December

NEW moon occurs on Dec. 4d 01h 19m UT, and full moon on Dec. 19d 02h 42m. The following conjunctions with the Moon occur: Dec. 1d 04h, Venus 2° S.; Dec. 10d 12h, Saturn 3° N.; Dec. 16d 09h, Jupiter 2° N.; Dec. 24d 19h, Mars 3° S. Venus is in conjunction with Antares on Dec. 26d 00h, Venus being 6° N. There is a partial eclipse of the Sun on December 3-4, invisible at Greenwich. There is a total eclipse of the Moon on December 19, visible at Greenwich. Moon enters penumbra 00h 01m, Moon enters umbra 00h 59m, total eclipse begins 02h 07m, mid-eclipse 02h 37m, total eclipse ends 03h 07m, Moon leaves umbra 04h 15m, Moon leaves penumbra 05h 14m. Magnitude of eclipse 1.18. Mercury is too close to the Sun for observation. Venus rises at 4h 45m, 5h 25m and 6h 15m on December 1, 15 and 31, respectively. Its stellar magnitude is -3.4; its distance from the Earth increases during the month from 125 to 139 million miles and the visible portion of the apparent disk from 0.848 to 0.913. Mars rises at 23h 50m, 23h 10m and 22h 35m at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively. Mars is in Leo, its stellar magnitude is +0.8, and its distance from the Earth on December 15 is 116 million miles. Jupiter sets at 6h 00m, 4h 55m and 3h 55m on December 1, 15 and 31, respectively. Its motion is retrograde among the stars in Aries, its stellar magnitude is -2.3 and its distance from the Earth on December 15 is 388 million miles. Saturn is in Aquarius, setting at 22h 15m, 21h 30m and 20h 40m at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively. Its stellar magnitude is +1.1 and its distance from the Earth on December 15 is 938 million miles. Occultations of stars brighter than magnitude 6 are as follows, observations being made at Greenwich: Dec. 12d 20h 23.5m, 30 Psc. (*D*); Dec. 12d 22h 14.8m, 33 Psc. (*D*); *D* refers to disappearance. The Geminid meteors are active during December 9-14, the maximum being on December 13; the radiant is near R.A. 7h 28m, Dec. +32°, and conditions for observation are favourable. The Ursid meteors are active during December 20-22, conditions for observation being unfavourable. The winter solstice occurs on Dec. 21d 19h 50m.

University News:

Birmingham

THE following appointments have been announced: *Senior Lecturer*, E. G. Knox (social medicine); *Lecturers*, Dr. J. E. Bowcock (mathematical physics); K. R. Chapman (physics); A. T. Clementson (engineering production); F. A. Garner (mining and minerals engineering); Dr. T. A. Hamor (chemistry); Dr. D. M. Hirst (chemistry); B. W. Jenney (engineering production); Dr. D. W. Jones (materials science); Dr. G. A. Parker (mechanical engineering); R. H. Saxton (civil engineering); R. M. Baddeley (surgery); Dr. D. A. Lewis (physiological chemistry); *Research Fellows*, M. J. Copesey (electron physics); Dr. W. P. Dodd (physics); Dr. A. Erndt (mining and minerals engineering); Dr. W. J. Feast (chemistry); Dr. U. Isaak (physics); R. J. Lumby (industrial metallurgy); Dr. T. F. Tuan (mathematical physics); A. Whittingham (chemistry); W. Young (mathematical physics); D. J. P. Barker (social medicine); Dr. T. Chojnacki (experimental neuropharmacology); Dr. R. Neisser (psychiatry); *Kenward Memorial Fellow*, J. A. Buzacott (engineering production).

London

DR. HILDE T. HIMMELWEIT, reader in psychology at the London School of Economics and Political Science, has been appointed to the chair of social psychology tenable at that School. Dr. G. L. Asherson of the Department of

Immunology, National Institute for Medical Research, has been appointed to the readership in immunology tenable at the London Hospital Medical College. Dr. A. P. Willmore, lecturer at University College, has been appointed to a readership in physics tenable at that College. The title of professor of experimental pharmacology has been conferred on Dr. Franz Hobbiger in respect of the post held by him at Middlesex Hospital Medical School. The title of reader in embryology has been conferred on Dr. M. Ruth Bellairs in respect of the post held by her at University College.

Pennsylvania

DR. J. H. WILKINSON, reader in chemical pathology, of Westminster Hospital Medical School, University of London, has been appointed professor of clinical chemistry in medicine in the University of Pennsylvania, and expects to take up his new post in Philadelphia on April 1, 1965.

Strathclyde

MR. R. D. LORD, senior lecturer in mathematics in the University, has been appointed reader in mathematics. Dr. J. B. Helliwell, senior lecturer in mathematics in the University, has been appointed reader in gas dynamics. Dr. S. C. Hunter of the Royal Armament Research and Development Establishment, Ministry of Defence, has been appointed reader in solid mechanics. The three appointments became effective on October 1.

Announcements

DR. P. H. FOWLER, reader in physics in the University of Bristol, has been appointed to the Royal Society research professorship at the University of Bristol. Dr. Fowler is distinguished for his research work in high-energy physics and cosmic radiation, and for his contributions to the development of the emulsion technique. This is the sixth research professorship to be made by the Royal Society.

THE ninth congress on "Theoretical and Applied Mechanics" and symposium on "High-Speed Computation Methods and Machines" will be held at the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, during December 20-24. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, Indian Society of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur.

A SYMPOSIUM on "Hazards and Doses to the Whole Population from all uses of Ionizing Radiations and Radioactive Materials", arranged by the Hospital Physicists' Association, will be held in London on May 13. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, Hospital Physicists' Association, 6 Paddington Street, Marylebone High Street, London, W.1.

THE one hundred and thirty-first meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will be held in Montreal during December 26-31. The programme will include symposia on: primate behaviour; possible meteoric or lunar influences on meteorological phenomena; medical geology and geography; biochemical differentiation; science and the public mind—past and present; the sociology and ethics of science. Further information can be obtained from the Information Officer, American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1515 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20005.

CORRIGENDUM. The top of Fig. 2 of the paper entitled "Limits of Human Vision" (*Nature*, 191, 471, 1961) by Dr. R. A. Weale contains an energy scale, inadvertently reduced by 1.477 log units. The bracket indicating an energy range thermally dangerous for the human eye will therefore correspond to a photometric reading of approximately 8.6 log scot. trol-sec.