

suppliers and the processors of wool) from £369,000 to about £500,000. This was to be done by increasing the rates of charge and adjusting the incidence of the rates so as to reduce the proportion from the supply and consumption of wool and increase that from processing. For scientific research the amended rates should produce about £286,000 in 1966-67. The bulk of the proceeds of the levy are allocated to research schemes carried out by the Wool Industries Research Association, constituting the major part of the income of the Association, which also receives a current grant of about £82,500 from the Ministry of Technology. It was Government policy to ensure that industry bore an increasing percentage of the cost of research. In reply to a question from Lord Drumalbyn on this last point, Lord Rhodes said that from the start the Government contribution through the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research had been on a pound-for-pound basis, but for some time the industry had been taking a large share of the cost. He could not say whether it was intended to maintain the grant from the Ministry of Technology at its present level.

American Museum of Natural History

THE ninety-sixth annual report of the American Museum of Natural History, covering the year July 1964 to June 1965, mentions that the Hall of the Eskimo has been arranged to show Eskimo life as it was at the beginning of the twentieth century (Pp. 109. New York: The American Museum of Natural History, 1965). The Hall of Early Mammals tells the story of the beginning of the Age of Mammals. Plans are in hand for a new Hall of Geology and for the establishment of the Louis Calder Natural Science Laboratory, where children between the ages of eight and sixteen can conduct their own research and experiments in the natural sciences. New scientific knowledge and modern techniques of presentation have also been used in the Hall of Primates. The magazine, *Nature and Science*, has become firmly established in schools throughout the United States and now has a circulation of a quarter of a million.

Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney

THE annual report of the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney, for 1964 is issued in a striking format with illustrations, and records that the obsolete Ultimo Tramway Depot has been transferred to the Board of Trustees and part of the building arranged as a Transport Museum (Pp. 27. Sydney: Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, 1965). The Spitz Planetarium has again proved popular and plans are complete for the installation of a larger apparatus. A closed-circuit colour television unit has aroused much public interest. A very important acquisition was a harpsichord made by Jacob Kirekman in London, in 1763, and this will be used, with other instruments, in musical concerts. Another outstanding purchase was a set of fully marked silver Apostle spoons from the early seventeenth century. The Museum has been of service to the community in many directions, and many loans—including a barrel organ and a Japanese stringed instrument, the koto—have been made for specific purposes.

University Libraries

THE paper by D. W. Bryant of Harvard University Library on "University Libraries and the Future", in the *Library Association Record* for January 1966, underlines recent comments on the insufficient resources available for university libraries in Britain and indicates the importance of the work of the present Committee on Libraries. Harvard University Library, the largest university library in the United States, reached the million mark in 1903 and has now more than 7.25 million volumes; however, thirty-six university libraries in the United States are now larger than Harvard was in 1903. Mr. Bryant explains

clearly but convincingly the reasons why university libraries need so much larger resources and describes the changing demands made on such libraries which have led to them being recognized as major national resources. He also discusses the new techniques in library work and their limitations as well as advantages, pointing out the implications of the increasing interdisciplinary scholarship. He emphasizes above all the critical importance of the quality of library staff, which should be adequate not only in numbers but in range of experience and variety of qualifications. It is to be hoped that if the report of the Committee on Libraries is not inspired by a like vision it will be examined by the University Grants Committee and the Department of Education and Science at least with sufficient imagination and insight to ensure that answers are sought to the vital questions which Mr. Bryant asks.

Information Processing

Scientific Information Notes (7, No. 6; December 1965–January 1966), issued by the National Science Foundation, records the issue by the U.S. Naval Oceanographic Office of a contract to Vitro Laboratories, Silver Spring, Maryland, to determine first the real needs of potential users of oceanographic literature and, secondly, to establish an up-to-date information processing system. The Foundation is also financing a design study for a national medical library and information system and, with the Air Force Office of Scientific Information, has awarded four major grants totalling 189,000 dollars to Lehigh University for continuing research and educational programmes in the scientific information field. Under the title *Haystack: A Mechanized System for Searching Chemical Information*, the National Bureau of Standards has issued as Technical Note No. 57 a report by Ethel C. Marden on a co-operative venture with the U.S. Patent Office describing a system developed to help the Patent Office in searching chemical information.

Communication

DR. COLIN CHERRY'S three Cantor lectures before the Royal Society of Arts on "World Communication", in November 1965, have now been published in the *Journal of the Royal Society of Arts* (114, 158–205; February 1966). In the first, which discusses the nature of human communication, Dr. Cherry suggests that the present revolution may be regarded as the control of the power developed in the first industrial revolution, defines a society as people in communication and argues that essentially communication means involvement. Although mass communication is very new on a historical scale, it already sometimes serves for social integration and may yet appear as a force for cultural integration. From this point of view Dr. Cherry discusses the means of communication, considering the significance of language and habit and pointing out that conformity here does not mean uniformity. Deliberate, purposeful, reasoned communication is not easy but this is a basic concern of education. In his second lecture, Dr. Cherry discusses what he terms the communication explosion resulting from such developments as the telephone, television and short-wave radio. These technical developments, up to and including the use of satellites and computers, are concisely described. The third lecture discusses the future of world communication, reiterating the emphasis placed at the outset on involvement and emphasizing the sociological prospects as well as the technical possibilities. Dr. Cherry notes how the increasing importance of reliability tends to increase the cost, and throughout he is concerned to stimulate constructive and open-minded thought about potentialities, rather than to express satisfaction with or wonder at past achievements.

Impact of Science on Society

Impact of Science on Society (15, No. 3; 1965) is noteworthy for four articles. In the first, N. M. Sissakian,