

Names for Nuclear Science

SIR,—F. Kertész, in his recent article on "Names for Nuclear Science" (*Nature*, 223, 21; 1969), states that we can expect sooner or later the appearance of a machine called Charybdis. Such a machine was in fact described in a paper published in 1962 (ref. 1), except that the name was given in Italian (Cariddi) rather than in English.

The machine was built at Frascati (Rome), which explains the use of Italian. Another reason, however, was that an interesting reference to "Cariddi", cited in the paper, referred to the dramatic description of colliding shock-waves given by Dante². The apparatus was designed to study exactly this phenomenon, in plasmas though, rather than within the Straits of Messina.

Yours faithfully,

J. E. ALLEN

Department of Engineering Science, University of Oxford,
Parks Road, Oxford.

¹ Allen, J. E., Bartoli, C., Brunelli, B., Nation, J. A., Rumi, B., and Toschi, R., *Nuclear Fusion* (supplement, Part 2), 621 (1962).

² Alighieri Dante, *La Divina Commedia, Inferno*, Canto VII, 22.

Museum on the Move

SIR,—We, of this museum, heartily agree with the protests voiced by Messrs James and Jeffery Harrison and Professor Jacques Berlioz (*Nature*, 222, 605; 1969) against such a retrograde step as the proposed transference of London's famous and invaluable collection of birds to such an out of the way location as that of the partially abandoned Rothschild edifice at Tring.

If the proposed transference is detrimental to the interests of relatively nearby European ornithologists, it is obviously still more detrimental to the interests of those who work in the countries of the River Plate and other parts of the South American continent, not a few of whom have divided interests in the natural sciences and only limited time to devote to the elucidation of doubts that may arise in connexion with any particular discipline.

Yours faithfully,

FERNANDO MANÉ GARZÓN

Museo Nacional de Historia Natural,
Casilla de Correo 399,
Montevideo, Uruguay.

Translations and the Language Barrier

SIR,—The Postgraduate School of Librarianship and Information Science at Sheffield University has been investigating the use of foreign language publications by research workers. Supported by a grant from the Office for Scientific and Technical Information, the 18 month project, now nearing completion, has covered research work being carried out in all disciplines at Sheffield University, assuming this university to be reasonably typical for Britain. We have interviewed well over 50 per cent of academic staff and research students about their language knowledge, scope of research and use of foreign language materials, and, of course, we have collected records on all aspects of library use.

A major objective of the project is to isolate the factors militating against the full use of relevant research work published in languages other than English and to assess the relative significance of these factors. One important aspect is the availability of translation services and the

cost, speed and quality of translations made. We should be pleased to hear from research workers in other universities and in industry about their own experiences in obtaining translations (if possible with details of the translations they have had: language, subject, source of translation, speed, full or summary translation, written or oral, length and cost of the translations, quality, and so on), and in any unsuccessful attempts to obtain translations, in particular the language concerned and the sources approached. We would also welcome any suggestions for improving the present situation.

Yours faithfully,

PROFESSOR W. L. SAUNDERS
Mrs L. J. PARGETER
W. J. HUTCHINS

University of Sheffield,
Postgraduate School of Librarianship
and Information Service,
Western Bank, Sheffield S10 2TN.

University News

The Ralph Yablon Company, Limited, has endowed a chair, to be known as the **Ralph Yablon** chair in behavioural studies which will be established within the Management Centre of the **University of Bradford**.

Dr C. W. Rees, University of Leicester, has been appointed as second professor of organic chemistry at the **University of Liverpool**.

The title of professor of gas dynamics has been conferred on **Dr K. N. C. Bray**, **University of Southampton**.

The title of professor of applied electrostatics has been conferred on **Dr A. W. Bright**, **University of Southampton**.

The title of professor of automobile engineering has been conferred on **Dr T. Priede**, **University of Southampton**.

Appointments

Professor H. J. Evans, University of Aberdeen, has been appointed director of the Medical Research Council's **Clinical and Population Cytogenetics Unit** at the Western General Hospital, Edinburgh.

The Minister for Education and Science in Australia has announced that **Dr J. R. Price** will succeed Sir Frederick White as chairman of the **Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization** when he retires in May 1970.

Announcements

Dr F. E. Round, reader in botany at the University of Bristol, is to visit the University of Ghana as **Royal Society Visiting Professor**. This visit is being made as part of a Royal Society scheme, supported financially by the Leverhulme Trust and the Ministry of Overseas Development, which aims at helping scientific higher education and stimulating scientific interchange between the United Kingdom and overseas countries.

The **Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory of Quantitative Biology** will begin regular distributions of the abstracts of papers presented at its various meetings and selected meetings held elsewhere to all those who require this

service. During the period July 1969 to June 1970, at least five books of abstracts will be sent. They will cover material presented at the August 1969 Cold Spring Harbor **Tumor Virus Meeting**, the annual August **Phage Meetings**, material presented at the September **European Phage Meetings**, to be held in Naples, the abstracts of a meeting on the **Lactose Operon**, and abstracts of the annual June **Cold Spring Harbor Symposium**. Enquiries may be sent to: Abstracting Service, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, New York 11724, USA.

Dr D. M. Shaw and **Dr A. J. Coppen**, Neuropsychiatric Research Unit, Medical Research Council, have been jointly awarded a prize by the **Anna Monika Foundation**, a German organization, in recognition of their work on the mineral metabolism and the role of serotonin in depressive illness.

Dr L. V. Spencer, US National Bureau of Standards and Ottawa University (Kansas), has been awarded the **L. H. Gray Medal** of the International Commission on Radiation Units and Measurements, in recognition of his work on the theory of charged particle penetration.

Professor Willard F. Libby, director of the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics at the University of California at Los Angeles, has been elected a Corresponding Fellow of the **British Academy**.

ERRATUM. In the article by S. H. Singer, R. L. Kirchstein and M. F. Barile (*Nature*, **222**, 1087; 1969), the title should have read "Increased Yields of Vesicular Stomatitis Virus from Hamster Cells infected with Mycoplasma". In the entry on page xvii, "injected" should read "infected". On page 1087, two lines up, insert "multiple" after "so".

International Meetings

August 29–September 5, **Meeting of the International Association of Volcanology**, Belfast (Professor P. Evrard, Secretary General, c/o Institut de Geologie, 45 Ac. des Tilleuls, Liège, Belgium).

August 31–September 4, **Calorimetry and Thermodynamics**, Warsaw (Dr H. Kehiaian, Institute of Physical Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences, PO Box 49, Warsaw 42, Poland).

August 31–September 5, **Thirteenth Congress of the International Association for Hydraulic Research**, Tokyo (Organizing Committee, c/o Professor Ishihara, Civil Engineering Department, Faculty of Science, University of Kyoto, Yoshida-Honmachi, Tokyo, Japan).

August 31–September 5, **European Comparative Endocrinologists Conference**, Utrecht (Mr J. H. Zurbrug, Central Congressbureau Utrecht, Vredenburg, 49 Utrecht, Netherlands).

September 1–5, **British Pharmaceutical Conference**, Belfast (Secretary, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London WC1).

September 1–5, **Phenomena in Ionized Gases**, Bucharest (E. Badareu, Institute of Physics, Academy of Sciences, Bucharest, Romania).

September 2–5, **International Convention on Training and Technology**, London (Conference Department, The Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, London WC2).

September 3–5, **Product Development and Manufacturing Technology**, Glasgow (Mr F. I. Simpson, Conference Organizing Secretary, Room M510A, Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Strathclyde, Montrose Street, Glasgow).

September 4–6, **Ferroelectricity**, Tokyo (Professor H. Takahashi, Faculty of Science, University of Tokyo, 7 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, Japan).

September 7–14, **Unproven Methods of Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment**, Brazil (Dr Antonio C. C. Junqueira, c/o Hospital A. C. Camargo, POB 5271, São Paulo, Brazil).

September 8–9, **Multidisciplinary Studies of Unusual Regions of the Upper Mantle**, Madrid (Dr L. R. Alldredge, c/o Institute for Earth Sciences, ESSA, Boulder, Colorado 80302, USA).

September 8–13, **Electrosleep and Electroanaesthesia**, Austria (Secretariat, International Society for Electrosleep and Electroanaesthesia, c/o Chirurgische Universitätsklinik, 8036 Graz, Austria).

September 9–12, **Conformational Analysis**, Brussels (R. C. Smekens, Executive Secretary, 49 Sq. Marie-Louise, Brussels 4, Belgium).

September 9–15, **36th International Foundry Congress**, Belgrade (Professor M. B. Pajevic, Savez Drustava Livaca, Karnegijeva 4, Belgrade, Yugoslavia).

September 10–11, **Geophysical Studies on the Evolution of the Earth's Deep Interior**, Madrid (Dr L. R. Alldredge, c/o Institute for Earth Sciences, ESSA, Boulder, Colorado 80302, USA).

September 10–12, **International Congress of the Society of Industrial Design**, London (ICSID, Congress Secretariat, 12 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1).

September 11–12, **Earthquake Mechanics**, Madrid (Dr L. R. Alldredge, c/o Institute for Earth Sciences, ESSA, Boulder, Colorado 80302, USA).

September 14–20, **Electron and Photon Interactions at High Energies**, Liverpool (Conference Secretary, Daresbury Nuclear Physics Laboratory, Daresbury, near Warrington, Lancashire).

September 27, **Amateur Entomologists' Society Annual Exhibition**, London (Secretary, Amateur Entomologists' Society, 137 Gleneldon Road, Streatham, London SW16).

December 1–4, **Agricultural Experimentation**, Rome (COGNITA, Via Barberini 86, 00185, Italy).

December 3–5, **International Wire and Cable Symposium**, Atlantic City (J. Spergel, US Army Electronics Command, Amsel-KI-EE, Ft Monmouth, New Jersey 07703 USA).

December 15–17, **Phylogenesis and Morphogenesis in the Algae**, New York (Jean Fitzpatrick, New York Academy of Sciences, 2 East 63 Street, New York, NY 10021, USA).

Sabbatical Itinerants

In the hope of providing some practical assistance in the good cause of mobility between laboratories, *Nature* advertises the needs for housing of families about to take up periods of sabbatical leave. To begin with, no charge will be made for advertisements like this. It is hoped that a period of experiment will show what form these advertisements could most usefully take and whether they are effective.

Vacant: From mid-August 1969 for 1 year, 3 bedroomed furnished detached house in Broughty Ferry, Dundee. Electric central heating, telephone, garden, easy access to Dundee University and hospitals; St Andrews 15 miles. Please contact Dr W. R. Jarvis, 72 Marlee Road, Broughty Ferry, Dundee, Scotland (Dundee 79666).