

occasion to point out that "Dr. Mond's foundation was a most important accession to the resources which had been placed at the command of the institution for the advancement of chemical and physical science. The Royal Institution has long enjoyed a world-wide reputation, thanks to the marvellous work of the succession of illustrious men whose researches carried on within its walls have very largely contributed to secure and maintain for this country a foremost position as a source of great discoveries and important advances in science and its applications."

Mr. Robert Mond was nominated in the deed of trust honorary secretary for life.

The managers appointed the late Lord Rayleigh and Sir James Dewar the directors without remuneration.

The following is a selection of inquiries executed in the Davy-Faraday Research Laboratory communicated to scientific societies by fellows of the Royal Society:—Dr. H. Debus, "Contributions to the History of Glyoxalic Acid"; Hugo Muller, "Quercitol, Cocositol, Inositol, Flavon"; Horace T. Brown, "Starch: Its Transformations and Derivatives"; J. Y. Buchanan, "The Specific Gravity of Soluble Salts"; J. Emerson Reynolds, "Silicon Researches"; J. E. Petavel, "Standards of Light" and "Gaseous Explosive Mixtures"; A. Scott, "Atomic Weight of Carbon, etc."; W. J. Russell, "Action of Wood on Photographic Plates in the Dark, etc."

The following papers have been published:—A. Croft Hill, "Reversibility of Enzyme or Ferment Action, etc."; W. Wahl, "Optical Investigations of Solidified Gases, etc."; W. Gluud, "Derivatives of Allylamine, Phenylglycine, etc."; Sir J. C. Bose, "The Response of Inorganic Matter to Stimulus, etc."; Miss Ida Smedley, "Colour Derivatives of Fluorene"; and Miss A. Everett, "Colour Photography."

#### THE INTERNATIONAL CATALOGUE OF SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.

THE International Catalogue of Scientific Literature was constituted in 1900 at an International Conference held in London under the auspices of the Royal Society. It is a unique attempt to secure an accurate and exhaustive bibliography of pure science by international co-operation, each country being responsible for the indexing of its own literature. Each volume contains an author index and a subject index. An annual issue is composed of seventeen volumes indexing the seventeen branches into which science is divided for convenience of reference. The books and papers catalogued are those published since January 1, 1901, papers published before that date being indexed in the Royal Society's Catalogue of Scientific Papers.

The control of the catalogue is in the hands of an international council composed of one representative from each country taking part in the work. This council appoints an executive committee, which meets in London, but each of the countries co-operating has its own regional bureau to prepare index cards and send them to a central bureau in London for publication. Since the foundation of the catalogue about three million such cards have been received from the bureaux. More than two hundred volumes have been published.

Until the outbreak of the war in 1914 more than thirty countries were taking part in preparing the catalogue, and the harmony with which they worked together is one of the most remarkable features of the enterprise. Even the Russo-Japanese War did not

hinder the delegates of Russia and Japan from meeting at the conferences.

Although the recent war and the present condition of Europe create a difficult position for all international undertakings, it is much to be hoped that means may be found for continuing the work of the catalogue on an international basis, and without sacrificing those distinctive features which have met with such widespread appreciation.

#### THE TROPICAL DISEASES BUREAU.

THE Tropical Diseases Bureau came into existence in July, 1912, as a development of the Sleeping Sickness Bureau founded in 1908. The main function of the bureau has been to review current papers on tropical diseases, *i.e.* exotic diseases occurring in the tropics and sub-tropics. The medium of publication is the *Tropical Diseases Bulletin*, now in its fourteenth volume. The *Bulletin*, which appears monthly, contains classified summaries of all papers within its scope which come under notice. Each subject is in charge of a "sectional editor," whose initials are appended to his summaries. Thus the results of the most recent researches on tropical disease in every country, new methods of treatment, and improved means of prevention quickly become available for the remote worker in the tropics. Critical reviews of books are also published.

The bureau issues also the *Tropical Veterinary Bulletin* quarterly, the object of which is to deal with the diseases of domestic animals in the tropics in the same way as the *Tropical Diseases Bulletin* does with the diseases of man.

The bureau maintains a library under the charge of Capt. R. L. Sheppard, which contains complete or nearly complete files of all the tropical medical journals, in addition to others, some two hundred series in all, and a large number of reports and reprints. Though the library is mainly intended for the use of the sectional editors, it is open to any inquirer without formality.

The bureau is under the management of a committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the expert members of which are Sir John Rose Bradford, Sir David Bruce, Sir Havelock Charles, Sir Wm. Leishman, Sir Patrick Manson, and, representing veterinary medicine, Sir John M'Fadyean and Sir Stewart Stockman. Dr. A. G. Bagshawe is the director. It is maintained by a grant in aid from the Imperial Treasury and by contributions from the Governments of India, the Sudan, the Union of South Africa, and certain colonies and protectorates, to which copies of its publications are supplied gratis. By the general public the *Tropical Diseases Bulletin* can be obtained at an annual subscription of a guinea, and the *Tropical Veterinary Bulletin* at 10s.

The offices of the bureau are at present situated at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington.

#### WOMEN AT CAMBRIDGE.

IN February, 1896, the council of the Senate reported the receipt of four memorials relating to the admission of women to degrees. A syndicate was appointed to consider the question, and in February, 1897, the majority reported recommending that degrees should be conferred on women by diploma, but not that they should become members of the University on the same terms as men. The liveliest interest in and opposition to these proposals were occasioned, and a discussion lasting three days took place in the Senate House. Finally, in May, 1897, the report