

shown on innumerable occasions, in placing a new and perhaps valuable product on the market. As this paper indicates, it is not the forest officer who is often to blame, but the merchant himself at the other end.

It is not possible here to follow the author through his interesting description of the resins and the methods of tapping the trees and so forth dealt with in his paper. The inadequate labour supply forms one of the main difficulties to an increase in output of the resins. At present about 26,000 trees are tapped, but of this number 16,000 are as yet only giving a partial yield, being only tapped up to eight feet instead of the whole height of the stem.

That Mr. Barry's treatment of the subject was that of the expert who is at the same time capable of making his meaning and the interpretation of his work clear to his audience is apparent from the very interesting discussion which followed the paper. An important representative of the trade said that they had learnt a great deal from the lecture. From the trade point of view the Malayan damars are the newest. Of the two Malayan damars the 'cat's eye' (derived from various species of *Hopea*), from the trade point of view, has the greater value and is pushing the Singapore almost out of use. It is far above the Batavian in value, and is certainly very favourably received by the trade. With regard to black damars, the first sample of black damar received in London came with the useful information that the natives use it to caulk their boats. That is the purpose for which it is usually used in Great Britain, and a huge business has been done in it. The genuine black damar has certainly made its mark. The chairman, Mr. Suter, a leading gum merchant, in winding up the discussion, pointed out the value of the paper with the remark that in the trade they often say, "What can the Government do for us? They simply hinder us: they ask questions and want to know things." Lecturers like Mr. Barry bring it home to the trade that they are mistaken. If they were allied more closely to those in authority, and if they looked to the authorities for more help, they would probably get on quicker than they do.

### University and Educational Intelligence.

**ABERDEEN.**—The King has appointed Prof. J. J. R. MacLeod to be regius professor of physiology in the University in succession to Prof. J. A. MacWilliam, resigned. Prof. MacLeod is at present professor of physiology and director of the Physiological Laboratory of the University of Toronto, and is well known for his work on insulin, for the discovery of which he was awarded, with Dr. F. G. Banting, the Nobel prize for physiology and medicine in 1923.

**LONDON.**—The following courses of free public lectures are announced: "The Electrical Theory of Molecular Constitution," by Prof. P. Debye, at Birkbeck College, at 5.30, on April 26, 27, and 30; "The Pharmacological Evidence for Current Methods of Treatment," by Dr. J. H. Burn, at University College, at 5, on May 1, 2, and 3; "Anatomy and the Problem of Behaviour," by Dr. G. E. Coghill, at University College, at 5, on May 7, 8, and 10; and "Animal Psychology for Biologists," by Dr. J. A. Bierens de Haan, at King's College, at 5.30, on May 4, 9, and 11.

**OXFORD.**—Three public lectures of general interest will be delivered during the ensuing term. These are: (1) At 5 P.M. on May 4, "Palæontology and the Origin of Man," by Prof. D. M. S. Watson (Romanes Lecture).

(2) At 5.30 P.M. on May 18, "Professions: their Organisation and Place in Society," by Prof. A. M. Carr-Saunders (Herbert Spencer Lecture). (3) At 5 P.M. on June 18, "The Extent and Structure of the Milky Way," by Dr. Harlow Shapley, Director of the Harvard College Observatory (Halley Lecture).

On May 8, alternative schemes for the extension of the Bodleian Library will be considered by congregation.

NOTICE is given that applications for grants from the Dixon Fund for assisting scientific investigations, accompanied by the names and addresses of two references, must be made to the Academic Registrar, University of London, South Kensington, S.W.7, before May 15 next.

APPLICATIONS are invited by the London County Council for two Robert Blair fellowships in applied science and technology, each of the value of £450 and tenable for one year. The fellowships are for advanced study or research in applied science and technology, and will be tenable in the Dominions, the United States, or other foreign countries. Application forms (T.2.a./300) may be obtained from the Education Officer (T.2.a.), The County Hall, S.E.1, to whom the form must be returned by June 18.

APPLICATIONS are invited by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for research scholarships in agricultural and veterinary science, not exceeding seven in number, each tenable for three years and of the yearly value of £200. Applications must be received (upon form 900/T.G.) by June 15 by the Secretary of the Ministry. The Ministry also invites applications from students who propose to take up posts as agricultural organisers, teachers, or lecturers in agriculture, for not more than five agricultural scholarships tenable for two years and each not exceeding £200 in value per year. The latest date for the return of applications (on form A.189/T.E.) is June 15.

The Educational Settlements Association's report for 1926-27, published in a recent issue of *The Common Room*, shows that from the income of the year, consisting chiefly of grants from the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust (£5350) and the Thomas Wall Trust (£850), grants amounting to £3741 were paid to settlements and colleges. In addition, grants amounting to £735 from the Board of Education were distributed to settlements through the Association. Among the affiliated institutions, now numbering seventeen, are three settlements in London, a college at Surbiton for working women, a college near Evesham for rural workers, two colleges at Birmingham, Coleg Harlech in North Wales, and settlements at Plymouth, Bristol, Letchworth Garden City, Rugby, Leeds, York, Birkenhead, Gateshead, and Lemington-on-the-Tyne. The warden of Coleg Harlech, opened last September as a residential college for adults, contributes an article in which he calls it "a symptom of a universal tendency which owes its origin primarily to Denmark." Its teaching is to be characterised by attention to the needs of students individually; formal lectures are dispensed with, and, as in the Danish Folk High Schools, no encouragement is given to students to leave their former occupations. Intercourse with foreign countries is a noticeable feature of the work of several of the settlements. Thus, Avoncroft reports that Scotland, Holland, Denmark, and Germany are represented among its students; the Gateshead settlement entertained visitors from Germany and Czechoslovakia; Bristol Folk-house organised a Rhine tour, and Letchworth an Italian tour.