

loaded simultaneously at the same rate. Each year Great Britain imports about 1,000,000 tons of wheat from the Argentine, and it is a matter for satisfaction that the main contract for the buildings, plant and equipment of this notable granary amounting to about £800,000 has been carried out by Messrs. Henry Simon Ltd., of Manchester, at which place the machinery and equipment were assembled before shipment to South America.

#### Aluminium in Food-Stuffs

ATTENTION has been directed of late to the effects of, and possibility of poisoning from, aluminium derived from food-containers and cooking utensils. In view of the importance of the subject, the Mellon Institute of Industrial Research, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, has instituted a critical search of the scientific literature relating to the chemistry and pharmacology of aluminium, and has now published "A Select Annotated Bibliography on the Hygienic Aspects of Aluminium and Aluminium Utensils", giving the scope, with critical notes, of the papers consulted (Bibliographic Series, Bull. No. 3). Dr. Beal, assistant director of Mellon Institute, contributes an introduction in which he concludes that aluminium is not a poisonous metal and does not give rise to any disease, that aluminium utensils are very resistant to corrosion by food-stuffs cooked therein, and that aluminium does not accelerate the destruction of vitamin or other food accessory substances during cooking.

#### Announcements

THE Right Hon. Lord Stonehaven has accepted nomination as president of the Institution of Naval Architects in succession to Admiral of the Fleet, Lord Wester Wemyss. The election of the new president will take place at the opening meeting to be held at the Royal Society of Arts on April 5.

DR. J. T. DUNN has been elected president of the Society of Chemical Industry for 1933-34, in succession to Dr. R. H. Pickard. Dr. Dunn was appointed headmaster of Gateshead School in 1886, and then head of the Plymouth Technical School in 1894. Later he became the first principal of the Northern Polytechnic, Holloway. He is now the public analyst of Northumberland, and in 1930-32 was president of the Society of Public Analysts.

THE gold medal of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy has been awarded to Sir John Cadman, in recognition of his work in the advancement of technical education and the development of the mineral industries; and of his distinguished public services. The following awards have also been made: Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa, Ltd., gold medal to Mr. C. A. Banks for a paper on "Air-Transportation of Gold Dredges in New Guinea"; Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa, Ltd., premium of forty guineas conjointly to Mr. J. L. Francis and Mr. J. C. Allan for their paper on "Driving a Mines Drainage Tunnel in North Wales"; William Frecheville student's prize of ten guineas to Mr. G. J. Williams for a paper on "The Genesis of the Perrunal—La Zarza Pyritic Orebody, Spain".

AT the annual general meeting of the Geological Society of London held on February 17, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: *President*, Sir Thomas Holland; *Vice-Presidents*, Prof. E. J. Garwood, Mr. J. F. N. Green, Mr. W. Campbell Smith, and Prof. W. W. Watts; *Secretaries*, Prof. W. T. Gordon and Prof. P. G. H. Boswell; *Foreign Secretary*, Sir Arthur Smith Woodward; *Treasurer*, Mr. F. N. Ashcroft.

UNDER the terms of the Thomas Gray Memorial Trust, the Royal Society of Arts is offering a prize of £100 for an improvement in connexion with the science or practice of navigation, invented in 1932 or 1933; also a prize of £100 for an essay on fire at sea. Further particulars can be obtained from the Secretary, Royal Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, W.C.2.

PROF. B. W. HOLMAN, honorary general secretary of the Association of Scientific Workers, 70 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, informs us that the Association is engaged in compiling a handbook of "Extra-University Research in Pure and Applied Science", in which it is proposed to give data concerning commercial, endowed, and private laboratories not included in the "Universities Yearbook". It is not intended to include laboratories and other institutions devoted solely to testing materials and products, collecting data and other work not of a developmental and original character. Firms and others who are engaged in research are invited to communicate with the Association.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the following appointments, on or before the dates mentioned:—A lecturer in mathematics and science as applied to the building industry at the Northern Polytechnic, Holloway, London, N.7—The Clerk (March 31). An assistant to the City Analyst under the Leeds Corporation—The Medical Officer of Health, 12, Market Buildings, Vicar Lane, Leeds, 1 (April 3). A woman lecturer in mathematics and elementary science at the Municipal Training College, Cottingham Road, Hull—The Principal (April 5). A demonstrator in physiology and dietetics at King's College of Household and Social Science (University of London), Campden Hill Road, W.8—The Secretary (April 13). An engineer-manager for the States of Guernsey Electricity Department—The President, Appointments Board, Royal Court, Guernsey (April 15). A senior assistant in the Nautical Almanac Office—The Secretary, Civil Service Commission, Burlington Gardens, W.1 (April 20). A professor of pathology at the University of Bristol—The Secretary and Registrar (April 20). A lecturer in civil engineering at the University of Leeds—The Registrar (April 22). A professor of mental and moral philosophy at the University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand—The High Commissioner for New Zealand, 415, Strand, W.C.2.

ERRATUM.—In NATURE of March 18, p. 385, col. 1, line 26, for "*Odonatra zibethica*" read "*Ondatra zibethica*".