

past few years. In the summer of 1941, for example, 124 firms accommodated 181 students, granting them the opportunity to receive valuable experience in many of the experimental and production processes. The reports of the firms and of the students show how well and how smoothly the scheme is working. It is significant in this connexion that since the inception of the scheme, the average earnings per student reached its peak in 1941. During the summer vacation, July-September, 1942, more than three hundred students of the Imperial College will be available for varying periods of from six to eight weeks, and there is evidence that the co-operation of industry is likely to expand with this growing demand for absorption.

### The Linnean Society of London

THE Linnean Society of London is now holding some of its meetings (those of zoological interest) in conjunction with the Zoological Society of London. The Society has decided to invite by name botanists and zoologists who are refugees in Great Britain to attend the general meetings of the Society. If, therefore, any such botanists or zoologists will make application to the Assistant Secretary, the Council will consider the issue of invitations to attend the meetings.

The following discussions are being arranged by the Society: (1) "The biogeographic division of the Indo-Australian Archipelago; criticism of the Wallace and Weber lines, and of any other dividing lines, with an attempt to obtain uniformity in the names used for the divisions". The subject will be introduced by an account of the geological history and climates of the Archipelago, by Mr. J. B. Scrivenor, lately director of the Geological Survey, Federated Malay States (in April); (2) "Time, temperature and humidity in the germination of seeds", to follow an address on "Recent work on germination", by Dr. M. A. H. Tincker (on May 14); (3) "Intertidal zonation of animals and plants", introduced by an address on "The causes of the zonation of animals and algae between tide marks", by Prof. T. A. Stephenson (on June 18).

### Broadcasts on the Sub-visible Universe

A SERIES of twelve talks under the title "Science Lifts the Veil", which deals with the structure of matter, is being given on Mondays in the Empire programme of the British Broadcasting Corporation. The talks, which were introduced by Sir William Bragg on January 5, have been arranged with the advice and assistance of the Science Committee of the British Council. Sir William Bragg explained the idea and significance of the theme. He pointed out that the growth of science and of its power is largely due to an increasing ability to see or recognize smaller and still smaller things. The range of the unaided eye is limited, and it has been natural to ignore what cannot be seen. The microscope opened the way to more thorough knowledge; other means have been developed in succession. As each fresh veil has been lifted from the regions of the sub-visible universe, a new range of knowledge has been revealed, and this has in many cases provided mankind with new powers over materials, life and health. The talks, which are being given by leading men of science, will explain the revelations that have come with the magnifying glass and the microscope, X-rays, the electron-microscope and other aids to

the exploration of the small. Their effect on the many forms of science, on those which deal with natural processes, the living cell, bacteria, health and disease, on those which deal with human construction, dyes, drugs, alloys, textiles and the materials handled every day, on those sciences which are concerned with the production, preservation, and the use of food, will be explained by men who have themselves taken part in the conquest of this sub-visible universe.

### Hill Sheep Farming

THE Agricultural Improvement Council for England and Wales has set up a Committee "to investigate the present position of hill and upland sheep farming in England and Wales and in the light of modern scientific knowledge to suggest measures that might be taken to improve the condition of hill and upland grazings, the health and hardiness of sheep stocks and systems of stocking and management". The Committee is constituted as follows: Lord De La Warr (chairman); Mr. J. C. F. Fryer, Mr. Moses Griffith, grassland adviser at the Plant-breeding Station, Aberystwyth; Mr. David Lewis; Dr. R. F. Montgomerie; Prof. G. W. Robinson, professor of agricultural chemistry in the University College of North Wales, Bangor; Dr. R. W. Wheldon, lecturer in agriculture at King's College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Mr. W. Wilson. Mr. D. H. Dinsdale, adviser in agricultural economics, King's College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, will act as technical secretary to the Committee, and the administrative secretary will be Mr. J. H. Banbury, of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Lindum Hotel, St. Annes-on-Sea, Lancs.

### Announcements

SIR JOHN RUSSELL, director of the Rothamsted Experimental Station, has been appointed adviser to the Soviet Relations Branch of the Ministry of Information. During his well-known researches in agricultural science, Sir John has come into close contact with Soviet men of science and has travelled widely in the U.S.S.R.

MR. J. K. ROSS has been appointed assistant conservator of forests, Sierra Leone, in the Colonial Service.

PROF. ERWIN PAYR, emeritus professor of surgery at Leipzig University, has been awarded the Goethe Medal for art and science.

To meet urgent needs, some of them arising from the War, four new teaching departments have been set up at Leeds General Infirmary, devoted respectively to thoracic surgery, physiotherapy, radiography and radiotherapy and dietetics.

THE Board of Education announces that the scheme of State bursaries in science, tenable at universities and certain technical colleges, carrying fees and maintenance allowances, which was instituted last year to meet the demand for technical officers for the Armed Forces and for war industry, is being continued in 1942. Bursaries will be awarded as last year in engineering, physics-with-radio, and chemistry. Full particulars are being sent to the headmasters and headmistresses of secondary and public schools.