

Management Efficiency in Nationalized Undertakings

INTRODUCING his paper on managerial efficiency in nationalized undertakings to the British Institute of Management Conference at Harrogate in November 1949, Mr. I. J. Pitman advocated the setting up of a management research service. This, he said, would be complementary to management and, since it would be advisory and without executive powers, would inevitably enhance management status through which it worked. In the majority of nationalized undertakings, consumer interest is inevitably local and is at present very largely protected by members of Parliament, who put questions to the area boards. Mr. Pitman asked why these questions should not be transferred to the House of Commons, where they could be discussed in their proper place and atmosphere. His proposals were strongly supported by delegates to the conference, and it was recommended that each nationalized industry should set up, or where appropriate fully develop, its own management research division both for the board itself and for its area boards. The paper has now been published and may be obtained from the British Institute of Management, 8 Hill Street, London, W.1.

Cambridge Summer School in Electron Microscopy

A SUMMER school in electron microscopy for those who are, or are about to be, operating the instrument will be held again this year in the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, during July 18-29. The lectures will deal with the fundamental theory and operating principles of the electron microscope, and the various techniques of specimen preparation will be demonstrated and practised. The three leading models of instrument will be used. Forms of application (to be returned by June 5) can be obtained from G. F. Hickson, secretary of the Board of Extra-Mural Studies, Stuart House, Cambridge.

Course in Tropical Hygiene for Planters and Miners

THE ROSS Institute of Tropical Hygiene of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine will be holding its annual course in tropical hygiene for planters and miners during July 24-28. Morning sessions will be devoted to malaria and its control, and in the afternoons other tropical diseases and problems will be dealt with, such as hookworm, bilharzia, nutrition, housing and sanitation, and protection against heat. There is no fee for the course. The names of those proposing to attend should be sent as soon as possible to the organising secretary, L. G. Ponsford, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street (Gower Street), London, W.C.1, from whom all particulars can be obtained.

Copper Pass Awards for Metallurgy

THE Copper Pass Awards for 1949, which are recommended by a committee on behalf of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy and of the Institute of Metals, have been won by the following: Messrs. J. Matter and M. Lamourdedieu (Société Centrale des Alliages Légers, Issoire (Puy-de-Dôme), France), £50, jointly, for a paper on "The New Factory of the Société Centrale des Alliages Légers at Issoire (Puy-de-Dôme) for the Working of Light Alloys"; Mr. G. Chad Norris (West African Gold Corporation, Ltd.), £50, for a paper on "Gold Con-

centration at the Amalgamated Banket Areas Reduction Plant"; Dr. E. Scheuer (International Alloys, Ltd., Aylesbury, Bucks), £50, for a paper on "Modern Billet Casting, with Special Reference to the Solidification Process"; and Messrs. H. L. Talbot (Anglo-American Corporation of South Africa, Ltd.) and H. N. Hepker (Central Research Laboratory, N'Kana, Northern Rhodesia), £50, jointly, for a paper on "Investigations on the Production of Electrolytic Cobalt from a Copper-Cobalt Flotation Concentrate". The money for these Awards has been given by Messrs. Copper Pass and Son, Ltd., Bristol, and is allotted as follows: £100 each year for one or more awards to authors of papers on some aspect of non-ferrous extraction metallurgy submitted to the Institution of Metallurgy; and £100 each year for one or more awards to authors of papers submitted to the Institute of Metals and relating to some process or plant used in the fabrication of non-ferrous metals, contributed by persons engaged full-time in industrial practice. All papers relating to these fields and published in 1950 by either of the two Societies will be considered for the Awards; authors need not be members of either Society and may be resident in any country. Manuscripts should preferably be submitted in duplicate to either the Secretary, Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, Salisbury House, Finsbury Circus, London, E.C.2, or the Secretary, Institute of Metals, 4 Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1, from whom further particulars can be obtained.

Announcements

THE following have been elected honorary fellows of the Royal Aeronautical Society: Mr. R. Blackburn, Sir Richard Fairey, Mr. T. O. M. Sopwith, Dr. M. O'Gorman and Sir Francis McClean.

THE following announcements have recently been made by the University of London: Dr. Helen Makower has been appointed to the University readership in economics with special reference to international trade, and Mr. B. S. Yamey to the University readership in economics with special reference to distribution, both appointments being tenable at the London School of Economics and Political Science; the degree of D.Sc. has been conferred on Mr. C. M. Cawley (Imperial College of Science and Technology) and Mr. A. E. Martin (Queen Mary College).

THE third award of the Oliver Memorial Fund (£50) will be made to a British subject for a notable contribution to the research, organisation or donor aspect of blood transfusion. Applications and suggestions should be sent, before June 30, to the honorary treasurer, Mr. F. W. Mills, National Provincial Bank, Ltd., Holborn Circus, London, E.C.1.

A CONFERENCE on fertility, which will also be the inaugural meeting of a new Society for the Study of Comparative Fertility, will be held at the Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park, London, N.W.8, during June 16-17. Those interested in the Society and those desirous of attending the conference should communicate with Dr. G. I. M. Swyer, Obstetric Hospital, University College Hospital, Huntley Street, London, W.C.1, as soon as possible.

ERRATUM. In the communication "Purification and Crystallization of Q-Enzyme" (*Nature*, April 8, p. 573), par. 2, line 9, for "ionic strength" read "molarity".