

Abstracts on Agricultural and Horticultural Engineering

A NEW quarterly publication, *Abstracts on Agricultural and Horticultural Engineering*, has been started by the British Society for Research in Agricultural Engineering, and the first number has already appeared, obtainable from the National Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Wrest Park, Silsoe, Beds (No. 1, Spring 1950; pp. 61; annual subscription, 16s.). The abstracts are being collected from a wide range of home and overseas publications and are usefully grouped under a variety of subjects. Cross-references are provided for by an index; but some self-evident arrangement, alphabetical or otherwise, of the authors cited under each subject would add to the value of the publication. Lists of the bulletins published by the Institute and appropriate publications issued by H.M. Stationery Office are also available on application to the above address.

The National Museums, Ceylon: Annual Reports for 1948-49

THE administration reports of the director of the National Museums in Ceylon for 1948 and 1949 (Report for 1948, pp. 17+2 plates; Report for 1949, pp. 26+1 plate; Colombo: Government Publications Bureau, 1949-50; 55 cents each) are issued at the same time and bear ample witness to the progressive and stimulating outlook of the director, Mr. P. E. P. Deraniyagala. The usual methods of conservation of museum objects have been maintained throughout the period, and it is interesting to note that collections of live animals have been commenced at each of the provincial museums in Ceylon. In common with other national museums, those of Ceylon are now responsible for various collecting expeditions, notably to India and Africa.

Leeds City Museums: Annual Report for 1949-50

THE annual report of the Leeds City Museums for 1949-50 (pp. 8; Leeds: City Museum, 1950) records extensive new casing and reorganization in the main exhibition gallery. The large mammals—of undoubted interest but restricted purpose—have been reduced in numbers, and with new cases and upright partitions the appearance of the gallery has been completely altered. At one end is a brief introduction to animal life, and such subjects as life on land, in the water and in the air, the pattern of life and life histories are dealt with. Other bays provide a visual picture of the four chief types of country seen in Yorkshire. At the other end of the gallery the history of man is portrayed, local objects being used whenever possible. A systematic series, of both invertebrates and vertebrates, has been arranged on a balcony. At Kirkstall Abbey House the exhibition cases have been removed so as to reveal the full beauty of the medieval architecture in the vaulted room. A display of armour and weapons has been mounted around the walls. Temporary exhibitions of varied character, a school loan service, lunch-hour musical recitals, film shows, winter lectures and weather recording are among the activities of this progressive museum.

Lectures for Junior Science Societies and Clubs

A REPORT on "Science Clubs for Young People" has recently been prepared for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. This report has been approved by the Council of

the British Association for the Advancement of Science, which wishes to help and encourage existing science clubs, to assist new clubs which may be formed in response to a real demand, and to promote co-operation between kindred groups. The Association of School Natural History Societies already exists to help school and other junior scientific societies concerned with the biological sciences, and many such societies have sought its advice regarding suggestions for suitable speakers. The British Association is prepared to supplement this existing service by suggesting speakers on subjects which are covered by its sections, that is: (A) physics and mathematics, (B) chemistry, (C) geology, (D) zoology, (E) geography, (F) economics, (G) engineering, (H) anthropology and archaeology, (I) physiology, (J) psychology, (K) botany, (L) education, and (M) agriculture. Requests for such assistance should be addressed to the secretary of the British Association, Burlington House, London, W.1, with as much advance notice as possible and indicating the subject on which a lecture is desired, the proposed time and place of its delivery, and whether it will be possible to meet the lecturer's out-of-pocket expenses.

"Phosphorylation and Absorption of Sugars in the Rat"

WE regret that, in the communication under this title by Miss M. P. Hele published in *Nature* of November 4, p. 786, the description of the two graphs was omitted. It should read as follows: Effect of sugar concentration upon the rate of sugar phosphorylation. Adenosinetriphosphate concentration 0.033 M.

□, Galactose (average of 4 rats); ○, glucose (average of 8 rats); ●, fructose (average of 8 rats); ⊙, mannose (average of 5 rats); ×, xylose (average of 5 rats).

Announcements

THE Harrison Memorial Prize for 1950 of the Chemical Society has been awarded to Dr. Hugh Christopher Longuet-Higgins, lecturer in theoretical chemistry in the University of Manchester. This Prize was founded in 1922 in memory of Colonel Edward Frank Harrison, deputy controller of the Chemical Warfare Department during the First World War. It is awarded to the British chemist, less than thirty years of age, who, in the opinion of the selection committee, has during the previous five years conducted the most meritorious and promising original investigations in chemistry.

A CHRISTMAS lecture for older schoolchildren, entitled "The Electric Current, its Action and Nature", will be given by Dr. W. Wilson, manager of the Development Laboratory, General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham, at 3 p.m. on January 2, 1951, and again on January 3, in the Lecture Theatre of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, Victoria Embankment, London, W.C.2. Applications for admission should be sent to the Secretary of the Institution at the above address.

SCOTTISH Agricultural Industries, Ltd., is setting up in the Edinburgh area a new Central Research Department which will, initially, be engaged mainly on research into problems of phosphatic and other fertilizer manufacture. Dr. Bernard Raistrick, at present assistant director of research with Albright and Wilson, Ltd., has been appointed research manager of this new Department.