

Geological Society : Officers

THE following have been elected officers for the ensuing year of the Geological Society: *President*, Dr. G. M. Lees; *Vice-Presidents*, Prof. O. T. Jones, Dr. W. Campbell Smith, Dr. C. J. Stubblefield, Prof. D. Williams; *Secretaries*, Prof. S. E. Hollingworth, A. J. Butler; *Foreign Secretary*, Prof. O. T. Jones; *Treasurer*, P. Evans

American Society of Biological Chemists : Officers

THE following have been elected officers of the American Society of Biological Chemists for the year 1951-52: *President*, Dr. Vincent duVigneaud; *Vice-President*, Dr. H. A. Mattill; *Secretary*, Dr. Elmer H. Stotz (Biochemistry Department, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, Rochester 20, N.Y.); *Treasurer*, Dr. P. P. Cohen; *Councillors*, Dr. H. T. Clarke, Dr. C. F. Cori and Dr. W. M. Stanley.

The Night Sky in July

NEW moon occurs on July 4d. 07h. 48m., U.T., and full moon on July 18d. 19h. 17m. The following conjunctions with the moon take place: July 3d. 08h., Mars 4° S.; July 5d. 08h., Mercury 2° S.; July 8d. 08h., Venus 0.6° S.; July 10d. 16h., Saturn 4° N.; and July 24d. 12h., Jupiter 5° S. In addition to these conjunctions with the moon, Venus is in conjunction with Regulus on July 7d. 04h., Venus being 0.1° N., and Mercury is in conjunction with Regulus on July 27d. 03h., Mercury being 0.6° S. Mercury is an evening star but sets too soon after the sun in the early portion of the month to be seen; on July 15 and 31 it sets at 21h. 15m. and 20h. 40m., respectively, and may just be seen after sunset. Venus is an evening star, setting at 22h. 40m., 21h. 45m. and 20h. 45m., at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively, during which time the visible portion of the illuminated disk decreases from about 0.45 to 0.26; but there is a slight increase in brightness owing to the planet approaching nearer to the earth by nearly twenty million miles. Mars, a morning star, rises a little before 3h. during July, but in the earlier part of the month its rising is rather too close to that of the sun for favourable observation. Jupiter rises at midnight on July 1, and at 23h. and 22h. on July 15 and 31, respectively, and can be observed a little south of δ and ϵ Piscium. Saturn sets at 23h. 30m., 22h. 40m. and 21h. 35m. at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively, and is visible in the constellation Virgo, forming a triangle with the stars β and η Virginis, Saturn being north of the stars. Occultations of stars brighter than magnitude 6 are as follows: July 15d. 20h. 42.5m., τ Scor. (R); July 20d. 23h. 41.0m., ι Aquar. (D); July 21d. 0h. 50.1m., ι Aquar. (R); and July 27d. 01h. 34.3m., ϵ Arie. m (R). D and R refer to disappearance and reappearance, respectively, and the times to observations made at Greenwich. The earth reaches aphelion on July 4.

Announcements

THE Joule Museum at Salford will be opened by Alderman J. Brentnall, chairman of the Education Committee of Salford, on July 3. The opening ceremony will be preceded by a reception at the University of Manchester with an address on "Joule's Scientific Outlook" by Prof. L. Rosenfeld, professor of theoretical physics in the University.

SIR HENRY TIZARD, chairman of the Advisory Council on Scientific Policy, is to open the new research and development buildings of the Simon Engineering Group at Cheadle Heath, Stockport, on July 3.

MR. R. S. LEIGH has been elected to a Beit Fellowship for Scientific Research of the value of £500 per annum, tenable at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, for research on the elastic properties of metals and alloys.

THE *Review of Coal Tar Technology* for January-June 1950 (issued by the Coal Tar Research Association, Oxford Road, Gomersall, near Leeds; pp. 72; 1951; 5s.) contains brief abstracts of publications and patents dealing with all aspects of coal tar technology, classified under appropriate headings, and is likely to be of interest to many scientific workers outside the industry.

THE Faraday Society is organizing a general discussion, open to all, on the "Size and Shape Factor in Colloidal Systems", to be held at Ashorne Hill, Leamington Spa, during July 18-20. There will be four sessions: classical colloids (theory of size distribution, paints, coals and greases, etc.), colloidal and polyelectrolytes (micelle and swollen micelle), fibrous macromolecular systems (cellulose and muscle) and viruses. Accommodation is available at Ashorne Hill. The fee for the conference is £1 (members 5s.), and applications must be sent, before July 4, to the assistant secretary of the Faraday Society at 6 Gray's Inn Square, London, W.C.1.

A SUMMER school in programme design for automatic digital computing machines, on the lines of the one held last year, will be given in the University Mathematical Laboratory, Cambridge, during September 11-21, 1951. The course will give a basic training in the mathematical use of machines, dealing with the processes employed and their embodiment in programmes which specify the operation in detail. Lectures and practical classes will be held in the design of programmes for the Laboratory's electronic delay storage automatic calculator. Application forms, to be completed by July 14, can be obtained from G. F. Hickson, secretary of the Board of Extra-Mural Studies, Stuart House, Cambridge.

THE Cambridge Branch of the Association of Scientific Workers is to arrange a conference on "Ethical Problems of the Scientific Worker", which will be held in Cambridge during July 28-29. Among the speakers will be Lord Haden Guest, president of the Association, Prof. N. F. Mott and Dr. John Hammond. Further particulars can be obtained from the Conference Secretary, Cambridge Branch, Association of Scientific Workers, 27 Bateman Street, Cambridge.

THE second conference of the International Union of Leather Chemists' Societies will be held at the Portland Hall Annexe of the Regent Street Polytechnic, London, W.1, during September 9-14, under the presidency of J. R. Blockey. The Society of Leather Trades' Chemists is the host society. During the conference, four sessions will be devoted to the reading of papers, and in addition a number of social events and excursions have been arranged. Forms of registration for the conference, to be completed by August 10, can be obtained from G. H. W. Humphreys, Forestal Central Laboratories, Harpenden Rise, Harpenden, Herts.