

Port of London Authority and Imperial College Union. An interesting section of the Vacation Work Committee's report is the assessment by students of their experience abroad. The percentages of those who found the various aspects satisfactory are as follows (British students first figure, foreign students second): journey (74, 98), reception (91, 98), language difficulties (92, 83), accommodation (93, 92), facilities for training provided by the firm (93, 95), relations with workers (100, 100), social and cultural impressions (53, 57), general impressions (82, 96). It would appear from these figures that these students were by no means complacent about the prevailing social and cultural standards in the countries visited.

#### Frank B. Jewett Fellowships: New Awards

THE American Telephone and Telegraph Co. has awarded Frank B. Jewett fellowships to the following: M. Gerstenhaber, a graduate of Yale University and the University of Chicago, for research in the Department of Mathematics, University of Chicago, on higher mathematics, particularly mapping problems; D. R. F. Cochran, a graduate in chemistry of the University of California, for research at Johns Hopkins University on light nuclei and their energy levels, particularly the reactions of tritium with helium and beryllium; Dr. Ilse L. Novak, a graduate in mathematics of Hunter College and Radcliffe College, for the continuation of research on relation algebras at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton (Dr. Novak held a Jewett fellowship last year at the University of California); S. Prager, a graduate in chemistry of Brown University, for research on polymer small-molecule systems at the University of Utah; D. R. Yennie, a graduate in engineering of Stevens Institute of Technology, for research in the theory of elementary atomic particles at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton. Grants for the fellowships were established in 1944 by the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. upon the retirement of the late Dr. Jewett as vice-president in charge of development and research, and since that time thirty-eight awards have been made. The fellowships are designed to stimulate and assist research in the fundamental physical sciences by scientific workers who have recently received or are due to receive doctorates. The awards are made on the recommendation of a committee of seven of the Bell Telephone Laboratories; they carry a grant of 3,000 dollars to the recipient and 1,500 dollars to the institution at which the research is done.

#### Study Course in Grassland Survey Methods

At the suggestion of the Food and Agriculture Committee of the Organization for European Economic Co-operation, a study course on grassland survey methods will be held at the Grassland Research Station, Stratford-on-Avon, during February 26-March 3, and will be opened by Dr. William Davies, director of the Station. The object of the course is to raise the productivity of European grasslands through the adoption of improved survey methods and techniques, and the meeting represents a further step in European co-operation following the very successful conference and course in this field held last year in France and Denmark respectively. Specialists from many of the countries participating in the Organization for European Economic Co-operation will be present to discuss the methods of grassland survey used in various countries, particularly those of the United Kingdom grassland survey. In

addition, the leading grassland experts from the United States, Australia, South Africa and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, who are undertaking a survey of grassland and green-fodder production in the Mediterranean area on behalf of the O.E.E.C., will also be participating in the course.

#### Symposium on Freeze-Drying

A SYMPOSIUM on "Freeze-Drying" will be held in London during June 29-30. Provisional arrangements envisage four sessions in which it is hoped to cover the major aspects of the whole field of application of the technique: (1) physical principles; freezing and drying of proteins and protein-containing materials such as plasma and foodstuffs; *chairman*, Dr. R. I. N. Greaves; (2) the drying of bacteria and antibiotics; *chairman*, Sir Alexander Fleming; (3) the drying of viruses and vaccines; *chairman*, Dr. C. H. Andrewes; (4) the drying of tissues and tissue sections; *chairman*, Prof. J. F. Danielli. Attendance will not be limited to members of the Institute, and all those who are interested are invited to apply to the General Secretary, Institute of Biology, Tavistock House South, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

#### The Night Sky in March

New moon occurs on March 7d. 20h. 50m., U.T., and full moon on March 23d. 10h. 50m. The following conjunctions with the moon take place: March 9d. 10h., Mars 2° S.; March 10d. 06h., Venus 3° S.; March 23d. 08h., Saturn 4° N. In addition to these conjunctions with the moon, Mercury is in conjunction with Mars on March 26d. 09h., mercury being 1.3° N. Mercury is in superior conjunction on March 11 and is invisible for part of the month, but is an evening star towards the end of March, setting an hour and a half after sunset on March 31. Venus is visible for some hours after sunset, its times of setting being 19h. 55m. and 21h. 30m. at the beginning and end of the month, respectively, with stellar magnitude -3.4 and the visible portion of the illuminated disk varying from 0.91 to 0.84. Mars, an evening star, sets at about 19h. 30m. throughout most of March, this being about an hour after sunset at the end of the month, after which it draws too close to the sun for favourable observation. Jupiter, in conjunction with the sun on March 11, is unfavourably placed for observation; towards the end of the month it becomes a morning star but is too close to the sun to be observed. Saturn rises at 19h. 25m., 18h. 25m. and 17h. 10m. on March 1, 15 and 31, respectively, and is in opposition to the sun on March 20. Occultations of stars brighter than magnitude 6 are as follows: March 16d. 0h. 22.9m., 406 B. Taur. (*D*); March 16d. 18h. 57.4m., 49 Auri. (*D*); March 22d. 01h. 32.8m., *c* Leon. (*D*); March 25d. 23h. 09.5m., 236 G. Virg. (*R*). The times refer to Greenwich, and *D* and *R* refer to disappearance and reappearance, respectively. An annular eclipse of the sun, invisible at Greenwich, takes place on March 7. The eclipse begins at 18h. 04m. at lat. -37° 30', long. -177° 40', and ends at 23h. 42.6m. at lat. 19° 38', long. 84° 45'. Vernal equinox occurs on March 21d. 10h.

ERRATUM. In the paragraph entitled "Vegetation Patterns in Somaliland" in *Nature* of February 17, p. 261, for "Geographical Review" read "Geographical Journal".