

logue" (obtainable from the Hilger Division, Hilger and Watts, Ltd., 98 St. Pancras Way, London, N.W.1). Section *D* deals with monochromators for ultra-violet, infra-red and visible radiation and with wave-length spectrometers and specialized spectroscopes, and mention is made of a new series of monochromators, now in the final stages of design, which are planned to replace the former Müller-Hilger Uvisor instruments. Section *M* deals with a wide range of apparatus, including refractometers, polarimeters, temperature regulators, strain viewers, and photoelastic and electrophoresis apparatus. Two types of temperature-regulating devices for optical instruments fitted with water jackets are offered. For precise measurements the B.T.L. thermostatic water circulator made by Baird and Tatlock (London), Ltd., and designed in conjunction with the Hilger Division of Hilger and Watts, Ltd., is recommended, and for less critical work the Gallenkamp water heater, which is well suited for the Abbe type of refractometer. Other refractometers described are the Hilger-Chance refractometer for solids and liquids, the Rayleigh interference refractometer for gases or for liquids, and a thin-film ultra-violet refractometer for liquids.

National Institute of Agricultural Botany

THE work of the National Institute of Agricultural Botany during the past year is reviewed in its *Journal* (7, No. 1; 1954). This number includes an account of the oldest regional trials centre, the Norfolk Agricultural Station, and in various ways indicates the many sides of the Institute's work, including reports of trials, classifications of varieties, methods of assessing premature germination (that is, 'sprouting') in wheat, and a further report from St. Albans on quality of oats. This latter paper describes an interesting investigation into decayed kernels. There is also a full report on the crop conference held in December 1953. The proceedings were of general interest, and the emphasis on quality is of topical importance. It was probably the first occasion when growers' representatives of so many areas have been able to meet millers and bakers, maltsters and brewers, for a full discussion of their different points of view.

Fifteenth International Congress of Zoology, London, 1958

THE Fifteenth International Congress of Zoology is to be held during July 16-23, 1958, and will meet in the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London. The president is Sir Gavin de Beer, director of the British Museum (Natural History); secretary-general, Prof. H. R. Hewer (Imperial College, London, S.W.7); assistant secretary-general, Dr. G. E. Newell (Queen Mary College, London, E.1). In preparation for the work on zoological nomenclature by the Congress, arrangements will be made by the International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature in conjunction with the secretariat of the Congress for a colloquium on zoological nomenclature to be held immediately before the Congress, to start on July 7. The task of the colloquium will be to examine in detail the draft text of the *Règles* as amended by the Paris and Copenhagen Congresses, prior to their submission to the Congress for adoption. Formal invitations to attend the Congress will be issued in September 1957. All communications meanwhile should be sent to the Secretary-General at the above address.

Royal Astronomical Society: Officers for 1955-56

THE following have been elected officers for 1955-56 of the Royal Astronomical Society: *President*, Sir Harold Jeffreys; *Vice-Presidents*, Dr. J. Jackson, Prof. A. C. B. Lovell, Dr. R. A. Lyttleton (*geophysical secretary*), and Prof. H. H. Plaskett; *Treasurer*, Prof. L. M. Milne-Thomson; *Secretaries*, Prof. C. W. Allen and Dr. A. Hunter; *Foreign Secretary*, Sir Harold Spencer Jones; *Council*, Dr. A. Armitage, Dr. D. E. Blackwell, Prof. H. Bondi, Mrs. E. M. Burbidge, Mr. E. H. Collinson, Prof. V. C. A. Ferraro, Mr. T. Gold, Dr. R. W. B. Pearse, Dr. J. G. Porter, Dr. S. K. Runcorn, Mr. D. H. Sadler and Dr. P. A. Sweet.

Announcements

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH has been elected the first Honorary Fellow of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

PRESIDENT'S Awards announced on Indian Republic Day (January 26) have been made to Prof. V. R. Khanolkar, director, Indian Cancer Research Institute, Bombay, India, and to Prof. M. S. Thacker, director, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India.

MR. W. S. BISAT, a well-known civil engineer of Leeds and Fellow of the Royal Society, has been awarded the Liverpool Geological Society Medal in recognition of his work on goniatite faunas and their use in the subdivision of the Carboniferous in the North of England.

MR. R. H. GUMMER, a director of International Combustion, Ltd., and associated companies, has been elected president of the Institute of Fuel, in succession to Dr. W. Idris Jones, director-general of research to the National Coal Board. Mr. Gummer is a founder-member of the Institute, and is well known for engineering activities connected with fuel.

DR. C. J. GADD, keeper of Egyptian and Assyrian antiquities at the British Museum, has been appointed to the University of London chair of ancient Semitic languages and civilizations tenable at the School of Oriental and African Studies. The title of reader in agronomy in the University of London has been conferred on Mr. A. G. Davis in respect of the post held by him at Wye College.

THE fourteenth International Horticultural Congress will be held at Scheveningen, Holland, during August 29-September 6. Further information can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, International Horticultural Congress, Ministry of Agriculture, Bezuidenhout 30, The Hague.

THE first International Congress on Documentation of Applied Chemistry will be held in London during November 23-25. Further information can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, International Congress on Documentation of Applied Chemistry, 56 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

A CONFERENCE on "Low Temperature Physics" will be held under the joint auspices of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics and Commission I of the Institut International du Froid as part of the four-yearly International Congress of Refrigeration which commences at the Sorbonne, Paris, on August 31. The first sessions will be mainly devoted to the applied aspects of low-temperature physics; those concerned mainly with pure physics will begin on September 2. The proceedings will end on September 8. Further information can be obtained from Prof. L. Weil, Institut Fourier, Place du Doyen Gosse, Grenoble, Isère.