

meeting on the final day preceded by four technical sessions as follows: variability and predictability of water supply in arid regions; better use of present resources; prospects for additional water sources; and the better adaptation of plants and animals to arid conditions. Following this there will be a two-day field trip, and then a conference will be held during May 2-4 at the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Socorro, New Mexico. At this conference a specially invited group of experts, including members of the Unesco Advisory Committee on Arid Zone Research, will discuss the points raised at the symposium and try to formulate some definite recommendations for research and development programmes in the near future. Further information can be obtained from the American Association at 1515 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington 5, D.C.

University of London

PROF. H. R. ROBINSON, emeritus professor of physics in Queen Mary College, London, has been re-elected vice-chancellor of the University of London for the academic year 1955-56.

The following appointments have been made in the University of London: Dr. D. W. G. Style, reader in chemistry in King's College, to the University chair of chemistry tenable at that College; Dr. H. F. Cook, senior lecturer in the Middlesex Hospital Medical School, to the University readership in physics tenable at that School; and Mr. S. S. Frere, lecturer in archæology in the University of Manchester, to the University readership in the archæology of the Roman provinces tenable at the Institute of Archæology.

The Queen's University of Belfast

THE following appointments have recently been made: Prof. P. L. Burns, professor of electrical engineering; Prof. T. P. Allen, professor of light electrical engineering; Prof. F. V. Warnock, professor of mechanical engineering. Prof. Burns and Prof. Warnock were formerly professors, and Mr. Allen lecturer, in the Belfast Municipal College of Technology.

The following lecturers have been appointed: N. R. Knowles and J. G. Murray (agricultural bacteriology); J. Lowe, R. H. Stewart and Mrs. H. Dales (agricultural botany); J. S. V. McAllister and Dr. W. O. Brown (agricultural chemistry); R. J. Willis (agricultural zoology); E. L. Calvert (mycology and plant pathology); Dr. D. Luke and Dr. J. K. L. Pearson (veterinary science).

The University announces the following grants: 16,500 dollars from the Rockefeller Foundation to be used mainly to purchase an infra-red spectrophotometer for the Department of Chemistry; £800 from the British Petroleum Co., Ltd., to provide a research fellowship in physical and inorganic chemistry; £500 from the Shell Oil Co., Ltd., to be used for research purposes in chemistry.

Announcements

SIR HAROLD SPENCER JONES, Astronomer Royal, and Prof. S. A. Waksman, professor of microbiology in Rutgers University, New Brunswick, have been elected foreign associates of the Paris Academy of Sciences.

MR. H. N. RIDLEY has been awarded the Colwyn Medal of the Institution of the Rubber Industry and

also elected to honorary fellowship of the Institution in recognition of his outstanding services to the rubber industry. Mr. Ridley was the pioneer in the tapping of the rubber tree, and his hundredth birthday falls later this year. The Institution is devoting an issue of its *Proceedings* to an appreciation of his work and to tributes to his high achievements.

MR. A. HOLROYD, sewage works manager, Wolverhampton, has been appointed a member of the Water Pollution Research Board of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, in succession to Dr. F. S. Jenkins, who has completed his term of office.

THE Arnold Gerstenberg Studentship for 1956 is open to students in the University of Cambridge who, going into residence not earlier than 1950, have obtained honours in the Natural Sciences Tripos and who wish to pursue a course of philosophical study. The Studentship will be awarded for an essay which must be submitted before May 1, 1956. Further details can be obtained from Prof. R. B. Braithwaite, King's College, Cambridge.

THE tenth annual exhibition organized by the Northern Division of the Institution of Electronics will be held in the College of Technology, Sackville Street, Manchester 1, during July 14-20 (10 a.m.-10 p.m.; except July 14, 2-10 p.m., and July 16, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.). The exhibition will consist of a manufacturers' section and a scientific and industrial research section, as well as lectures and film shows. Programmes of the lectures and film shows (4½d.) and catalogues (2s.) will be available later. Admission tickets, free of charge, can be obtained from the honorary exhibition organizing secretary, Mr. W. Birtwistle, 78 Shaw Road, Rochdale, Lancs, or from any of the exhibitors.

A ONE-DAY conference on "The Film in Chemical Engineering", organized by the British Universities Film Council, in co-operation with the Shell Film Unit and Prof. G. F. Mucklow, of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Birmingham, will be held in the University of Birmingham on April 5. Prof. F. H. Garner, of the Department of Chemical Engineering, Birmingham, and Mr. E. le Q. Herbert, of the Shell Film Unit, will be the principal speakers. The conference will be open to all. Further information can be obtained from Dr. J. Horne, University, Birmingham 15.

A SYMPOSIUM on "Sound and Vibration in Solids", organized by the Fachausschuss Akustik der Deutschen Physikalischen Gesellschaften in collaboration with the Fachgruppe Schwingungstechnik im Verein Deutscher Ingenieure will be held in the Mathematical Institute of the University of Göttingen during April 19-22. Twenty-five papers will be read by German workers, and the rest will be as follows: British and Italian, three each; Belgian, French and Swiss, one each. During the symposium there will be a small exhibition of industrial measuring apparatus for structure-borne sound. The fee for the symposium is D.M. 15. Further information can be obtained from "Körperschalltagung", Göttingen, Bürgerstrasse 42.

In a note in *Nature* of March 5, p. 412, it was stated that the principal contributions to a symposium on "Mechanisms of Microbial Pathogenicity" during the annual meeting of the Society for General Microbiology will be available in book form. This is being published by the Cambridge University Press, from which non-members of the Society can obtain copies (price 25s.).