

open at the ends, with a thermometer 32 cm. long fixed along the axis, and suspended so that it could be turned for the tube to be along the wind. The readings of the screen thermometers were checked against those of an Assmann psychrometer. 333 separate trials were made over a period of nearly four months in the late summer and autumn of 1953. It was found that the tube gave the best overall comparison with the Assmann readings, followed by the small screen; then, with an appreciable interval, the large screen; and finally, the medium screen. The aluminium tube came out best under all types of weather and change of temperature. It was best even in calm sunny weather because, though the tube is heated a little above air temperature, the thermometer has better ventilation than the thermometers in the screens, which also are heated above the air temperature.

British Society of Rheology: Officers

THE following have been elected officers for 1956-57 of the British Society of Rheology: *President*, Prof. J. G. Oldroyd; *Honorary Secretary*, N. Wookey (52 Tavistock Road, Edgware, Middlesex); *Honorary Treasurer*, D. W. Jopling; *Honorary Editor*, Dr. E. W. J. Mardles; *New Members of Committee*, C. C. Mell and Dr. J. C. Vernon.

Royal Society of Tasmania: Officers

THE officers for 1956 of the Royal Society of Tasmania are as follows: *President*, Sir Ronald Cross (Governor of Tasmania); *Vice-Presidents*, F. C. Wolfhagen and Dr. W. L. Crowther; *Council*, Prof. T. Hytten, C. Bisdee, Dr. D. Martin, Dr. W. V. Tenniswood, Prof. S. W. Carey and L. W. Miller; *Honorary Secretary*, Dr. W. Bryden (Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Box 416B, G.P.O., Hobart); and *Honorary Treasurer*, G. E. Hale.

The Night Sky in November

NEW moon occurs on Nov. 2d. 16h. 43m., U.T., and full moon on Nov. 18d. 06h. 44m. The following conjunctions with the Moon take place: Nov. 4d. 10h., Saturn 1° N.; Nov. 13d. 12h., Mars 7° S.; Nov. 27d. 01h., Jupiter 6° N.; Nov. 29d. 17h., Venus 4° N. In addition to these conjunctions with the Moon, Venus is in conjunction with Spica on Nov. 18d. 18h., Venus being 4.2° N. There will be a total eclipse of the Moon on November 18, partly visible at Greenwich. The Moon enters penumbra at 4h. 00m. and umbra at 5h. 03m.; totality begins at 6h. 08m. and ends at 7h. 27m. Moonset at Greenwich is at 7h. 32m. Mercury is too close to the Sun for observation. Venus is a morning star, rising at 3h. 15m., 3h. 55m. and 4h. 40m. on November 1, 15 and 30, respectively; its distance from the Earth increases from 107 to 123 million miles during the month. Mars is visible during the evenings, setting at 1h. 50m., 1h. 25m. and 1h. 05m. on November 1, 15 and 30, respectively; it continues to recede from the Earth, its stellar magnitude decreasing during the month from -1.3 to -0.4 and its distance from the Earth increasing from 53 to 73 million miles. At the beginning of the month Mars is north of ψ Aquarii, and is moving eastwards, passing into Pisces on November 22. Jupiter rises at 2h. 40m., 2h. 00m. and 1h. 05m. at the beginning, middle and end of the month, respectively, and is near β Virginis; its stellar magnitude is -1.4 and its distance about 550 million miles. Saturn is too close to the Sun for observation, being in conjunction on November 27.

Occultations of stars brighter than magnitude 6 are as follows, observations being made at Greenwich: Nov. 11d. 23h. 06.6m., 44 Aqr. (*D*); Nov. 14d. 19h. 28.3m., 51 Psc. (*D*); Nov. 22d. 4h. 15.1m., 162 B. Gem. (*R*). *D* and *R* refer to disappearance and reappearance, respectively. The Taurid meteors are active during November 1-16; conditions are expected to be favourable, the radiant is near R.A. 3h. 36m., Dec. 14° N. The Leonid meteors are active during November 15-20, but conditions are unfavourable for observation.

Announcements

PROF. SYDNEY CHAPMAN has been appointed Gauss professor of geophysics of the Academy of Sciences at Göttingen for 1956-57. This professorship was founded in connexion with the celebration of the Gauss centenary. The Gauss professor for 1955-56 was Prof. E. Artin, of the University of Istanbul, who was unable to be in Göttingen during that year, and is also there during the present session.

THE Science Committee of the Society for Cultural Relations with the U.S.S.R. is considering the possibility of arranging a Russian-language school for British scientists to be held in Leningrad during 1957. It would be for scientists with some knowledge of Russian, would be staffed by Soviet teachers, and would last twelve days plus travelling time, six days each way, with hostel accommodation. Sight-seeing would be arranged. The overall cost would be about £80, plus 25 roubles a day spending allowance inside the Soviet Union. Those interested should write to the Society at 14 Kensington Square, London, W.8.

THE Ministry of Agriculture, Northern Ireland, has awarded the following scholarships: *Agricultural Science*, D. L. Armstrong, S. R. J. Bingham, W. M. Dunlop, H. R. Kirkpatrick, D. J. McCormick and J. S. Smith (four years at The Queen's University, Belfast); *Dairy Science*, A. G. Foote (four years at the University of Reading) and R. S. Shannon (two years at the University of Nottingham School of Agriculture, Loughborough); *Forestry*, W. D. Fyffe (three years at the University of Edinburgh), and J. M. Elliott (three years at the University of Aberdeen).

THE Gas Council awards each year five research scholarships to students who have recently graduated in physics, chemistry or engineering, and the scholarships for this year have been announced as follows: R. Salter (Department of Inorganic and Physical Chemistry, Oxford), mechanisms of vibrational activation of hydrocarbon molecules by ultrasonic dispersion measurements on vapours; A. Wint (Department of Chemical Engineering, Cambridge), interfacial transfer phenomena; J. W. Arnold (Department of Chemical Engineering, Imperial College of Science and Technology, London), energy exchange in polyatomic molecules, with particular reference to hydrocarbons; P. Owens (Department of Chemical Engineering, Birmingham), high-pressure reactions between oil and hydrogen; and D. H. Grant (Department of Chemistry, Glasgow), a fundamental chemical investigation within the field of polymer degradation reactions.

ERRATUM. In the communication entitled "Interior Deformation Markings in Copper Fatigue Specimens" by D. S. Kemsley in *Nature* of September 22, p. 653, col. 2, par. 3, line 6, for "632,400 c./min." read "632,400 cycles at 21 c./min."