

(Flammarion, 1918), "Les Problèmes de l'Évolution" (Doin, 1931), "Les Conceptions modernes de l'Hérédité" (Doin, 1935), "Les Progrès récents de l'Embryologie expérimentale" (Doin, 1939), "Organisme et Sexualité" (Doin, 1942).

These books reflect the excellence of his teaching, which influenced numerous young scientists. A number of them have made brilliant careers in experimental biology and embryology and developed schools of their own.

Maurice Caullery was, in 1928, elected to the Paris Academy of Sciences and in 1948 he was elected a foreign member of the Royal Society. He was also associate or corresponding member of numerous other foreign academies.

Up to the time of his death, Maurice Caullery remained physically and intellectually alert, walking every day to the laboratory, continuing to read and to write. In 1945 he became president of the Academy of Sciences, and, in his presidential address, did not hesitate to denounce its ageing and immobilism, fighting with acidity and vigour for a renewal of its organization. A great sense of duty and devotion to science associated with intellectual youth and vitality were among the characteristics of Maurice Caullery. Throughout his long life, he devoted himself to the advancement of biology.

He is survived by Mme. Caullery and their four children and numerous grandchildren.

ANDRÉ LWOFF

NEWS and VIEWS

The American Air Force Lunar Probe

THE American Air Force lunar probe attempt on October 11 failed to achieve the full objective of a circum-lunar orbit, but demonstrated that many of the technical problems of launching and accelerating a three-stage rocket to the necessary speed have been solved. Guidance of the rocket into the correct path and precise control of the final cut-off velocity appeared to have been the chief problems not yet completely mastered. The tracking of the rocket and reception of telemetry signals both in the United Kingdom and at other stations was very successful out to the maximum distance of almost 80,000 miles from the Earth's surface. In the instrument payload of some 40 lb. were included radiation detectors, which confirmed the earlier measurements on *Explorer IV* of the intense radiation belt surrounding the Earth. Preliminary analyses of the results have shown a significant decrease in intensity beyond several Earth radii, and seem to confirm the idea that the radiation is due to the trapping of cosmic particles by the Earth's magnetic field. Temperature and micro-meteorite impact measurements should give valuable data on conditions in regions now explored for the first time. No doubt there are some who will not regret the failure to penetrate the mystery of the Moon's unseen face, but it must be only a matter of time until this is done; meanwhile, the progress already made and the value of the scientific measurements obtained merit warm congratulations to the American scientists concerned.

Racial Problems in Britain

THE Eugenics Society (69 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1, 1s. 6d.) has recently issued the first of a new series of broadsheets, which deals with the subject of West Indian immigration into Britain. In the preface, Sir Charles Darwin explains that the aim is "to review the whole position, so that whatever the reader's final conclusions may be, they should at least be based on fact and not on mere emotion". Recent events in Great Britain have made it plain how important this is; but it is also obvious from the paper itself, written by Mr. Colin Bertram, the general secretary of the Eugenics Society, that the separation of facts from opinions concerning the problem of 'race' is a task of the greatest difficulty.

It is unfortunate that the argument of the broadsheet involves a large measure of confusion between

the social and the genetic aspects of the subject, and that it takes so much for granted. As it is assumed that "miscegenation runs counter to the great developing pattern of human evolution", the onus of responsibility is placed on the shoulders of those who are willing to allow it to continue in Britain. There is, it is said, "a need to ponder" on this difficult issue, "unless there are evident ultimate genetic advantages in the production of persons more likely to be capable, happy and altruistic in the circumstances of the future", as the offspring of mixed marriages. It is improbable, however, that any precise information can now be produced which would indicate whether these somewhat vague requirements can be met. Until the problems of race relations are stated in clearer terms, from the genetic point of view, it is unlikely that what has been termed the 'art of eugenics' can contribute significantly to their solution.

Waverley Gold Medal Essay Competition

THE Scientific Advisory Board of *Research* has awarded the following prizes in the Waverley Gold Medal essay competition. The Waverley Gold Medal and first prize: Mr. A. J. C. Hall (University of Sydney) and Mr. J. G. Hayes (Royal Melbourne Technical College) for "Coloured Patterns in Glass"; second prize, Mr. T. R. Manley (A. Reyrolle and Co., Ltd., Newcastle upon Tyne) for "The Irradiation of Plastics"; special prize for an author under thirty: Mr. M. D. Lilley (Aplin and Barrett, Ltd., Yeovil) for "Food Preservation with the Antibiotic Nisin"; highly commended: Mr. J. Heywood (Norwood Technical College, London) for "Radio Astronomy—an Aid to Education". The prizes will be presented to the winners on December 15 at 6 p.m. in the lecture hall of the Royal Society of Arts, John Adam Street, London, W.C.2.

Industrial Training Council

THE Industrial Training Council, which consists of representatives of the British Employers' Confederation, the Trades Union Congress, the nationalized industries, Government departments and educational bodies, and recently held its first business meeting, has the primary function of encouraging individual industries to take action to ensure a satisfactory level of industrial training. The point was emphasized that it is only the organizations in