

Endeavour Prizes

The prizes awarded for the 1958 *Endeavour* Essay Competition were presented by Sir Alexander Fleck on August 29, during the reception for exhibitors in the Randolph Hall of the University of Glasgow. The competition is sponsored annually by Imperial Chemical Industries Limited, publishers of the quarterly scientific review *Endeavour*, and is limited to those under twenty-five years of age. Ninety-two entries were received, but, although many were from abroad, all the prize-winners this year come from the British Isles. The first prize of 50 guineas was awarded to Mr. Charles Perrin, of Winchester College, for an essay on "Darwinism Today". The second prize of 25 guineas was awarded to Miss Angela

Glynn for an essay on "Education for an Age of Science". Miss Glynn is a student at Newnham College, Cambridge. The third prize of 15 guineas was awarded to Mr. John Christopher Horrocks, of Halifax, Yorkshire, for an essay on "Rockets and Satellites and their Scientific Significance". Mr. Horrocks is studying for an external London degree at Bradford Institute of Technology. Two special prizes of 5 guineas were awarded to competitors under eighteen. Mr. Anthony Orchard, of Swansea, received one of these for an essay on "Chemicals from Petroleum". He is at present at the Bishop Gore Grammar School for Boys. The second was won by Mr. Andrew Billson, of Nottingham, for an essay on the same subject. Mr. Billson is at the Becket School, West Bridgford.

NEWS and VIEWS

Physics at the University College of Wales,
Aberystwyth : Prof. W. J. G. Beynon

DR. W. J. G. BEYNON, at present a senior lecturer in the University College of Swansea, has been appointed to the chair of physics at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, in succession to the late Prof. R. M. Davies (see *Nature*, 181, 879; 1958). Dr. Beynon graduated in the University of Wales (University College of Swansea) in 1934, with first-class honours in physics, and then proceeded to research in the Department of Physics at Swansea, obtaining his Ph.D. degree for work on magneto-optical dispersion in 1939. During 1938-46 he worked in the Radio Division of the National Physical Laboratory on ionospheric problems in radio communication. In 1946 he returned to the Department of Physics at Swansea as lecturer, being promoted to senior lecturer in 1949. With research students, he continued work on ionospheric problems, and in 1951 was awarded the degree of D.Sc. (Wales). His published work is concerned with radio-wave propagation, reflexion and absorption in the ionosphere, and in some papers he collaborated with Sir Edward Appleton. Recent publications have been on solar eclipses and radio studies during the International Geophysical Year, for which he is a 'world correspondent' on the ionosphere. He has been general editor of the Proceedings of the International Joint Commission on the Ionosphere, and has served on many committees, national and international, including those dealing with artificial Earth satellites, and rocket investigation of the upper atmosphere. He was a member of the official British delegation to General Assemblies of the Scientific Radio Union at Zurich (1950), Sydney (1952), The Hague (1954), and Boulder (1957), and has recently visited Moscow.

Report on Education

THE report of the Ministry of Education, "Education in 1957" (pp. v+198. (Cmnd. 454). London: H.M. Stationery Office, 1958. 9s. net), brings together a good deal of information which has been given piecemeal to Parliament, and presents a convenient picture of trends, some of which, notably in further education, are of particular interest to the scientist. During 1956 the number of senior children in all-age schools was reduced by 10 per cent, while during 1957 completion of new buildings permitted the

re-organization of 203 all-age schools, and there are 260 projects in the approved building programme, completion of which will enable 1,300 more all-age schools to be re-organized. New building work to the value of more than £60 million has now been authorized for the first four years of the five-year plan for the expansion of technical education, out of a total of £70 million, and by the end of 1957 work had begun on twenty new colleges and 102 major extensions to existing colleges. Although the staffing position in the primary schools improved slightly, it continued to deteriorate in the secondary schools, and the report emphasizes the need for a considerably larger number of teachers of mathematics and science when the number of children in the secondary schools rises in the next few years. Statistics and a graph included in the report point to a new peak expected in the school population in 1968 almost as high as that expected in 1961. The number of full-time teachers in technical colleges rose from 10,817 to 12,139, and of part-time teachers from 47,024 to 49,320, but the increase is still short of that considered necessary by the Willis Jackson Committee. The year was notable for the number of visitors to the Science Museum, the figure of 1,317,000 having only been exceeded in 1935 (1,327,000).

Russian Scientific Journals available in English

THE U.S. National Science Foundation has published a useful list of Soviet scientific and technical journals now available in English translation. 60,000 pages a year are now in print and these include 53 English editions of Russian journals, four extensive series of translated Russian abstracts of scientific papers, and four series of partial translations of important Russian journals. The list includes subscription rates and details of where the translations can be ordered. It can be obtained from the National Science Foundation, Washington 25, D.C.

The Australian Museum, Sydney

So long ago as 1827 Earl Bathurst suggested that a public museum be established in New South Wales, where "many rare and curious specimens of natural history are to be procured". By 1852 the first portion of the permanent building had been erected. The whole building will be completed by the construction of the North Wing, which is due to begin very soon. From its early days, the Museum has been dis-