

council, Prof. J. G. C. Anderson (Cardiff), Dr. H. W. Ball (British Museum, Natural History), Prof. K. C. Dunham (Durham), Dr. R. G. S. Hudson (Dublin), Prof. B. C. King (Bedford College, London), Dr. Dorothy Rayner (Leeds), Prof. R. M. Shackleton (Liverpool), Prof. J. Sutton (Imperial College of Science and Technology, London), Prof. P. C. Sylvester-Bradley (Leicester). The following were elected members of the Society: Mr. M. Black, lecturer in geology, University of Cambridge; Mr. P. T. Cox, managing director, B. P. Exploration Co., Ltd.; Mr. D. Curry; Dr. K. A. Davies, deputy director, Overseas Geological Survey; Dr. Vernon Wilson, district geologist, H.M. Geological Survey.

### The Franco-British Pharmaceutical Commission

THE Franco-British Pharmaceutical Commission was appointed in January 1950 by the Councils of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain and of the Ordre National des Pharmaciens de France to promote co-operation in the field of pharmacy. The formation of the Commission was inspired by the Cultural Convention held by the Governments of France and Great Britain in 1948 at which the hope was raised that "... in each country the fullest possible knowledge and understanding of the intellectual, artistic, scientific, technical and educational activities and of the history and ways of life of the other" should be promoted. In the spring of each year since 1951 a team of French lecturers has visited towns in Great Britain, and a British team has gone to France. More recently, British experts have visited France (1960 Lille; 1961 Lyons) to study aspects of the practice of pharmacy there. Three British pharmacists have done research work at the University of Paris, and one is going to Bordeaux during 1961/62. Through the two Societies, the Commission is able to obtain information on most pharmaceutical subjects and to facilitate the exchange of scientific material, for example, specimens of drugs or medicines, between interested parties in the two countries. Week-end congresses, well attended by both French and British pharmacists from all parts of the two countries, have been held in the spring, alternately in France and Great Britain. The ninth Congress, which will be attended by about 100 French and 100 British, is to be held in Jersey during May 12-15, 1961. The secretary of the British Section of the Commission is Sir Hugh Linstead. Further information can be obtained from the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.1.

### Announcements

PROF. JOHN STANLEY GRIFFITH of the Department of Chemistry, University of Pennsylvania, has been awarded the Faraday Society's Marlow Medal, for his work on ions of the transition metals.

DR. MAX F. PERUTZ, director of the Medical Research Council Unit for Molecular Biology, Cambridge, delivered the 1961 Chaim Weizmann Memorial Lecture at the Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovoth, on April 18, when he was made an Honorary Fellow of the Institute for "his major contribution to the science of X-ray Crystallography applied to macromolecules and for his distinguished part in the elucidation of the haemoglobin molecule".

THE Lawes Agricultural Trust Committee has appointed Dr. C. G. Johnson as head of the En-

tomology Department, Rothamsted Experimental Station, from October 1, in succession to Dr. K. Mellanby, who will become director of the Monks' Wood Experimental Station of the Nature Conservancy (see p. 488).

THE Right Hon. Lord Clitheroe has been appointed a vice-chairman of Tube Investments, Ltd. Sir Ben Lockspeiser, having reached retirement age, and Sir Francis de Guingand have resigned from the Board. Sir Francis is returning to the Union of South Africa, where he will continue to be in charge of Tube Investments interests in Southern Africa. Prof. J. M. Kay, professor of nuclear power at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, University of London, has been appointed to the Board of Tube Investments, Ltd., as director of research and development from July 1.

THE Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. has issued two publications in Russia relating to the International Geophysical Year—(1) *Information Bulletin I.G.Y.*, No. 8, 1960. This contains a number of articles and reports on a variety of subjects such as geomagnetism, the ionosphere, glaciology and oceanography. (2) *Bibliography of publications relating to the I.G.Y.* (in Russian). This comprises some 800 items published in 1959, which are ordered and classified according to subjects.

THE third international symposium on "Phyto-pharmacy and Phytiatry" is being held at the State Agricultural University, Ghent, on May 9. Further information can be obtained from the State Agricultural University, Coupure Links, 235, Ghent.

THE National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, Middlesex, is organizing two open days during May 10-11. To be included in the programme are two lectures: "The N.P.L. and Industrial Measurement Standards", by Dr. H. Barrell; "Research in the Basic Physics Division", by Dr. J. A. Pople. Further information can be obtained from the Director, National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, Middlesex.

THE German Society for Polar Exploration is holding a meeting at Münster during May 11-14. The theme of the meeting will be "New Results in Polar Exploration", and it will include a symposium on "Scientific Problems of Exploring Greenland". Further information can be obtained from the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Polarforschung, E.V., Münster, West Germany.

THE International Atomic Energy Agency is organizing an international conference on "Nuclear Electronics", to be held in Belgrade during May 15-20. An exhibition is being organized in conjunction with the conference, and will be open during May 13-21. Further information can be obtained from the International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna I, Austria.

A MEETING of the Biochemical Society is being held in University College and Trinity College, Dublin, during May 25-26. A meeting of the Association of Clinical Biochemists will follow at University College on May 27, and included in the programme is a symposium on "Acid-base Balance". Further information can be obtained from Dr. W. J. Whelan, Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine, Chelsea Bridge Road, London, S.W.1.