

students of domestic animals (33 and 4 more under the heading of animal husbandry); conservationists (2); zoology teachers (37). Others, presumably 'pure', branches of zoology, are represented by these figures: morphology (75); physiology (55); embryology (78); zoogeography (9); general ecology (3); ecology of vertebrates (301); (no heading for ecology of invertebrates); invertebrate zoology (39); vertebrate zoology (68); ornithology (140); teriology (108); herpetology (24); ichthyology (342); malacology (12); protistology (19); human anatomy (4); soil zoology (10); history of zoology (11); histology (48). A very low number of geneticists (8) is, perhaps, less surprising to see than only five "Darwinists", and there are no more than two biophysicists and two biometricians; there are, apparently, no biochemists (unless they are listed as physiologists) and only one experimental zoologist. When all groups are added to-

gether, the total number is 3,250, that is, about 500 more than in the alphabetical list; this is because many persons indicated more than one speciality.

The system of classification is such that it is almost impossible to see what proportion of zoologists is carrying out basic research and what is engaged in practical applications. A glance through the list of entomologists and the institutions where they work suggests that, probably, more than half of them are engaged in pest control. If the same applies to zoologists and ecologists working, for example, on rodents and other economic animals, it appears that the great majority of Soviet zoologists is engaged in applied work.

Although admittedly incomplete and somewhat out of date, the list will be useful to zoologists in other countries who may wish to exchange publications with their Soviet colleagues.

COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP COMMISSION

THE second annual report* of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission shows that there were 168 Commonwealth scholars studying at United Kingdom universities and colleges during 1960-61. In the 1961 competition, 232 candidates have accepted the offer of scholarships, 40 of them coming from India, 28 from Canada and 22 from both Australia and Pakistan.

One feature of the report will lead to some disquiet. The Commission made a preliminary examination of the problem which it is likely to face in considering applications for extension of tenure in and after the third year of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan. A number of scholars have accepted two-year awards and has been admitted to courses of research for which three years of study are needed if the holder is to obtain the doctorate at which he aims. For such scholars to return to their country with their research half-completed, and without a qualification, will engender frustration and militate against the realization of the aims for which the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan was instituted. At the Commonwealth Education

Conference in 1959 it was anticipated that most candidates would, on taking up awards, have already had some postgraduate experience which would enable them to obtain a higher degree in the United Kingdom with two years further work. It is found, however, after two years experience of selection of candidates for United Kingdom awards, that a majority of them enter the competition in the final year of their course for a first degree or its equivalent and are judged to need at least three years further work if they are to proceed to a Ph.D. on their scholarship. It is therefore expected that a substantial number of the 1960 scholars will have good grounds for asking for an extension of tenure for a third year. The Commonwealth Scholarships Act, 1959, prescribes that not more than 500 awards may be held at any one time. If the statutory limit remains unaltered, and during 1961-62 the Commission wishes to extend the tenure of a substantial number of the 1960 awards for a third year (that is, tenure during 1962-63), it will have to choose between granting such third-year extensions and making, in the 1962 competition, the total of 250 fresh awards which it would normally seek to make. There would thus be a clash between the claims of existing scholars and the expectations of the several countries making new nominations.

* Commonwealth Relations Office: Colonial Office. Second Annual Report of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom for the year ending 30th September 1961. Pp. 36. (London: H.M.S.O., 1962.) 2s. 3d. net.

FORESTRY RESEARCH IN BRITAIN

THE report* on forest research for the year ended March 1960, issued by the Forestry Commission, contains accounts of the research work carried out by the Forestry Commission research staff and by workers attached to universities and other institutions, most of whom are aided by grants from the Forestry Commission. In it there are a number of good photographs, but some of these would have been improved by the inclusion of an object to provide a comparison of size. The general trend of the research work is in keeping with the developmental stage the Forestry Commission has reached, and it is also indicative, in some measure, of what is likely to become normal practice in the fairly near future.

* Forestry Commission. Report on Forest Research for the year ended March 1960. Pp. viii+203+16 plates. (London: H.M.S.O., 1961.) 12s. net.

Afforestation is still a dominant work in which the Forestry Commission is engaged, and must hope to be engaged for some time to come. Afforestation problems are being investigated on difficult sites, including disused sand and gravel workings, on areas overlying impermeable clay and on exposed and elevated sites. But more and more attention is now being directed to the problems of existing forests such as their improvement, stand structure and regeneration. Large areas of forest have been established on peat, and this medium contains particular difficulties which are not easy to overcome. It requires draining; few tree species can be grown on it; the stability of the trees is often precarious; and there is now evidence, after some years, of a deficiency of potash and other elements in pine stands established successfully by deep draining and cultivation of the peat and aided