

degree courses in general engineering with no specialization. He suggests that the new universities have scope for experiments in engineering education along these lines. Postgraduate courses may be of the 'follow up' or the 'new field' type. The former consists of further study in a field which forms part of a conventional honours course, with the intention of bringing the graduate to the boundary of knowledge in this field. The latter comprises subjects which do not follow directly from a major course in an engineering curriculum and are of interest usually to graduates from more than one discipline. Such courses enable the more advanced and specialized topics to be omitted from the first degree course and help to resolve the conflict between the rapid advances in knowledge and sophistication on one hand, and on the other the desire to preserve engineering as a single discipline at the undergraduate-level.

The Library Association

THE annual report of the Library Association for the year ended December 31, 1961, refers to the completion of a survey of library services in certain Commonwealth countries (Pp. 30. London: Library Association, 1962). A copy of the report was sent to Government Departments, members of Parliament and others, with a memorandum stressing the need for financial help in this field. On the recommendation of the Association, the Leverhulme Trust Fund agreed to award three scholarships in librarianship to students from the Commonwealth. There was a net increase in membership of 904, the total now standing at 13,937, including 1,254 institutional members. Reports of representatives on joint committees and other bodies appended to the Council's report include those from the British Standards Institution—Universal Decimal Classification Committee, which was concerned with the preparation of a guide to the Universal Decimal Classification (BC1000C) and protested to the editor of *Science Abstracts* on the abandonment of Universal Decimal Classification arrangement for Part A "Physics"; from the British Standards Institution Documentary Reproduction Committee, Photographic Aspects of Documentation Committee; from the National Committee on Regional Library Co-operation; and from representatives to the International Federation of Library Associations.

Schoolmaster's Treasure Chest

THE Schoolmaster Publishing Company has published an enlarged edition of *Treasure Chest for Teachers*. This booklet resulted from a series of articles with the same title, which appeared in *The Schoolmaster*, the journal of the National Union of Teachers. The articles showed teachers where they might find teaching aids either free or at low cost. The new edition has been thoroughly revised and, with thirty-two additional pages, is worth the increased price of 3s. 6d. The information is divided into four main sections—services available from societies and associations which have some bearing on the school curriculum; services available from embassies and legations; services available from industrial, commercial and transport concerns; and a general section giving information about associations which supply films and other visual aids

North Staffordshire Journal of Field Studies

THE North Staffordshire Field Club, founded in 1865, has published a journal for an unbroken period of ninety-three years. In recent years the rising cost

of printing, together with other factors, has made it increasingly difficult to maintain the size of the journal. This has happened at a time when there is a growing interest in local studies and an increasing volume of research on the area, some of it initiated by members of the then University College of North Staffordshire. Rather than found a new journal to publish this work, the *North Staffordshire Journal of Field Studies* has been launched in which the *Transactions of the North Staffordshire Field Club* are incorporated (1; 1961. Pp. iii+140. Keele: University College of North Staffordshire, 1961. 25s.). The new journal will cover local history, archaeology, architecture, geography, geology, and other local studies. While it is expected that these will be centred on North Staffordshire, the area will not be tightly drawn. The first volume of the new journal contains articles by E. A. Watkin on Staffordshire tokens and their place in the coinage of England; Prof. J. M. T. Charlton on excavations at the Roman site at Holditch, 1957–59; A. W. J. Houghton on the Roman road from Wroxeter to Whitechurch (Salop); and Mrs. Joan and Dr. Harold Taylor on the problem of dating pre-Conquest churches. Prof. A. E. Teale writes about the origin of the Keele experiment. Details are available from Prof. J. M. T. Charlton, Department of Classics, University of Keele, Staffordshire.

Scientific Glassworking Equipment

JENCONS' latest illustrated catalogue of scientific glassworking equipment can best be summed up as "everything for the glassworker and research worker using glass". It consists of items of interest in medical and scientific research and glassmaking generally, from small items like glass tubing to the largest glassworking lathes, and includes a comprehensive range of glassworking tools and glass-grinding equipment. The catalogue will save much time otherwise spent searching through numerous makers' catalogues and should be of special interest to physics departments in universities, technical and teachers' training colleges, and schools. Copies of the catalogue are available from Jencons (Scientific), Ltd., Mark Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

Derwent Patents Manual

THE latest in the series of publications of the Derwent Information Service is the *Derwent Patents Manual* (Pp. ii+50. London: Derwent Information Service, 1962. 12s. 6d. or 2 dollars). It contains useful information for all with interest in the wide field of patents and contains articles on British, French, German, Russian, Belgian and Japanese patent laws and procedures. There is also an interesting analysis of the European patent concept; this describes the work of the European Economic Community's Committee which is at present drafting a new convention for creating an autonomous European patent system. Three new publications are to commence in July 1962, giving abstracts, in English, of Japanese, Belgian and Russian patents dealing with electricity, electronics, communications instruments, control and computation.

Optical Pumping and Masers

It has been announced that a special supplement to *Applied Optics* will be published in December 1962, which will be devoted to optical pumping and masers. In the supplement all papers on the subject which have been published in *Applied Optics* during