

acid, nicotinic acid, nicotinamide, riboflavin and thiamine hydrochloride) during two years storage of different preparations has been initiated in India (Government of India: Ministry of Health. Report of the Central Drugs Laboratory, April 1958 to March 1959. By Dr. H. K. Banerjee. Pp. ii+56. Delhi: Manager of Publications, 1961. Rs. 11.50 nP.; 18s.). The collaborators are the Central Drugs Laboratory, Calcutta, the Haffkine Institute, Bombay, and the Defence Research Laboratory (Stores), Kanpur. Results from the different centres will be co-ordinated and statistically analysed in the Central Drugs Laboratory. For experimental investigations, the pure vitamins were obtained from Hoffmann-LaRoche, Basle (except for cyanocobalamin, which was obtained from Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd.). The physical and chemical characteristics of the products were tested in the Biochemistry Department of the Central Drugs Laboratory and, finally, ten pharmacopœial preparations were chosen for collaborative investigations on the stability of the preparations when stored under prevailing conditions of temperature and humidity in Calcutta, Bombay and Kanpur. The preparations are: (1) ascorbic acid tablets, coated (25 mg/tablets); (2) ascorbic acid tablets, uncoated (25 mg/tablets); (3) nicotinamide tablets (50 mg/tablets); (4) nicotinic acid tablets (50 mg/tablets); (5) riboflavin tablets (1 mg/tablets); (6) vitamin B₁ tablets (5 mg/tablets); (7) folic acid tablets (5 mg/tablets); (8) vitamin B₁ injection (25 mg/ml.) (9) nicotinamide injection (50 mg/ml.) (10) cyanocobalamin injection (50 µg/ml.). The preparations were distributed to the collaborators towards the end of March 1959 for the assay of the initial content of the vitamin in each of the preparations at the three centres. Thereafter, the vitamin content was determined at intervals of three months for a period of twenty-four months.

Antibody to Enzymes—a Three-Component System

A MEETING on "Antibody to Enzymes—a Three-Component System" is to be held in New York during September 5-7, and will deal with the following topics: *Section 1*, aspects of two-component immunology; *Section 2*, reaction mechanisms of the interaction of enzymes, antibody and substrate; *Section 3*, the effect of antibody on various enzymes; *Section 4*, interaction of enzyme, co-enzyme and substrate with antibody (*a*) reaction mechanism, (*b*) multiple forms of enzymes; *Section 5*, use of antibodies in the discrimination of multiple molecular forms of enzymes; *Section 6*, antibodies as tools in studies of biosynthesis of enzymes. The meeting is being held under the auspices of the New York Academy of Sciences and will draw its speakers from Australia, Britain, Canada, France and the United States. Further information can be obtained from Dr. B. Cinader, University of Toronto, Department of Medical Biophysics, 500 Sherbourne Street, Toronto 5.

The Tenth International Botanical Congress

THE first circular giving general information about the forthcoming Tenth International Botanical Congress, to be held in Edinburgh from August 3-12, 1964, has now been issued to some 9,000 botanists and botanical institutions throughout the world. The majority of recipients are those who have attended previous Congresses, but it is believed that there may be quite a number of botanists who would wish to have a copy of this circular and who have not yet received one. These may be obtained on request

from the Secretary (Executive Committee), Tenth International Botanical Congress, 5 Hope Park Square, Edinburgh, 8. Enclosed within the circular is a preliminary registration form which is to be returned before September 30, 1962, by those interested in the Congress. Subsequent Congress circulars and registration forms will be distributed only to those who complete one of these preliminary registration forms.

Physiology and Psychology of Arid Lands

IN *Nature* of July 21, p. 232, it was announced that a symposium on "Environmental Physiology and Psychology in Arid Conditions", being organized by Unesco, was to be held in Naini Tal, India, during August 27-September 1. It has now been announced by the Department of Natural Sciences of Unesco that for various reasons the date and venue for this symposium have been changed: it will be held at the Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow, India, during December 7-12.

Conference on Palæoclimates

A CONFERENCE on "Palæoclimates", sponsored under the Nato Advanced Institute programme, will be held in the Physics Department, King's College, Newcastle upon Tyne, during January 7-11, 1963. The subjects to be covered range from palæobotanical and palæontological inferences on climate to the information gained from the rocks themselves, evaporites, glacial deposits, limestones, etc. Supplementary information from geophysics will also be introduced. The aim of the meeting is to stimulate research, consequently the accent will be on the problems of palæoclimates rather than on results. Although it is intended to limit the number of participants, it is still possible to extend invitations to research workers and postgraduate students with an active interest in the subject. Some financial assistance may be available for students. Further information can be obtained from the Administrative Assistant, Department of Physics, King's College, Newcastle upon Tyne, 1.

The Field Survey Association Annual Prize, 1962

THE Field Survey Association is offering a prize of £50 for the best paper on a surveying subject, consistent with their aims and objects, submitted before December 31, 1962, provided that this paper is considered to be of sufficient merit for the award of the prize. The prize is open to any person under the age of thirty-five on December 31, 1962, who may be either within or outside the membership of the Association, but those outside must be eligible for membership. The rules of the prize, the history and objects of the Association and the conditions of membership can be obtained from the honorary secretary of the Award Committee, Commander R. Bill, Vickers House, Broadway, S.W.1.

The Beilby Medal and Prize, 1963

AWARDS from the Sir George Beilby Memorial Fund are made by the Administrators of the Fund, representing the Royal Institute of Chemistry, the Society of Chemical Industry and the Institute of Metals. Sir George Beilby had been president of each of these three bodies, and they jointly sponsored the appeal for subscriptions whereby the Fund was raised as a memorial to him after his death in 1925. The Beilby Medal and Prize, consisting of a