A Platinum Blood Flowmeter

The discovery of a new technique is often a matter of chance. Prof. M. Mochizuki, of the Research Institute of Applied Electricity, Hokkaido University, Japan, is well known for his investigations on the determination of oxygen pressure in living tissues such as the lungs. During recent years, Prof. Mochizuki has been interested in measuring the oxygen tension in blood. He utilized the so-called 'Oxigraph', an apparatus which he devised using the principle of polarography. The results of the measurements varied because of pulsation of blood flow and he had to introduce a technique to lessen the errors arising from this. Mochizuki was also aware that there was a strong demand among physicians and surgeons for a new and accurate means of measuring the rate of flow of blood. He realized that his method could be used to measure the rate of flow rather than the oxygen content, and, in order to test his hypothesis, a series of preliminary experiments has been carried out at the Institute. It was found that the signals faithfully represented the trends in the rate of flow and that Mochizuki's method was useful in studying the state of the blood circulation even in a human heart. A monograph under the editorship of Prof. K. Higasi contains four articles by Prof. Mochizuki and his co-workers based on the latest data obtained since 1961 (*Res. Inst. App. Elec., Hokkaido University*. Monograph Series, No. 10: *Platinum Blood Flowmeter*. Pp. v+78. 1962).

The White Rhinoceros

The northern form of the square-lipped African rhinoceros is now found in only three countries, the southern Sudan, where there are between one and two thousand, the Congo, where there are perhaps rather more than a thousand, and Uganda, where there are only about a hundred, and the population is decreasing rapidly. Numbers as small as this are highly dangerous to a slow-breeding animal like the rhinoceros, which is exposed to poaching. The World Wildlife Fund has therefore made it its first objective to save the last remnant of the Uganda white rhinos, and has made a substantial grant to the East African Wild Life Society to preserve, in co-operation with the Uganda Game Department, the white rhinos in districts close to the Upper Nile (*World Wildlife News*, No. 4). The white rhinoceros is not really white, but a pale greyish colour, and is the nearest living relative of the prehistoric woolly rhinoceros. The southern white rhino is now virtually confined to the national parks of Natal, where it is well guarded and thriving.

Research Fellowships in Forest Resources

Research fellowships in forest resources are awarded annually by Harvard University from the Charles Bullard Fund. The fellowships carry stipends up to 15,000 dollars, the amount of each award depending on the professional status and needs of the recipient. The purpose of this fellowship programme is to support advanced research and study by men who show promise of making an important contribution, either as scholars or administrators, to forestry and forest management, these subjects to be defined in their broadest aspects—scientific, economic, political, administrative and legal. The fellowships are open to all men in public service, in academic careers, and in private forestry, not only those who have doctoral degrees or are seeking advanced degrees, but also those without advanced degrees who do not wish them. Bullard Forest Research Fellows can apply for admission to candidacy for advance degrees including Master of forest science, Doctor of philosophy in biology or in economics, Master in public administration and Doctor of public administration, etc. The fellowships are for one year and normally are not renewable. Details of methods of application and further information can be obtained from the Committee on the Charles Bullard Fund for Forest Research, Littauer Center 123, Harvard University, Cambridge 38, Mass. Applications must be received by April 1.

Announcements

Sir Donald Gibson, who has been director-general of works at the War Office since 1958, has been appointed director-general of research and development in the Ministry of Public Building and Works. Sir Donald's responsibilities will include the encouragement of new and rapid methods of construction; standardization of use and production of building components; and dissemination of the best modern practices.

The Institute of Petroleum has taken over the secretarial work of the Gas Chromatography Discussion Group, and all subscriptions and inquiries should now be addressed to the Secretary of the Group, at 61 New Cavendish Street, London, W.1. From the beginning of 1963, the Institute of Petroleum will also be responsible for the Group's publications, including *Gas Chromatography Abstracts*.

The Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour will be holding a symposium on "Gregarious Behaviour" at Birkbeck College, Malet St., London, W.C.1, during December 12–13. Further information can be obtained from J. B. Free, Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, Herts.

The sixth International Embryological Conference sponsored by the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Embryology and Experimental Morphology* will be held during July 22–25, 1963, in Helsinki. Further information can be obtained, after February 1, 1963, from either Prof. S. Toivonen, Department of Physiological Zoology, the University, Arkadiankatu 7, Helsinki, or Dr. L. Brent, National Institute for Medical Research, the Ridgeway, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.

The sixty-ninth annual meeting of the American Mathematical Society will be held at the University of California, Berkeley, in conjunction with the annual meetings of the Mathematical Association of America and the Association for Symbolic Logic. The Society will meet during January 24–27, the Mathematical Association of America during January 26–28 and the Association for Symbolic Logic on January 26. The thirty-sixth Josiah Willard Gibbs Lecture will be delivered by Prof. C. E. Shannon, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, on January 24. Further information can be obtained from the American Mathematical Society, 190 Hope Street, Providence 6, Rhode Island.

Erratum. In the communication by Dr. D. N. Mullick and V. N. Murty entitled "Effects of Stilbœstrol and Thiouracil on the Electrocardiograms of the Sheep", which appeared on p. 1285 of the June 30 issue of *Nature*, Fig. 1 is printed as it appeared in the original manuscript. However, Dr. Mullick informs the Editor that the block should be turned through 180°.