

years beginning in April 1963, and the Inter-University Council for Higher Education Overseas was helping to fund the staff needed. Further aid would be given from funds administered by the Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations and for the Colonies, and, outside Britain, from the Ford Foundation and the United States Agency for Aid for International Development. He estimated that his Department had placed about 2,500 technical experts (of whom 136 received special training) in developing countries at their request since its foundation. On the low-priced book scheme, Mr. Carr said that the estimate of £150,000 for expenditure and commitments given to the House on April 12, 1962, referred to total expenditure since the inception of the scheme in 1960. The estimate of £200,000 for 1962-63 anticipated approval of many more titles in the year than were eventually given. The process of selection and approval, including consultation with publishers and with interested bodies overseas, such as the Indian University Grants Commission, was not entirely within the control of the Government, and hence the estimate exceeded the actual expenditure. Final approval for a large number of selected titles was expected shortly. As regards development of the Overseas Information Services in 1964-65, he was proposing further development of the activities of the British Council, particularly in teaching English language, in the production of television and other films, in the programme of bringing visitors to Britain, and in British Information Services in the newly independent countries, such as Zanzibar.

Government Grant to British Ship Research Association

The largest grant yet made to a research association in the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research's scheme is to be given to the British Ship Research Association. The terms will cover the five years from April 1, 1963, and, in favourable circumstances, the grant could amount to as much as £700,000 per annum. The shipbuilding industry is making a very considerable effort to improve further its efficiency in the face of increasingly severe competition from abroad. In future, if the shipbuilding and marine engineering industries contribute a minimum of £600,000 per annum, the Department will match every £1 the Association receives from them with a grant of 10s. (up to a maximum Government contribution of £500,000 a year). In addition, to encourage shipowners and operators who already take an active part in the Association's work to make even greater use of the facilities that it can provide, the Department will match £1 for £1 any contribution they make (limited to a maximum additional grant of £200,000 per annum). The old terms of the Department's grant were that 25 per cent was paid on a minimum contribution from industry of £600,000 with a maximum grant limited to £200,000. The British Ship Research Association was formed in May 1962 by the amalgamation of the British Shipbuilding Research Association and the Parsons and Marine Engineering Turbine Research and Development Association.

Food Research and the Future of the Ditton Laboratory

In 1962 the Agricultural Research Council announced that it intended to set up a Food Research Institute at Norwich, to which it would transfer that part of the work of the Low Temperature Research Station, Cambridge, not concerned with meat and also much of the work that is undertaken at the Ditton Laboratory, Maidstone. It is intended that the new Institute should be developed into a major centre of food research, and an important sector of the work will be concerned with post-harvest problems, including those of storage and transport. This work will be very largely in continuation and enlargement of the research programme to be transferred from the Ditton Laboratory, including the investigation of the biochemistry of fruit, with particular reference to ripening processes; the mycology and bacteriology of stored crops;

the storage and handling of soft fruit and vegetables; and work on potatoes, especially on storage and dormancy problems. As the new Institute at Norwich will not be completed before 1966, the transfer of work from Ditton to Norwich will not take place until after that date. In the meantime, the Ditton Laboratory will continue to develop its present programme so far as its resources allow; thereafter, by agreement with the East Malling Research Station, the premises and equipment of the Ditton Laboratory (which is now situated within the boundary of East Malling) will be transferred to that Station; the Laboratory will cease to operate as an independent establishment. East Malling Research Station will in due course become responsible for work now done at Ditton on the storage of apples and pears in controlled environments (including the necessary engineering services), on storage rots arising from orchard infections and on the chemical composition of fruit in relation to orchard treatment. This work forms a natural extension of much work now done at East Malling and will be integrated into its programme. In recent years, because the necessary resources were not available at the Glasshouse Crops Research Institute, some research on the storage, handling and transport of cut flowers has been undertaken at the Ditton Laboratory. This work will be transferred to the Glasshouse Crops Research Institute as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made.

International Journal of Leprosy

At the eighth International Congress of Leprology, held in Rio de Janeiro during September 12-20, 1963, Dr. Esmond R. Long, emeritus professor of pathology, Henry Phipps Institute, University of Pennsylvania, was appointed editor of the *International Journal of Leprosy*, in succession to Dr. H. W. Wade, pathologist emeritus of the Leonard Wood Memorial for the Eradication of Leprosy (American Leprosy Foundation), who founded the *Journal* in 1933 and has been its editor ever since. Dr. Long assumed his new duties on January 1, 1964. The address of the Editorial Office is: 1832 M St., N.W., Washington, D.C., U.S.A. 20036.

International Journal of Rock Mechanics and Mining Sciences

THIS new journal is 'international' in the sense that it has a strong editorial board, headed by Dr. A. Roberts of the University of Sheffield, which is drawn mainly from academic circles in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, and editorial correspondents in nine other countries (*International Journal of Rock Mechanics and Mining Sciences*, Vol. 1, No. 1 (January 1964). Pp. 1-126. Subscription rates: (A) For libraries, Government establishments, research laboratories, etc., £10 (30 dollars); (B) For individuals who place their orders directly with the publisher and certify that the journal is for their personal use, £3 10s. (10 dollars). (London and New York: Pergamon Press, 1964.) In the first issue articles originate from the United Kingdom, Czechoslovakia, France and the United States. They are all published in English. The journal is excellently produced, and the first issue contains, apart from editorial matters, eight main articles. Of these, five deal with rock mechanics topics, one with underground electrical installations and two with mine ventilation. The articles are authoritative and include contributions from several authors with established international reputations. If the standard of the first issue can be maintained in subsequent issues, the journal should fill a long-felt need by providing access for research workers, teachers and practising engineers to advances in mining science in many countries.

Gravitational Collapse and other Topics in Relativistic Astrophysics

AN international symposium on "Gravitational Collapse and other Topics in Relativistic Astrophysics", sponsored