

ing products (quite apart from cosmetics or toiletries) appears to extend to synthetic fertilizers and plastic records. Despite the wide scope of the conference, some important aspects of the subject, of particular relevance to food, were not touched on: for example, the relationship between odour and flavour or the nature, causes and prevention of taint. A method for characterizing odour qualities was developed in order to permit an accurate description of the odour of irradiated beef. Based on matching standard odours described as "oily, sweet, fragrant, spicy, burnt, rancid, metallic, etherish and sulphurous", it conjures up anything but an inviting gastronomic experience until one realizes that fresh meat, too, is accounted for in the same terms, but with rather less of the etherish and sulphurous elements.

#### Low Temperature Biology Club

AN informal association of biologists, physicists, clinicians and surgeons interested in biological and medical effects of cold has recently been formed, to be known as the Low Temperature Biology Club. The next meeting will be held at Westminster Hospital, London, on March 22. Further information can be obtained from Dr. M. J. Ashwood-Smith, Medical Research Council Radiobiological Research Unit, Harwell, Didcot, Berkshire.

#### Fulbright Travel Grants

UNDER the provisions of the Fulbright programme, travel grants are available to citizens of the United Kingdom and dependent territories to go to the United States of America for academic or educational purposes, provided that they have adequate financial support in dollars for the proposed period of the visit to the United States, and can show proof of admission to an institution of higher learning in the United States for a minimum period of nine months. All grants cover the cost of direct round-trip travel between a candidate's home and the American university or institution. They are available between June 1, 1965, and August 7, 1965, for which applications must be received before March 16, 1965, and between August 8, 1965, and April 1, 1966, for which applications must be received before June 1, 1965. Application forms and further information can be obtained from the United States Educational Commission in the United Kingdom, 71 South Audley Street, London, W.1.

#### National Science Foundation Fellowships

NATIONAL Science Foundation fellowships, enabling the recipients to teach and conduct research at universities in the United States for 5-12 months, have been awarded to the following: Prof. F. A. Drahowzal, professor of chemistry at the Technical University of Vienna; Prof. F. R. Keogh, professor of mathematics at Royal Holloway College, University of London; Dr. T. Nakada, director of the Research Laboratory of Precision Machinery and Electronics at the Tokyo Institute of Technology; Prof. R. H. Stokes, professor of chemistry in the University of New England, New South Wales; Dr. P. J. Wheatley, senior research chemist with the Monsanto Research Laboratories, Switzerland.

#### The Night Sky in February

NEW Moon occurs on Feb. 1d 17h U.T. and full Moon occurs on Feb. 16d 00h. The following conjunctions with the Moon occur: Feb. 3d 10h, Saturn 4° N; Feb. 9d 03h, Jupiter 2° N; Feb. 17d 22h, Mars 1° S. Mercury is in conjunction with the Sun on Feb. 24d 03h and Saturn on Feb. 26d 10h. Conditions continue to be unfavourable for observation of Mercury and Venus. Mars rises at 20h 50m, 19h 45m and 18h 15m on Feb. 1, 14, 28 respectively; its distance from the Earth on Feb. 14 is 69 million miles; its stellar magnitude is -0.7 and it is in Virgo. Jupiter sets at 1h 50m, 00h 55m, 23h 55m at the beginning, middle and end of the month; its distance from the Earth on Feb. 14 is 469 million miles; its stellar magni-

tude is -1.9 and it is in Aries. Saturn sets at 18h 50m, 18h 00m at the beginning and middle of the month, while towards the end of the month Saturn is too close to the Sun for observation, setting before sunset; its distance from the Earth on Feb. 14 is 995 million miles and it is in Aquarius. Occultation of the following star brighter than magnitude 6 occurs: Feb. 10d 19h 08.8 m, 129 H<sup>2</sup>.Tau (D). D refers to disappearance.

#### Announcements

AIR COMMODORE SIR FRANK WHITTLE is to be the first recipient of the Goddard Award of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, for his work in pioneering the gas turbine as a jet-propulsion aircraft engine.

THE American Physical Society Prize for 1964, sponsored by the Hughes Aircraft Company, has been awarded to Prof. Melvin Schwartz, professor of physics at Columbia University, in recognition of his experimental studies of weak interactions and in particular for the use of high-energy neutrinos.

THE first Edward B. Rosa Award of the National Bureau of Standards has been presented to Mr. I. H. Fullmer, in recognition of leadership in development and promulgation of screw-thread standards, and to Dr. A. T. McPherson, for significant educational and organizational achievements in standardization.

A SYMPOSIUM under the auspices of the Faraday Society on "Excess Functions in Molten Salts" will be held at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, on February 25. Further information can be obtained from Dr. E. Rhodes, Department of Chemical Engineering and Chemical Technology, Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, S.W.7.

A SEMINAR for science writers on "Quasi-stellar Radio Sources", sponsored by the American Institute of Physics and the National Association of Science Writers, Inc., will be held in New York City on January 26. Further information can be obtained from Mr. E. H. Kone, American Institute of Physics, 335 East 45th Street, New York 10017.

A MEETING of the Midlands Section of the Society for Analytical Chemistry will be held in the University of Birmingham on February 2. A paper entitled "pH and its Significance" will be presented by Prof. W. F. K. Wynne-Jones. Further information can be obtained from the Society for Analytical Chemistry, 14 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1.

THE annual general meeting of the North of England Section of the Society for Analytical Chemistry will be held in Manchester on January 30. The retiring chairman's address entitled "Fat Extraction in the Analysis of Food-stuffs and Related Material" will be presented by Mr. C. J. House. Further information can be obtained from the Society for Analytical Chemistry, 14 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1.

THE following educational and training courses will be held at the Production Engineering Research Association of Great Britain during 1965: *five-day courses*, general appreciation; practical machining and metal cutting; modern machining techniques; pressworking techniques; toolroom techniques; senior apprentice, parts 1 and 2; *two-day courses*, tool grinding; machine installation and maintenance; machine alignment and performance tests; production inspection; quality control. Further information can be obtained from the Information Manager, Production Engineering Research Association of Great Britain, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire.

CORRIGENDUM. It is regretted that the telephone number of Cahn Instrument Co., Ltd., 27 Essex Road, Dartford, Kent, appeared incorrectly in the January 9 issue of *Nature* (205, 1; 1965). It should read Dartford 21540.