

Announcements

A GRANT of £90,000 is to be awarded, over a period of five years, to the Institute of Operational Research by the Ministry of Health to enable the Institute to expand the work it does for hospital authorities. The purpose of the new institute is to undertake social research by applying the disciplines of operational research and the social sciences. In addition to tackling problems in planning which arise in the management of industrial organizations and public and social services, the institute also provides advisory and training services related to its field of research. At present the institute is undertaking studies commissioned by the governors of the teaching hospital in Birmingham, by the Birmingham, Wessex, and Manchester Regional Hospital Boards, and by the Ministry itself.

THE Messel Medal of the Society of Chemical Industry will be presented to Sir Paul Chambers during the annual general meeting of the society in July 1968.

Meetings

VALENCE and Reactivity, January 9–11, Oxford (Scientific Affairs Officer, The Chemical Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W1).

Low and Medium Energy Nuclear Physics, March 27–29, 1968, Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell (The Meetings Officer, The Institute of Physics and The Physical Society, 47 Belgrave Square, London, SW1).

FAR Infrared Properties of Solids, August 5–23, 1968 Delft (Professor S. S. Mitra, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island).

MEDICAL Radioisotope Scintigraphy, August 6–15, 1968, Salzburg (Dr G. J. Hine, Section of Nuclear Medicine, IAEA, Vienna I).

SECOND International Liquid Crystal Conference, August 12–16, 1968, Kent State University (Dr Glenn H. Brown, Director, Liquid Crystal Institute, and Conference Chairman, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio 44240).

HISTOCHEMISTRY and Cytochemistry, August 18–22, 1968, New York City (Dr R. M. Rosenbaum, Secretary, Third International Congress of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry, Department of Pathology, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, New York 10461).

LABORATORY Astrophysics, September 2–6, 1968, Lunteren (J. Rosenberg, Astronomical Observatory "Sonnenborgh", Servaasbolwerk 12, Utrecht, The Netherlands).

SOLID State Devices, September 3–6, 1968, University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (The Meetings Officer, The Institute of Physics and The Physical Society, 47 Belgrave Square, London, SW1).

MOLECULAR Structure and Spectroscopy, September 3–7, 1968, Ohio State University (Professor K. Narahari Rao, Molecular Spectroscopy Symposium, Department of Physics, The Ohio State University, 174 West 18th Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43210).

PHYSICS in the Metal Forming Industries, November 19–21, 1968, Harrogate (The Meetings Officer, The Institute of Physics and The Physical Society, 47 Belgrave Square, London, SW1).

PHYSICO-CHEMICAL Mechanisms of Carcinogenesis, October 21–25, 1968, Jerusalem (Professor E. D. Bergmann, Department of Chemistry, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel).

ERRATUM. In line 5 of the short note on "Protein from Petroleum" (*Nature*, 216, 843; 1967) we should, of course, have referred to the BP group, not the Shell BP group.

ERRATUM. On page 1124 of the article "Cerebral Potentials evoked by Pattern Reversal and their Suppression in Visual Rivalry," *Nature*, 216, 1123; 1967, lines 18 and 19 should read "... was 200 ft.-lamberts" and not "... was 200 ft.-lumens".

ERRATUM. The Symposium on Quantitative Thin Layer and Paper Chromatography on January 3 and 4, which was mentioned in the article "Thin-Layer Chromatography" by E. J. Shellard (*Nature*, 216, 1168; 1967), is organized by the Pharmaceutical Society and the Society for Analytical Chemistry, not by the Pharmacological Society, as was stated."

ERRATUM. In the communication "Factors influencing Lysis of Whole Blood Clots," by Fletcher B. Taylor and Hans J. Müller-Eberhard (*Nature*, 216, 1023; 1967) the second sentence of the legend to Fig. 1 should read: "0.25 ml. aliquots of partially purified rabbit antibodies to: (1) albumin; (2) C'4; (3) C'3; (4) γ M; (5) γ G; (6) α_2 -macroglobulin have been added."

CORRIGENDUM. In the article "Fitting Cosmological Models to the Radio Source Counts" by W. Davidson (*Nature*, 216, 1076; 1967) the second sentence of the legend to Fig. 2 should read: "The ordinate is normalized so that it gives the relative number of sources per unit of $l(l = \log_{10} P)$, that is, the ordinate is $\alpha \rho(l) P^{3/2}$ where $\rho_0(l)$ is number of sources $m^{-3}l^{-1}$, and $\int n_0(P) dl = 1$."

CORRESPONDENCE

Eradication of *Culex pipiens fatigans* through Cytoplasmic Incompatibility

SIR,—It would clearly be of the greatest importance to demonstrate that the utilization of cytoplasmic incompatibility can lead to the eradication of any species of mosquito from even the smallest island or "ecological island". In his recent communication under the above title, Laven (*Nature*, 216, 383; 1967) asserts that he has, in fact, eradicated an isolated population of the filariasis vector *C.p. fatigans* in the rice-field village of Okpo, Burma. His data undeniably indicate the achievement of a steadily increasing incidence of non-viable eggs, culminating in 100 per cent non-viability on May 9 and 10, 1967. Making due allowance for the duration of the larval and pupal stages, and the fact that a small percentage of the eggs examined on May 8 remained viable, he claimed that "no more adults were expected to emerge after about 10 days". His next sentence, however, reads "Unfortunately, the monsoons started on May 11 and the experiment had to stop." No evidence of any further relevant observations being presented, and larval, pupal and adult *C.p. fatigans* still being present in the study area at the moment when the coming of the rains profoundly altered local larval habitat availability, the old Scottish legal verdict of "Not proven" therefore applies. While it is much to be hoped that follow-up observations will justify Laven's claim, his data as presented are evidence of no more than population suppression to a low level.

Yours sincerely,

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