

lectures and practical work given, for example, in this University, for the degree of M. Sc. (Crystallography), by specialists in each field.

To be able to run an X-ray equipment, to measure and interpret X-ray photographs, to complete a structure analysis and write a paper on it is *not* a sufficient training for a modern crystallographer, any more than to be able to carry out a complicated chemical analysis is sufficient training for a chemist. Most of us know this, but have not faced the implications, because we prefer research to pedagogy. But this is not the way in which the best research is ultimately done. Perhaps it is a pity that we call our science 'Crystallography', when it is really the study of the solid state, with all that that implies.

I am clear that while trained chemists, biochemists, physicists, geologists, engineers or mathematicians may eventually make good crystallographers, the training of a really first-class crystallographer must include something of all these sciences and does, in fact, merit much more careful planning than it has hitherto had. Crystallography could be a first-degree subject in itself, with these other subjects as necessary or desirable ancillaries, and with *branches* of crystallography as subsequent fields for specialization.

Meanwhile I maintain that the places where even a partially adequate training in crystallography can be obtained are few indeed, not more perhaps than a dozen. I should be glad to be proved wrong.

Notes and News

Announcements and other items of crystallographic interest will be published under this heading at the discretion of the Editorial Board. Copy should be sent direct to the British Co-editor (R. C. Evans, Crystallographic Laboratory, Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, England).

International Union of Crystallography

The Union has received the following most generous donations as contributions towards the expenses of its publications:

From the Netherlands Organization for Pure Research (Z.W.O.) the sum of fl. 15,000 (approximately £1,500) for *Structure Reports*.

From Messrs CIBA A. G. the sum of Swiss fr. 2,000 (approximately £165) for *Acta Crystallographica*.

Commission on Crystallographic Nomenclature

The Executive Committee has accepted the recommendation of the Commission that E. W. Nuffield (Canada) should be co-opted on to the Commission.

Conference on Defects in Crystalline Solids

The H. H. Wills Physical Laboratory of the University of Bristol, England, in co-operation with the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (particularly its Commission on the Physics of the Solid State) and with The Institute of Physics, is organizing a conference on 'Defects in Crystalline Solids' from 13 to 17 July 1954 in Bristol. While not excluding other subjects in the field the organizers propose to give particular attention to defects such as dissolved atoms, vacancies and *F*-centres, to microwave resonance methods of investigating their properties, and to the way in which they re-act with dislocations. Thus dislocations will be discussed in their chemical aspects, as influencing diffusion and precipita-

tion in the solid state, rather than in relation to plastic flow.

It is hoped that a number of authors from overseas will personally present their papers, and with this in mind the Conference has been arranged to follow immediately after the General Assembly of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics.

Board and lodging will be provided in Wills Hall (a student hall of residence) on special terms, or at hotels.

The Conference is open to any scientist interested in this field, subject to the limitations of accommodation.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary, H. H. Wills Physical Laboratory, Royal Fort, Bristol 8, England, or from the Secretary, The Institute of Physics, 47, Belgrave Square, London S.W.1, England. Those wishing to attend the Conference are asked to apply to the former, marking the envelope '1954 Conference' and stating whether they wish to be accommodated at Wills Hall or at an hotel and for what nights accommodation is required.

Photoelasticity and Photoplasticity

The International Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics announces that a Colloquium on the above subject will be held in Brussels, Belgium, from 29 to 31 July 1954. The Union also announces that a Colloquium on the Solid State will be held in Madrid, Spain, during 1955.

Crystallographers interested are invited to attend these meetings; further information may be obtained from the Secretary of the Union (F. H. van den Dungen, 48 avenue de l'Arbalète, Boitsfort, Brussels, Belgium).