

at Silvertown he also devoted considerable thought to the physics and the development of the intricate mechanism involved in the formation of a golf ball core.

During the War of 1914-18, Appleyard worked in the Admiralty and Air Service, where his unique combination of practical engineering knowledge and physics training enabled him to make many contributions to the war effort, for which the O.B.E., as a mark of recognition, was conferred upon him. He introduced improvements in the measurement of height by barometer and the design of instruments used for many different purposes.

Throughout his life, Appleyard showed a marked literary talent which for many years revealed itself in his papers and articles. Towards the end of the War of 1914-18, he produced several valuable confidential reports for Government Departments, and directed for some time the technical history section of the Admiralty. He was a member of the editorial staff of *The Times Engineering Supplement* for some nine years from its establishment in 1905. As one of the abstractors in the early days of *Science Abstracts*, he did useful work, but perhaps he will best be remembered for his delightful biographical works: "Pioneers of Electrical Communications", "A Tribute to Faraday", and others. These, along with his "History of the Institution of Electrical Engineers", will for many years to come remind the

members of that body, among whom he counted so many friends, of his engaging character. Mostly perhaps will he be missed in those more intimate circles, the Athenæum, the 25 Club and the Dynamicables, where his grace and charming personality were always a delight to his fellow-members.

P. DUNSHEATH.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Sir Sidney Burrard, Bart., K.C.S.I., F.R.S., formerly Surveyor-General of India and superintendent of the Trigonometrical Survey of India, on March 16, aged eighty-two.

Prof. H. G. Denham, dean and professor of chemistry, Canterbury University College, Christchurch, New Zealand, and chairman of the New Zealand Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, aged sixty-two.

Prof. J. Eustice, emeritus professor of engineering at University College, Southampton, on February 24, aged seventy-eight.

Dr. F. G. Parsons, research fellow in anthropology at St. Thomas's Hospital and formerly professor of anatomy, University of London, on March 11.

Mr. H. E. Stilgoe, C.B.E., formerly chief engineer of the Metropolitan Water Board, and a past-president of the Institution of Water Engineers, the Institution of Municipal and County Engineers and the Town Planning Institute, on March 12.

NEWS and VIEWS

Cambridge University Botanic Garden

WHEN Mr. Reginald Cory, a graduate of Trinity College, died in 1934, he bequeathed the residue of his estate to the University Botanic Garden at Cambridge. Mr. Cory, who was himself a great gardener and helped to finance expeditions to China and other countries to collect plants that could be grown in British gardens, was a generous benefactor of the Cambridge Garden during his lifetime. His handsome final bequest has now begun to accrue, and from this time onwards the garden will benefit by £9,000, rising eventually to £13,000, a year. In accordance with the terms of the will, only £1,000 a year of the legacy can be devoted to maintenance, the remainder being available for capital expenditure, including the purchase of land for the extension of the garden. The Cory Fund will be administered by six members of the senate, including the Professor of Botany and the University Treasurer.

The Cambridge Botanic Garden, which is a part of the University Department of Botany, has already a deservedly high reputation, but there are now great possibilities of further enhancement, especially as regards the variety of plants cultivated in it and the general beauty of the Garden. In the past, many important botanical investigations have been carried out there, and in view of the opportunities now available it is anticipated that several branches of botany will be greatly assisted. Of the total area of forty acres, about eighteen have been used as garden allotments for many years. After the War, it may be considered desirable to incorporate these into the Garden proper. An arboretum is a great desideratum, but this may have to be established on a different site as the soil is unsuitable for certain conifers. The

Garden at present lacks protection from the north and east, and a good wall against which the more delicate shrubs can be grown is an urgent necessity. Much greater facilities could be usefully provided for growing water-plants as there is a stream contiguous to the Garden. The range of glasshouses could also be advantageously extended, giving additional provision for the cultivation of ferns and bryophytes, and tropical and sub-tropical flowering plants. No doubt all these possibilities will be weighed by the managers of the Cory Fund.

Nature Reserve at Oxford

THE University of Oxford has accepted, as a gift from Mr. and Mrs. H. Spalding, eighteen acres of meadow land on the left bank of the River Cherwell opposite the walk known as Mesopotamia. This land is to be maintained as a nature reserve, to preserve in perpetuity a piece of water meadow, characteristic of the Oxford basin, for the enjoyment of the public, and to afford facilities for observation of the plants and animals inhabiting this type of land. The meadow land includes a small triangular area at its south end which, surrounded by old hedges, might, if suitably planted, develop into a woodland plot tempting to nightingales, which at present are not audible from Mesopotamia. The area is at two levels, that nearer the river being liable to flooding. The blight of suburban extension has already threatened that part farthest from the river with untidy neglected fields and huts, and the preservation of Mr. and Mrs. Spalding's gift will protect Mesopotamia from further spoliation of the river. Administrative control is to be vested in the Curators of the Parks who, in consultation with a committee of naturalists, will manage