

of good definition and powerful light-grasp : discovery and measurement of minor planets, comets, variable stars and the preparation of star charts for the southern sky. For many years the responsibility for observing the minor planets which came to opposition in southern declinations rested almost entirely on his shoulders. He discovered several of these elusive objects and computed the first orbits for many of them, as he did in the case of comets. A few days before his retirement he computed the first orbit for the bright comet discovered by Mr. de Kock, using three of his own observations obtained with the Franklin Adams camera on three successive nights. Notwithstanding this short time interval, his orbit proved to be a remarkably close approximation, thus demonstrating his powers as a careful observer and computer.

Though mainly a photographic observer, Wood also took a regular share in visual observing of occultations of stars by the moon, phenomena of Jupiter's satellites, micrometer observations of comets, etc. He was also in charge of the Wiechert seismograph at the Union Observatory over a period of many years, and made a careful study of the earth

tremors caused by mining operations on the Witwatersrand.

Wood was a gifted, clear and interesting lecturer ; for some time he gave the lectures on astronomy at the University of the Witwatersrand, which in 1937 conferred the honorary degree of doctor of science on him. After his retirement he prepared a series of radio talks on astronomy for the schools.

During the War of 1914-18 he served with the Union Defence Force and took part in the campaign in East Africa. There he contracted malaria, with serious results to his health in later life. Wood married a former Manchester fellow student. His widow survives him ; they had no children.

W. H. VAN DEN BOS

WE regret to announce the following deaths :

Prof. B. H. Bentley, emeritus professor of botany in the University of Sheffield, on June 24, aged seventy-three.

Sir George Julius, chairman of the Commonwealth Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Australia, aged seventy-three.

NEWS and VIEWS

Canadian Honours List

THE following names of scientific workers and others associated with scientific affairs appear in the honours list issued on the occasion of Dominion Day, July 1, in Canada :

C.M.G. : Dr. Alexander T. Cameron, chairman of the Fisheries Research Board, Winnipeg ; Dr. D. B. Finn, deputy minister of fisheries, Ottawa.

C.B.E. : Dr. E. S. Archibald, director of the Experimental Farm Service, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa ; Prof. C. W. Argue, professor of biology, University of New Brunswick ; Prof. H. C. Bazett, of the Banting and Best Institute, Toronto ; Dr. J. G. Bouchard, assistant deputy minister, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa ; Dr. R. D. Defries, director of the Connaught Laboratories, Toronto ; Mr. A. Hunter, chairman of the Standing Committee on Nutrition, Department of National Defence, Toronto ; Dr. Otto Maass, of the National Research Council, Ottawa ; Mr. J. H. Parkin, of the National Research Council, Ottawa ; Dr. J. M. Swaine, formerly director of Science Service, Department of Agriculture, for services as a member of the Agricultural Supplies Board, Ottawa ; Mr. W. B. Timm, director of the Mines and Geology Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, Ottawa ; Mr. J. M. Wardle, director of the Surveys and Engineering Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, Rockcliffe, Ontario.

Royal Society of Edinburgh

THE following have been elected honorary fellows of the Royal Society of Edinburgh :

Foreign honorary members : Prof. H. G. Backlund, emeritus professor of geology, University of Uppsala ; Prof. J. Hadamard, formerly professor of mathematics, Collège de France, and l'École Polytechnique, Paris ; Prof. J. H. Hildebrand, professor of chemistry, University of California, Berkeley ; Prof. S. A. S.

Krogh, professor of animal physiology, Zoophysiological Laboratory, Copenhagen ; Prof. E. O. Lawrence, professor of physics, University of California, Berkeley ; Prof. E. D. Merrill, professor of botany, Harvard University ; Prof. J. H. F. Umbgrove, professor of geology, Technische Hoogeschool, Delft.

British honorary members : Prof. E. D. Adrian, professor of physiology, University of Cambridge ; Prof. F. T. Brooks, professor of botany, University of Cambridge ; Sir James Chadwick, professor of physics, University of Liverpool ; Prof. P. A. M. Dirac, Lucasian professor of mathematics, University of Cambridge ; Prof. G. H. Hardy, emeritus professor of pure mathematics, University of Cambridge ; Sir George Simpson, formerly director of the Meteorological Office, London.

The Keith Prize (1943-45) was presented at the meeting on July 1 to Dr. W. L. Edge, University of Edinburgh, for his work in geometry, particularly for his papers published in the *Proceedings* of the Society within the period of the award ; and the Neill Prize (1943-45) jointly to J. G. Carr, Institute of Animal Genetics, University of Edinburgh, for his contributions to our knowledge of tumour viruses in animals ; and to Dr. Ethel D. Currie for her paper on "Growth Stages in some Jurassic Ammonites", published in the *Transactions* of the Society within the period

Romano-British Silver Hoard in Suffolk

A REMARKABLE find of Roman silver plate of a highly elaborate character at Mildenhall, Suffolk, has recently been reported in the Press. The discovery was made by Mr. Sidney Ford, of West Row, Mildenhall, while ploughing recently, turned up a circular silver dish which is more than two and a half feet in diameter and weighs some 224 ounces. Further exploration of the ground with a spade brought to light thirty-three more pieces of plate, all of silver and most of them elaborately embossed and ornamented. These include a second large circular dish,