

the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in raising standards of comfort in housing, and to the investigations of the Shirley Institute into the productivity of different cotton mills. The latter investigations had suggested that by bringing the practices of all mills up to those of the best, the output of the present labour force and machinery might be increased by not less than ten, and possibly as much as forty, per cent. Mr. Morrison also referred to the work of the Industrial Health Research Board on lighting and fatigue, and in particular to the value of choosing the right colours for machines and working equipment in reducing fatigue and increasing output.

The organisation of science is also important, and the Lord President, after paying a tribute to the work of the Advisory Council on Scientific Policy, referred to the programme of the recently established Committee on Industrial Productivity and its various panels. If science, however, is to be at the heart of industrial effort in Britain, it is also necessary for the nation to understand, use and continually demand the fruits of science. He said that the new developments mentioned represent a start towards making Britain a truly scientifically minded nation, with all the advantages which flow from that. We must in future be accustomed to setting aside for science larger resources and more man-power if we are to get the maximum results. Much of our scientific research had been carried on under very bad conditions, and the Government is taking steps to improve those conditions as fast as possible. Recently, he said, he had arranged for the largest of our new scientific stations—that for mechanical engineering research—to be located in Scotland. It is important that scientific research and the inspiration it brings should be well distributed over the country, although many of our research establishments must of necessity be in the London region.

The Government has decided, Mr. Morrison said, that the new town at Stevenage should be given preference in considering the sites of new scientific establishments in the London region. A number of research stations would have to move from their present sites, which they have outgrown. He was unable to say what actual research will be located at Stevenage; but the town will become one of the important scientific centres of the future. Letchworth, since its earliest days, has been the home of industries characterized by a progressive attitude to research, and he hopes that those industries would benefit from the new development, and that Letchworth would share the Government's vision of science in the service of the people.

AMERICAN AWARDS TO BRITISH MEN OF SCIENCE

AWARDS have recently been made by the Government of the United States to the following British scientific workers, for their services during the War:

Medal of Freedom with Silver Palm: Sir Henry Dale, president during 1940–45 of the Royal Society and a member of many important Government scientific committees; Sir Jack Drummond, director of research, Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd., scientific adviser to the British Ministry of Food during 1944–46; Sir Alfred Egerton, professor of chemical

technology, Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, for his work as a secretary of the Royal Society and member of the Scientific Advisory Committee to the War Cabinet; Sir Melvill Jones, Francis Mond professor of aeronautical engineering in the University of Cambridge, for scientific research and development, as an outstanding authority on the problems of aerial gunnery; Dr. Alexander King, of the Ministry of Supply from early 1940, and head of the British Commonwealth Scientific Office in Washington from March 1944; Sir Edward Mellanby, secretary of the Medical Research Council, a principal figure in the organisation and conduct of British research in military medicine; Dr. Hugh M. Sinclair, lecturer in biochemistry, University of Oxford, sometime honorary nutritional consultant and co-ordinator of research in the British Zone, Control Commission (British Element); Mr. Cyril G. Trotman, for work as head of the Planning and Reporting Section of the Chemical Defence Experimental Station at Porton, and later as British representative on the international Project Co-ordination Staff in the United States; Dr. Hector F. Willis, of the Admiralty Research Laboratory, Teddington, for scientific research and development in theoretical physics and particularly the transmission of sound.

Medal of Freedom with Bronze Palm: Sir Charles Darwin, director of the National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, and first head of the British Commonwealth Scientific Office in Washington, for service to scientific research and development; Mr. J. N. D. Heenan, for his work in the development of turbo-jet and turbine engines for use in U.S. Army Air Force aircraft; Sir Ian Heilbron, professor of organic chemistry in the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, for scientific research and development in connexion with chemical warfare munitions; Mr. Charles Lea, who was in charge of the development of incendiaries for the Ministry of Aircraft Production; Mr. Andrew Stratton, of the Royal Aircraft Establishment, South Farnborough, for research work in connexion with proximity fuses; Mr. T. W. J. Taylor, for work in connexion with scientific research and development.

Medal of Freedom: Dr. James Craigie, of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, associate professor of immunology and bacteriology at the University of Toronto, and member of the Joint United States-Canadian Commission during June 1942–Feb. 1946; Mr. Amherst F. H. Thomson, representative of the Ministry of Supply, and later of the British Admiralty, for work in connexion with the development of proximity fuses.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

(Meetings marked with an asterisk * are open to the public)

Monday, February 9

ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS (at John Adam Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.2), at 4.30 p.m.—Sir Jack Drummond, F.R.S.: "Fats in the Life of the Nation" (Cantor Lecture).

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON (in the Assembly Hall, Institute of Education, Malet Street, London, W.C.1), at 5.30 p.m.—Prof. J. A. Lauwerys: "International Co-operation in Education".*

INSTITUTION OF THE RUBBER INDUSTRY, MIDLAND SECTION (at the James Watt Memorial Institute, Great Charles Street, Birmingham), at 7.15 p.m.—Symposium on "Colour in the Rubber Industry" (Miss M. D. Gauntlett: "Physics and Measurement of Colour"; Mr. J. Haworth: "Technology of Colour"; Mr. T. E. H. Gray: "Use and Abuse of Colour").

TEXTILE INSTITUTE, MACCLESFIELD, LEEK AND DISTRICT SECTION (at Nicholson Institute, Leek), at 8 p.m.—Mr. E. B. Higgins: "Plastics, Fabrics and Finishes".