

in specific heat of a gas is insensible for small rarefactions and condensations. After some time which has not yet been ascertained, the change in capacity for caloric is completed, and the temperature has changed considerably."

Prof. M. C. Potter had clearly been influenced by these views, and up to the time of his death was endeavouring to show that the usual statement of the First Law of Thermodynamics is incomplete. He had obtained some quite interesting results on electrical effects accompanying various chemical and mechanical changes, and believed that the neglect of these effects constituted a fatal objection to the experimental basis of the First Law. He frequently

used to remark, "Joule will have to go". Perhaps it would not be too much to refer to Dr. Potter as the last of the calorists.

WE regret to announce the following deaths :

Prof. S. C. Brooks, professor of zoology in the University of California, Berkeley, known for his work on the biological effects of radiations and the permeability of cells, on April 25, aged fifty-nine.

Dr. H. W. Richmond, F.R.S., president during 1920-22 of the London Mathematical Society, on April 22, aged eighty-four.

NEWS and VIEWS

Archæology in the University of London : Dr. R. E. Mortimer Wheeler

ARCHÆOLOGISTS will be pleased to learn that Dr. R. E. Mortimer Wheeler has accepted a chair in the University of London. He shares with Sir Cyril Fox the distinction of being one of the most stimulating of archæological exponents in Great Britain. Dr. Wheeler has had a distinguished career both in archæology and in the army. For a time he was director of the National Museum of Wales, and then he became head of the London Museum. It was during this London Museum period that Mrs. Wheeler died; to her splendid personality and experienced help he owed much both personally and archæologically; as, for example, when he set about the founding of the Archæological Institute, which is housed in Regent's Park. A member of the Territorial Army, the War sent him to Africa with the 8th Army and Italy with the 5th, where he ended up as one of the small band of non-professional soldiers who achieved the rank of brigadier. Recently, he has been director-general of archæology in India. He has been president of innumerable archæological bodies and has served on the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments. Dr. Wheeler has undertaken not a few archæological excavations, the most important, perhaps, having been that at Maiden Castle, and has published extensively on various subjects. His book "Prehistoric and Roman Wales" is a standard work on early times in that country. He has also written on the ancient sites at Lydney and Verulamium. His influence will greatly strengthen the growing school of archæology in the University of London, and we may look forward to many interesting results from excavations undertaken by him.

Institution of Metallurgists : Dr. A. D. Merriman

DR. ARTHUR D. MERRIMAN has been appointed to the full-time post of registrar-secretary of the Institution of Metallurgists. Dr. Merriman's initial training was in physics, mathematics and chemistry, and he has had some twenty years experience in academic fields, including the post of principal of the County Technical School, Wallsend-on-Tyne, 1926-38. During the early part of the Second World War, he served with the Directorate of Scientific Research, Ministry of Supply, and was the senior member of a group of scientific men and engineers dealing with bomb disposal problems; for his personal courage in emergency situations he was awarded the George Cross. From 1941 until 1944 he was scientific adviser to the Com-

mander-in-Chief, Middle East, and in 1944 was appointed to a special intelligence assignment in the U.S.S.R., followed by similar work in north-west Europe and Germany. Since then he has been a principal scientific officer (technical intelligence) at the Armaments Design Department, Ministry of Supply. Dr. Merriman succeeds Dr. Harold Moore, the Institution's first president, who has been serving as registrar, and Mr. K. Headlam-Morley, secretary of the Iron and Steel Institute, who has acted as secretary of the Institution. Office accommodation will continue to be provided for the Institution at 4 Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1.

British Council Science Department : Mr. E. Bolton King

MR. E. BOLTON KING, formerly managing director of the Oxford Instrument Co. and during the War a member of the Ministry of Supply Rocket Team, has been appointed director of the Science Department of the British Council. Educated at Warwick School and Balliol College, Oxford, where he was a mathematical exhibitor, he obtained first-class honours in Physics Finals. He was elected to a research studentship at Christ Church, Oxford, and carried out research at the Clarendon Laboratory, largely on photo-electricity. Later he formed the Oxford Instrument Co. Early in the War he joined the Ministry of Supply Rocket Team under Sir Alwyn Crow and was engaged on rocket development, with special emphasis on proximity fuses, investigation of the performance of British and enemy rocket weapons in the Mediterranean theatre and liaison with rocket development in the United States, where he was an assistant director of the British Commonwealth Scientific Office. At the end of the War he went to Germany in connexion with the British firings of the V-2 rocket and became superintendent of the Ministry of Supply Establishment, Cuxhaven; since then he has been in the Directorate of Guided Weapons of the Ministry of Supply.

Exhibition of the Development of Lighting

A SPECIAL exhibition, "Darkness into Daylight", was opened at the Science Museum, London, on April 29 to illustrate the development of lighting from the earliest times to the present day. A historical section, in which the Victoria and Albert Museum has co-operated, shows vividly by means of examples and dioramas the growth of lighting until the lamps of Swan in 1878 and Edison in 1879 marked the