Mr. W. M. Jones

THE death occurred on March 15 of W. M. Jones, director of the Oceanographic Observatory of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Zealand. Born in Papakura in 1893, he graduated in 1914 with honours in mathematics. He was the New Zealand Rhodes Scholar of that year and took honours in physics at Balliol, Oxford. He served in the First World War in the Royal Field Artillery and N.Z. Engineers, and, after a few more years at Oxford as demonstrator in the electricity laboratory, returned to New Zealand.

His early magnetic, seismological and other geophysical work in New Zealand foreshadowed many of the discoveries which are of greatest interest to-day, and did much to establish the usefulness of scientific exploration. In 1950 he was given the task of developing oceanographical research in New Zealand, and has done much to advance the systematic study

of the waters which influence its life, climate and fisheries. Being mainly interested in the applications of mathematics and physics, he has done useful research on waves, the relation between waves and microseisms, and the electromagnetic effects of tidal streams.

Jones had a wide interest in science apart from his own subjects, and an extensive knowledge of New Zealand. He was a very amusing travelling companion and always found the most interesting people to talk to and the most interesting things to do. His great fund of anecdotes about his early geophysical exploration showed a wealth of good feeling and love for his country. In his younger days he was a representative player of hockey and tennis both in Auckland and in Great Britain.

Jones's work was well known in Britain and the United States, as well as in New Zealand, and he will be greatly missed.

(I. E. R. DEACON)

NEWS and VIEWS

Royal Institution:

Sir Lawrence Bragg, O.B.E., F.R.S.

AFTER the annual meeting of the members of the Royal Institution held on May 1, Lord Brabazon of Tara (president) announced that the managers had appointed Sir Lawrence Bragg to the office of Fullerian professor of chemistry, resident professor and director of the Institution's laboratories. He will take up the duties of the Fullerian professorship immediately and the laboratory and resident duties on January 1, 1954. Sir Lawrence has been Cavendish professor of experimental physics in the University of Cambridge since 1938. Previous to this he had been director of the National Physical Laboratory, and he had also been Langworthy professor of physics, University of Manchester. He brings great academic distinction to the Royal Institution, and is worthy to stand in the place of Humphry Davy, Faraday, and the many famous scientists who succeeded them. Sir Lawrence had a brilliant career as a student and Research Fellow at Trinity College, Cambridge. In 1915, at the early age of twenty-five, he was awarded a Nobel Prize for Physics for his work on X-rays and crystal structure with his father, the late Sir William Bragg, who is remembered with affection by all connected with the Royal Institution as not only one of the most distinguished holders of the offices his son now receives, but also one of the best loved. For his many contributions to physical science Sir Lawrence has been awarded the Hughes and Royal Medals of the Royal Society, and honorary degrees and distinctions from many universities and scientific societies at home and abroad. He will bring to the Royal Institution not only an unrivalled record of scientific achievement and experience, but also those personal attributes of friendship and sympathy so characteristic of his father.

Other Officers

THE following have been elected officers of the Royal Institution: *President*: Lord Brabazon of Tara; *Treasurer*: Dr. L. H. Lampitt; *Secretary*: Mr. S. Hobson; *Managers*: Mr. L. V. Chilton, Dr. A. Clow, Mr. E. R. Davies, Mr. F. P. Dunn, Dr. A. G. Gaydon, Dr. R. E. Gibbs, Mr. A. C. Hartley, Mrs. H. K. Hawkes, Mr. L. B. W. Jolley, Dr. L. A. Jordan, Dr. H. Lowery, Dr. A. C. Menzies, Dr. J. H. Schulman, Mr. P. H. Schwarzschild, Dr. S. Whitehead; *Visitors*:

Mr. H. E. Baker, Mr. F. G. Brown, Dr. H. K. Cameron, Mr. A. D. R. Caroe, Mr. J. F. Coales, Dr. H. Heywood, Wing Commander G. e. Hughes, Dr. A. R. Kagan, Mr. M. M. Melinsky, Mr. E. B. Moss, Mr. F. Y. Poynton, the Hon. Philip Samuel, Mr. W. E. Schall, Dr. L. Simons, Dr. P. C. Spensley.

Fuel Technology at Sheffield:

Prof. R. J. Sarjant, O.B.E.

THE University of Sheffield—and indeed the community at large—owes much to Prof. R. J. Sarjant, who retires from the chair of fuel technology at the end of the academic year. Educated at the Royal Masonic School, Bushey, he graduated in chemistry at the Royal College of Science, London, afterwards receiving postgraduate training there. In 1918 his appointment as fuel officer to the research department of Hadfields, Ltd., was the beginning of more than a quarter of a century's experience of steelworks problems, including those concerned with refractory materials and metallurgical engineering. With Sir Robert Hadfield he published a number of papers on the use of solid, liquid and gaseous fuels, gas producer practice, alloy steels for furnaces and chemical engineering; and in 1924 he gave the first course of lectures on furnace heating at the University of Sheffield, the following year publishing in a book the results of his pioneer work. In 1937 he was appointed a local director of Hadfields and head of its research department, relinquishing this position at the end of the Second World War on his appointment to the Sheffield chair; this chair had been vacant since R. V. Wheeler's death in 1938, and in returning to academic life after a successful industrial career Prof. Sarjant recognized the opportunity for wider service and the need for great expansion of university training in fuel technology. He has always been keenly interested in university education in applied science, and set about extending his department with characteristic enthusiasm. Shortly after his appointment, he visited American universities and research organizations, and two years later was invited to lecture in Spain. He has been associated with many research committees on fuel and allied problems and was awarded the O.B.E. for his services to the wartime Fuel Efficiency Committee of the Ministry of Fuel and Power. Prof. Sarjant was a vice-president