kinds of social surveys, and has published many articles and several books on the results of his work.

Institution of the Rubber Industry : Awards

Dr. Erich Konrad, formerly director of the Leverkusen Laboratories, Farbenfabriken Bayer, has been awarded the Colwyn Medal of the Institution of the Rubber Industry, the highest honour of the Institution, for conspicuous services to the rubber industry especially in the field of synthetic rubber development. As an assistant in the Chemical Institute of the University of Freiburg, Dr. Konrad entered the field of high-polymer chemistry. With his appointment in 1927 to Bayer at Leverkusen, his work received a decisive turn towards the chemistry and technology of rubber. His work on rubber synthesis reached the point of practical application in the setting up of synthetic rubber plants as early as 1936, and was recognized by the award of the Gold Medal by the Committee of the International Exhibition in Paris, 1937. The work of Dr. Konrad is one of the foundation stones on which the present-day synthetic rubber industry is built, and his rich experience in this field has given a decisive impetus to the development of new elastomers and new types of foamed materials.

The Hancock Medal of the Institution for 1960 has been awarded to Mr. C. B. Copeman, chairman of Maclaren and Sons, Ltd., publishers, for outstanding services to the Institution and the rubber industry.

Selby Fellowship: 1960 Award

Dr. W. Deuchars, of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, has been awarded the Selby Fellowship for 1960. The award was established last year (see *Nature*, **184**, 684 ; 1959) "to recognize that, whereas there are numerous scholarships that enable Australian graduates to proceed overseas for research experience, there is now a need for measures to bring young graduates from British and other overseas universities for postdoctoral work in Australian laboratories". The award, which is being administered by the Australian Academy of Science, Canberra, is normally for one year's work in an Australian university or research institute in any branch of physical or biological science. It carries a stipend of £A.1,500, and up to £A.500 of the holder's travel costs are met. Dr. W. Deuchars will go to Canberra and will work with Prof. E. W. Titterton at the Australian National University, Canberra. Applications for the next award close on August 31.

U.K. Commonwealth Scholarship Commission

Following the setting up in the United Kingdom of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission early this year under an Act of Parliament (see also this issue of *Nature*, p. 441), it has now been decided to award about 220 scholarships tenable in the United Kingdom from October onwards. The majority of these scholarships will be at the postgraduate-level and for two years, covering the cost of fares, tuition fees and living expenses while the holder of the scholarship is in the United Kingdom. The Commonwealth Scholarship Commission has now issued its first list of recipients for the award. This list of successful candidates covers nine Commonwealth countries and includes 66 awards, of which 44 are for scientific subjects. The distribution of these first scholarships is as follows: Canada, 18 (9 scientific); Australia, 16 (10 scientific); New Zealand, 10 (8 scientific); Ceylon, 6 (5 scientific); Hong Kong, 8 (5 scientific); Kenya, 3 (all scientific); Singapore, 3 (2 scientific); Tanganyika, 1 scientific; and Uganda, 1 scientific.

Road Research

Delegates from thirteen member and associated countries of the Organization for European Economic Co-operation have recommended that an international body should be set up to foster road-safety research. It is suggested that the international body should be responsible for co-ordinating the research effort of the various countries concerned; to foster the interchange of road-research information; and to recommend new researches on problems the solution of which requires, or would profit from, international co-operation. It was also recommended that each country should set up a national committee for road-safety research which would, in addition, provide a link with the proposed international body.

Integration of the Cape and Royal Greenwich Observatories

The merging has been announced of the Cape Observatory with the Royal Greenwich Observatory under the Astronomer Royal. The Astronomer Royal and H.M. Astronomer at the Cape of Good Hope have been, and will continue to be, responsible to the Admiralty through the Hydrographer of the Navy. The Cape Observatory fulfils, in the southern hemisphere, much the same functions as those performed in the northern hemisphere by the Royal Greenwich Observatory the work of which it supplements, and there will be many advantages to be gained from the integration of the two Observatories.

Nature Conservation in Wales

The Nature Conservancy has recently announced developments in its work in Wales, including the establishment of a new Nature Reserve at Cwm Glas, Crafnant, which, lying at the head of an upland valley, runs south-west for a distance of four miles from Trefriw in the Conway Valley. The Reserve covers 38 acres of glacially over-steepened slopes, broken by rock outcrops, and culminating in the summit of Moel Wen. It lies on basic volcanic rock and has a rich flora, including a number of arctic–alpine species, which are here growing at a relatively low altitude. There is a remnant ash-wood with a rich ground flora, and while the predominant tree is ash there are, in addition, many exceptionally large hawthorns. Together with plants typical of lowland woods and fertile soils the wood contains rock stonecrop, orpine and hart's-tongue fern, which are more particularly characteristic of such shaded, rocky places in western Britain.

Further to the establishment by the Nature Conservancy in 1955 of the Newborough Warren Ynys Llanddwyn Nature Reserve, Anglesey, and additions in 1956 and 1959, the Conservancy has now purchased another 78 acres. The Reserve now covers 1,470 acres and has a coast line of 10–11 miles. The area is of great ecological and physiographical interest, as the boundary between mobile and fixed sand and the gradation between open and closed plant communities pass right through it. Extensions are also announced to the Coed Rheidol Nature Reserve, near Devil's Bridge in Cardiganshire, and the Reserve now covers an area of 89 acres. Coed Rheidol is an interesting example of a moist, mossy sessile oak wood with a rich associated flora and fauna which