

us all. To secure this, scientific handling of materials and processes is necessary. Constant research, both on general and on particular or individual lines, is essential. This is becoming recognised by producers throughout the whole country.

For these reasons I consider that the British Science Guild has a great field for its activities, and if it continues to press for the attainment of these objects I am sure that it deserves the cordial and hearty support of all who are interested in the safety and expansion of all those industries upon which the future of this nation so largely depends.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

CAMBRIDGE.—Mr. C. R. A. Thacker, late scholar of Downing College, has been elected to a fellowship at Sidney Sussex College. Mr. Thacker was placed in the first class of the Natural Sciences Tripos, part i., in 1911, and part ii. (physiology) in 1912. He is attached to the Special Medical Board of the Ministry of Pensions.

LEEDS.—Capt. M. J. Stewart has been elected professor of pathology and bacteriology in the University. He received his commission in the R.A.M.C. (Territorial Force) in May, 1915, and has served as pathologist to the East Leeds War Hospital, and in a similar capacity in France. A few months ago he was recalled to Leeds, and, at the request of the University Council, undertook the acting headship of the department of pathology and bacteriology. In addition to his hospital and teaching work Capt. Stewart has devoted much time to original research on pathological questions, and has a long list of publications to his credit.

LONDON.—The Senate announces a bequest of 2000*l.* for the engineering faculty of King's College under the will of Lieut. R. C. Hodson, a former student in the engineering department of the college, who was killed in France last year; also a donation of 51*l.* from Miss Gertrude Jones for the purposes of the Galton Laboratory at University College.

Grants have been made by the Senate out of the Dixon Fund for the year 1918-19 as follows:—100*l.*, Mr. Birbal Sahni, to enable him to continue last year's research on Indian fossil plants at Cambridge; 60*l.*, Mr. James Morrison, to enable him to continue research on the igneous rocks of the Lake District; 15*l.*, Dr. H. B. Cronshaw, for expenses in connection with research on the Connemara serpentine rocks.

A resolution was adopted by the Senate on June 19 expressing gratification that the King's College Hospital had decided to open its medical school to women students—"a step which is in entire conformity both with the wishes and the policy of the University."

The following doctorate has been conferred:—*D.Sc. in Geology*, Mr. A. E. Trueman, an external student, for a thesis entitled "The Evolution of the Liparoceratidæ," and other papers.

OXFORD.—The lately published report of the Delegates of the University Museum directs attention to the very large number of members of the teaching staff, research workers, and service staff of the museum and departments who are now serving in the Navy or Army, or are otherwise engaged in work directly connected with the war. A large part of the museum is still occupied by the school of military aeronautics. A new dissecting-room for women medical students has been provided by the liberality of the Clothworkers' Company, a deficit over the sum allotted being generously met by Sir William Osler. Among the special investigations carried on

in the several departments have been work on the agglutination curve in relation to typhoid and paratyphoid fevers, tetanus, "mustard gas," the commercial production of toluene from petroleum, the sulphonation of benzene and the manufacture of synthetic phenol, and the preparation of new chloroamides for use as antiseptics. A considerable amount of research work has also been published on subjects not directly connected with the war. The curator of the Pitt-Rivers Museum reports a very large accession of specimens by donation, chief among which are the examples presented by Lady Tylor from the collection of her late husband. Other important accessions have been received from Mr. J. H. Hutton, Mrs. Braithwaite Batty, Mr. A. S. Kenyon, and Major R. G. Gayer Anderson.

THE HON. SIR C. A. PARSONS has consented to fill the office of president of the Polytechnic School of Engineering, Regent Street, in succession to the late Mr. C. Hawksley.

WE learn from a message from the Rome correspondent of the *Times* that the British Institute at Florence was formally opened on June 21 by Sir Rennell Rodd, Ambassador to the Court of Italy, who said that as Florence was the intellectual centre of Italy, the British Institute in Florence would provide facilities for the study of English by practical and scientific methods, the courses including classes in English history, geography, and literature. An attempt would also be made to explain and illustrate the chief problems of the British Empire. It was hoped that in the future the institute might become a point of contact between the principal British and Italian universities.

At a series of conferences held during the present year representatives of the non-professorial teaching staffs of the universities and university colleges of England, Ireland, and Wales decided to take joint action for the purpose of securing an improvement in status, tenure, and salary. A memorandum has been prepared setting forth the present conditions of service and remuneration, which are admitted to be unsatisfactory by all conversant with the facts, and suggesting various remedies. Of these the most important is that the lecturing staff should be divided into three grades. The lowest grade would comprise appointments of a probationary character to last not more than three years. At the end of that time the junior lecturer or demonstrator should cease to hold the appointment, or, if it is desired to retain his services, he should be promoted to the next grade, that of lecturer on the permanent staff. The highest grade would be composed of senior lecturers and lecturers in charge of departments. It is suggested as essential that there should be a definite minimum commencing salary in each grade, with substantial annual increments, and that lecturers should have a greater security of tenure, more time for study and research, and more adequate representation on bodies that control the teaching in each university or college than prevail under existing arrangements. The memorandum is being presented to the governing bodies of each university or university college concerned, and there is reason to believe that the recommendations contained in it will receive favourable consideration. No improvement of salaries, however, can be expected without substantial aid from increased Treasury grants, and the promoters of the movement intend to make representations to the Government that such increases of grant should be given as would make it possible for governing bodies to meet the not unreasonable claims which have been put forward.