

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

ABERDEEN.—The honorary degree of LL.D. is to be conferred on Sir J. C. Bose, founder of the Bose Research Institute, Calcutta; Prof. W. Bulloch, professor of bacteriology, London Hospital; Prof. J. Wight Duff, Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Sir Daniel Hall, Permanent Secretary to the Board of Agriculture; Mr. J. H. Jeans, secretary of the Royal Society; and Sir Robert Jones, lecturer on orthopaedic surgery, Liverpool University.

CAPT. JAMES W. LOW has been appointed assistant in the natural history department, University College, Dundee (University of St. Andrews).

APPLICATIONS are invited for the Radcliffe Crocker travelling scholarship in dermatology at University College Hospital Medical School. The scholarship is of the approximate value of 280*l.*, and tenable for one year. Particulars are obtainable from the Dean, University College Hospital Medical School, Gower Street, W.C.1.

THE next election—the seventh—to Beit fellowships for scientific research will take place on or about July 15 next. The latest time for receiving applications is April 19. Forms of application and information respecting the fellowships are obtainable, by letter, from the Rector, Imperial College of Science and Technology, South Kensington.

A MOVEMENT has been started to form a properly constituted Old Students' Association at King's College, London. A committee has drawn up a provisional constitution, and a general meeting has been called for March 4, at 6 p.m., at the college. It has been possible to send notices of this meeting only to those old students whose names are on the register, but it is hoped that the meeting will be made widely known, and that as many old students as possible will be present.

THE first meeting of the International Federation of University Women, which will include delegates from the women's colleges throughout the world, will meet in London in July next. The chairmen of the International Federation are Dean Virginia Gildersleeve, of Barnard College, Columbia University, U.S.A., and Prof. Winifred Cullis, of the London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women, University of London.

THE Chadwick Trustees announce three public lectures on "Military Hygiene in Peace and War," by Gen. Sir John Goodwin, K.C.B., in the lecture-room, Royal Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, W.C.2, on Mondays, March 8, 15, and 22, at 5.15 p.m. The titles of the lectures are:—Army Hygiene prior to the Recent War, Army Hygiene during the Recent War (Application of its Principles to Active Service Conditions), and The Future of Army Hygiene (Its Relation to the Hygiene of the Civil Community). All information about Chadwick public lectures may be obtained from the secretary, Mrs. Aubrey Richardson, at the offices of the Trust, 40 (6th) Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, S.W.1.

THE opening of the British Bureau of the Office National des Universités et Ecoles Françaises at 50 Russell Square by M. Lucien Poincaré took place on Monday, February 23, in the presence of many distinguished university men of both countries. The bureau is intended to serve as a university *liaison* office between the two countries, giving advice to British students who may wish to study abroad or French students seeking to pursue their studies in England, and so

bringing British and French universities into closer touch with one another. M. Poincaré, in declaring the bureau open, said the work which would be done in Russell Square would be of the greatest use, particularly to England and France. He hoped the day would come when all Englishmen would speak French and all Frenchmen would speak English. It was too early, he thought, to say we were internationalists, using the word in its better meaning. We were rather inter-Allies. It was still necessary to struggle for civilisation. He trusted that the Office National would be a powerful factor in uniting England and France in closer bonds and for working for the good of humanity. In the evening, M. Millerand, the Prime Minister of France, in the chair, a dinner given by the Groupe Inter-Universitaire Franco-Britannique was held at the Connaught Rooms in honour of M. Poincaré and to celebrate the formal opening of the bureau. Many public men were present, and the general trend of the speeches during the evening was to emphasise the possibility of this alliance of the universities helping to cement the already established union between France and England.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

LONDON.

Royal Society, February 12.—Sir J. J. Thomson, president, in the chair.—J. W. **McBain** and C. S. **Salmon**: Colloidal electrolytes. Soap solutions and their constitution. For the first time a comprehensive theory of soap solutions has been set up. This has led to a definition of colloidal electrolytes, a class the members of which will probably prove more numerous than acids and bases put together. They are salts in which one of the ions has been replaced by an ionic micelle. The ionic micelle in the case of soap exhibits an equivalent conductivity equal to that of potassium ion, and double that of the palmitate ion which it has replaced. Its formula may correspond to $(P')_n \cdot m(H_2O)$, but more probably it is $(NaP)_x(P')_n \cdot (H_2O)_m$, where P' is the anion of the fatty acid in question. In concentrated solutions soaps exist chiefly in colloidal form, together with sodium or potassium ion, equivalent to the ionic micelle present, whereas in dilute solution both undissociated and dissociated soaps are crystalloids of simple molecular weight. In mixtures of soaps the tendency is to form more micellæ. Addition of electrolytes, however, exerts opposing influences, dehydrating and driving back dissociation. The conception of the ionic micelle serves to explain the behaviour of solutions of dyestuffs, indicators, and proteins. A modification of the dew-point method is described, which has enabled measurements of osmotic activity and "molecular weight" to be carried out, free from the uncertainties of interpretation of the results obtained for colloids by the osmometer method, and superseding the well-known but erroneous data of Krafft.—C. C. **Farr** and D. B. **MacLeod**: The viscosity of sulphur. The results are discussed of a number of experiments, under a great variety of conditions, on the viscosity of sulphur with temperatures rising and falling between 123° C. and 278° C. The method employed was that of rotating cylinders, usually with a bifilar suspension. A unifilar suspension was, however, employed in the neighbourhood of the point of minimum viscosity. Great care was taken to secure that the sulphur had actually attained the temperature indicated by the thermometer used. The effects were observed of prolonged heating, also the effects of the absorption of gases, especially NH_3 and SO_2 . The relation of the viscosity to the amount of "insoluble sulphur" present is considered.—C. V.