

News and Views

Sir Harold Carpenter, F.R.S.

At its general meeting in Düsseldorf, Germany, on October 10, the Verein deutscher Eisenhüttenleute awarded its Carl Lueg Gold Medal to Sir Harold Carpenter, while Mr. James Henderson was elected an honorary member of the Association. The Carl Lueg Gold Medal was founded in 1904 to celebrate the uninterrupted period of twenty-five years during which Dr. Carl Lueg had held the presidency of the Association. The last occasion on which the Medal was presented was in 1934, and Sir Harold is the first Englishman to receive the Medal. Sir Harold Carpenter is professor of metallurgy at the Royal School of Mines, Imperial College of Science and Technology, South Kensington, London. From 1898 until 1901 he was a research fellow and demonstrator of Owens College, Manchester; in 1901 he was one of the first to join the staff of the newly founded National Physical Laboratory, being appointed head of the Chemical and Metallurgical Departments. From 1906 until 1913 he was professor of metallurgy in the Victoria University, Manchester. Sir Harold's researches have covered a field too wide for individual mention, but reference may be made to his pioneer work on the determination of the freezing point of iron and the complete iron-carbon equilibrium diagram (in collaboration with B. F. E. Keeling), to his investigations on high-speed cutting tools and other special steels, on the growth of cast-iron on repeated heating and on the constitution of alloys and to his classical researches on the growth of single crystals in metals and their properties. Sir Harold is the great-great-grandson of Henry Cort, the inventor of the puddling process and of the use of grooved rolls for rolling metals.

Mr. James Henderson

HONORARY membership of the Verein deutscher Eisenhüttenleute is likewise a mark of great distinction. Since 1881, when the Association was founded, only sixteen honorary members have been elected. Of these, only one was an Englishman, namely, Sir Hugh Bell, who was accorded that honour in 1910. Mr. James Henderson's enrolment in the list of honorary members of the Association is thus a very high tribute. Born in Glasgow in 1868, Mr. Henderson's first appointment was in the laboratory of the Glasgow Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., at Wishaw. At that time, 1886 roughly, a plant for the making of steels by the basic Bessemer process was being laid down under the supervision of Mr. Maximilian Mannaberg, who had come from Gebrüder Stumm, Neunkirchen. This association with Mr. Mannaberg was renewed when, in 1889, Mr. Henderson moved to Frodingham in North Lincolnshire, where the basic open-hearth process was being developed and where he was to remain for the rest of his active business life. Starting as chief metallurgist, he passed through various departments before eventually becoming

managing director. For forty-five years he has been associated closely with a number of significant developments. The Frodingham Works adopted the Talbot direct metal process as early as 1906; towards the end of the last century experiments began at Frodingham in the use of blast-furnace gas in gas engines and culminated in the installation of one of the first Cockerill (Seraing) gas-engined generating sets: the application of blast-furnace gas to blowing and power engines was continued consistently, and represents to-day a major item of economy at Frodingham: the Appleby plate mills which, on their completion in 1927, represented the last word in plate rolling practice in Europe, were a landmark in Mr. Henderson's term as managing director. He joined the Iron and Steel Institute in 1892, has been a member of Council since 1925, and honorary treasurer since 1934. In September 1936, he officiated as acting president at the Autumn Meeting of the Iron and Steel Institute held in Düsseldorf.

Dr. F. W. Eurich and Anthrax Research

THE Council of the Textile Institute has decided to award its medal to Dr. F. W. Eurich, on the occasion of his retirement from the Anthrax Investigation Board for Bradford and District, to mark its appreciation of his services to the wool industries. The medal was founded in 1919 and has hitherto been awarded mainly for services to the Institute. In 1905 the Home Office, in co-operation with the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, constituted the Anthrax Investigation Board for Bradford and District, and Dr. Eurich was appointed bacteriologist. The investigation involved the bacteriological examination of about 14,000 samples of wool and hair. The virulent nature of the anthrax bacillus was a constant and serious danger to the investigator. Dr. Eurich was the first to cultivate anthrax organisms from the wool. He also found that, contrary to expectation, wools might be as dangerous when clean as when dirty. The infection was through the blood stream of the animals, and the tenacious adherence of the blood serum throughout processing, hitherto unsuspected, was exposed as a significant factor in the problem. Dr. Eurich discovered that many varieties of wool and hair are liable to infection and listed them roughly in order of danger. The nature of the anthrax bacillus, the mode of infection, and the conditions under which it persisted were discovered. With Mr. Elmhurst Duckering, Dr. Eurich succeeded in killing anthrax spores and bacilli in a wool sample with formaldehyde, and this was found to have no deleterious effect on such processes as spinning and dyeing. In addition, Dr. Eurich introduced improved treatment of the disease when contracted, and effectively reduced its fatality. Workers in wool owe a large debt of gratitude to him for his long-sustained work on the dreaded "Bradford disease".