

## News and Views

### New Fellows of the Royal Society

At the annual election of fellows of the Royal Society held on March 17, the following were elected: G. D. Bengough, consultant to the Chemical Research Laboratory, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research; C. H. Best, professor of physiology, University of Toronto; W. Brown, professor of plant pathology, Imperial College of Science and Technology; J. W. Cook, professor of chemistry, The Research Institute, Royal Cancer Hospital; T. L. Eckersley, research physicist, Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co.; G. I. Finch, professor of applied physical chemistry, Imperial College of Science and Technology; W. E. Gye, director of the laboratories of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund; W. V. D. Hodge, Lowndean professor of astronomy and geometry, University of Cambridge; J. S. Huxley, secretary of the Zoological Society of London; J. Jackson, H.M. Astronomer at the Cape; Sir Robert Mond, chemist and Egyptologist; J. E. Richey, district surveyor, H.M. Geological Survey; F. S. Russell, naturalist at the Marine Biological Association; B. F. J. Schonland, professor of physics, University of Cape Town; F. S. Sinnatt, director of fuel research, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research; K. M. Smith, senior research assistant, Plant Virus Station, Cambridge; E. Stedman, lecturer in the Department of Chemistry in relation to Medicine, University of Edinburgh; C. E. Tilley, professor of mineralogy and petrology, University of Cambridge; W. E. S. Turner, professor of glass technology, University of Sheffield; H. H. Woollard, professor of anatomy, University College, London.

### Presentation to Sir Arthur Harden

At the annual general meeting of the Biochemical Society held on March 11, a presentation was made by the Society to Sir Arthur Harden, on the occasion of his retirement from the editorship of the *Biochemical Journal*. The presentation took the form of an inscribed salver, bearing the signatures of all those still living who have served on the Committee of the Society during the twenty-five years of Sir Arthur's editorship. In making the presentation on behalf of the Society, the present chairman of committee, Prof. H. J. Channon, recalled the early history of the *Biochemical Journal*. Founded by Prof. Benjamin Moore and Mr. E. Whitley in 1906, it was first issued as a private venture from the Department of Biochemistry in the University of Liverpool. In 1911, at the instance of Dr. (now Prof.) R. H. A. Plimmer and Mr. J. A. Gardner, there was formed an organization of biochemists, called at first the Biochemical Club, the members of which soon came to feel the need for a journal to cover the widest interests of the growing science of biochemistry in Great

Britain; negotiations were therefore started which led, in October 1912, to the acquisition of the *Biochemical Journal* by the Biochemical Club, which at the same time changed its designation to Biochemical Society; the editors appointed by the newly formed Society were Arthur Harden and William Bayliss. Prof. Channon traced the remarkable growth of the *Biochemical Journal* from its modest beginning to its present position as one of the outstanding biochemical publications of the world, and in thanking Sir Arthur for his great services to the Society he paid an eloquent tribute to his qualities as an editor.

In supporting Prof. Channon, Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins emphasized the importance of Sir Arthur Harden's own work in influencing the development of biochemistry in Great Britain, and the advantage which had accrued to that science in its early days from the entry into it of an accomplished chemist. Sir Frederick referred to the sacrifice of time involved for an active investigator in editing a scientific journal; but pointed out that, regrettable as such loss of time might be, it was only an active investigator who could give full and sympathetic understanding to the difficulties of his colleagues in presenting the results of their researches; such understanding Sir Arthur had always given in full measure. Sir Arthur Harden, in acknowledging the presentation, expressed his appreciation of the help which he had received from his various co-editors. Sir Arthur stated his conviction of the importance of free and reasonably detailed publication of results in the development of a growing science such as biochemistry and indicated the way in which as an editor he had attempted to give effect to this conviction. The occasion of the presentation constituted something of a landmark in the history of biochemical publications in Great Britain since the increasing size of the *Biochemical Journal* has necessitated a further subdivision of the editorial work. It will be hoped by all who are interested in the progress of biochemistry that it will be possible under the new arrangements to maintain the high standard which has been reached as the result of Sir Arthur Harden's work during the past twenty-five years.

### Dr. W. H. Pearsall

DR. W. H. PEARSALL, whose appointment to the chair of botany at Sheffield has recently been announced, was educated at Ulverston Grammar School and the University of Manchester, where he continued his studies after graduation. In 1921 he was awarded the D.Sc. for his work on the aquatic vegetation of the English Lakes. During the Great War he served with a battery of the Royal Garrison Artillery and later with the Royal Engineers. He