NEWS and VIEWS

Dr. W. Temple : Archbishop of Canterbury

THE King has been pleased to nominate the Right Hon. and Most Rev. William Temple, Lord Archbishop of York, Primate of England and Metropolitan, for election by the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury in the place of the Right Hon. the Most Reverend Cosmo Gordon Lang, Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of All England and Metropolitan. Dr. Temple, who is sixty years of age, has been Archbishop of York since 1929. He was president of the Oxford University Union in 1904, and afterwards a fellow of Queen's College. He was appointed headmaster of Repton School in 1910, where he stayed four years.

Educationists will welcome this appointment, for Dr. Temple has associated himself with social problems and education for many years. He was president of the Workers' Educational Association from 1908 until 1920, and has thus guided it to the great influential position which it now holds in adult and other educational activities throughout the country. His lectures and addresses, especially to undergraduates and other young people, are always listened to with eager attention. In a sermon during the jubilee celebrations of the Victoria University of Manchester, he especially emphasized the need for greater encouragement of research among the staffs of our universities. He is a philosopher of outstanding merit.

The King has also been pleased to nominate the Right Rev. C. F. Garbett, Lord Bishop of Winchester, for election by the Dean and Chapter of York in the place of Dr. Temple. Dr. Garbett has also shown himself deeply interested in social questions.

Dr. Peter Kapitza, F.R.S. : Faraday Medallist

DR. PETER KAPITZA, director of the Institute for Physical Problems of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R., has been awarded the Faraday Medal of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, "for his notable contributions to science in the generation and utilization of intense magnetic fields". Dr. Kapitza began his scientific career some twenty years ago in the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, where he succeeded in producing magnetic fields much stronger than had hitherto been obtainable. To avoid the difficulty of the heating up of the coil in which the magnetic field was produced, he used a large power for a very short time only ; the time was, however, long enough for most magnetic effects to establish themselves, and Kapitza developed many ingenious devices for studying the magnetic properties of matter in such transient fields. With this powerful technique he cleared up various doubtful points about magnetization at high fields and was able to measure the magnetostriction of diamagnetic substances for the first time ; a series of researches on the change of electrical resistance of metals in the new region he had opened up also brought to light many interesting new features.

Since magnetic properties generally become much more marked at low temperatures, Kapitza set about the building of a cryogenic laboratory, and here again he brought to bear that rare combination of the talents of the physicist and the engineer which characterizes so much of his work. His work in Cambridge culminated with the development, in the Royal Society Mond Laboratory, of a new method of liquefying helium using the principle of adiabatic expansion. In 1934 he returned to his native country to set up and direct the new Institute for Physical Problems of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R., where he has continued both his magnetic and his low temperature researches. Recently he has made important discoveries about the remarkable 'superfluid' properties of liquid helium, and he has also developed a much more economical method of liquefying air. For this latter work, which is of considerable industrial as well as scientific interest, he was awarded the Stalin Prize last year.

Rev. T. E. R. Phillips

THE University of Oxford is conferring the degree of D.Sc., *honoris causa*, on the Rev. T. E. R. Phillips on February 28. Mr. Phillips's astronomical work began in 1896, while he was curate at Hendford, near Yeovil, where he started systematic work on the planets, especially Jupiter and Mars. In 1916, he was appointed rector of Headley and he set up an observatory in the rectory glebe, where he added an 18-in. reflector (mirror by With) to his other equipment. Mr. Phillips's work on Jupiter has consisted mainly in investigating the surface currents, and the times of the passage of various surface features across the central meridian of the planet are included in this. Other features to which he gave a considerable amount of attention are a 'circulating current' in the southern hemisphere of the planet, the Red Spot, and the South Tropical Disturbance. He has recorded more than a dozen distinct surface currents, which are well defined and show minor variations of period ; incidentally, it may be mentioned that he obtained some 30,000 spot transits. The 8-in. refractor loaned by the Royal Astronomical Society was used for double-star measurements and also for determining the light-curves of long-period variables. The results of his harmonic analysis of the light-curves of about eighty stars were given in his presidential address to the British Astronomical Association in 1916.

Mr. Phillips has been president of Commission 16 of the International Astronomical Union, specially concerned with the physical study of the planets, president during 1914–16 of the British Astronomical Association, and during 1927–29 president of the Royal Astronomical Society. Mr. Phillips is also a meteorologist, and has kept an unbroken daily record of temperatures and rainfall at Headley for twenty-five years. These results and also the results of his harmonic analysis of a number of annual temperature curves in various parts of the British Isles will be published after the War. He is a keen botanist and is specially interested in British and Alpine flora. He is still continuing to use the observatory at Headley, although he retired from active work in the church a year ago, owing to failing health. His many friends hope that he will be long spared to carry on his scientific work.

Home-grown Timbers

THE Forest Products Research Laboratory at Princes Risborough has recently issued a third edition (War Emergency Edition) of the "Handbook of Home Grown Timbers" (H.M. Stationery Office, 1941). This has become necessary owing to the greater demand being made on home resources due to a decrease of imports through the restriction of