

St. John's College, Cambridge (B.A., 1899; M.A., 1903), where he obtained a first class in Part I of the Natural Sciences Tripos. He was science master of Woodbridge School from 1903 until 1907, when he was appointed professor of physics at University College, Bloemfontein. During his residence in South Africa he made a special study of atmospheric electricity in that part of the world. Several of his

papers were published in the *Transactions of the Cambridge Philosophical Society*. He returned to Great Britain and was appointed science master at Rugby in 1916, a post which he held until his retirement at the end of 1930. Many of his old students at Woodbridge, Bloemfontein and Rugby will remember with gratitude his inspiring lectures, which were always illustrated with many experiments.

NEWS and VIEWS

U.S. National Academy of Sciences : Elections

THE following elections were made at the annual meeting of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences held during April 27-28: *Foreign Secretary* (to succeed the late Prof. L. J. Henderson): Prof. Walter B. Cannon, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts (term: four years ending June 30, 1946); *New Members of Council*: Prof. George W. Corner, professor of anatomy, Strong Memorial Hospital, Rochester, N.Y.; *Foreign Associate*: Prof. Robert K. S. Lim, professor of physiology, Peiping Union Medical College, Peiping.

Members of the Academy: Prof. Homer Adkins, professor of chemistry, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin; Dr. Lyman J. Briggs, director, National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C.; Prof. H. T. Clarke, professor of biochemistry, Columbia University, New York City; Prof. Ralph E. Cleland, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana; Prof. C. H. Danforth, professor of anatomy, Stanford University, California; Prof. C. A. Elvehjem, professor of agricultural chemistry, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin; Prof. Michael Heidelberger, professor of biochemistry, Columbia University, New York City; Prof. John Gamble Kirkwood, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York; Dr. Paul D. Merica, metallurgist, 67 Wall Street, New York City; Dr. Thomas Midgley, jun., chemist, Worthington, Ohio; Prof. Francis D. Murnaghan, professor of applied mathematics, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.; Dean John T. Tate, professor of physics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Prof. Alfred M. Tozzer, professor of anthropology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Prof. E. E. Tyzzer, George Fabyan professor of comparative pathology, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts; Prof. S. A. Waksman, professor of soil microbiology, Agricultural Experiment Station, New Brunswick, New Jersey. Prof. Albert Einstein, professor of mathematics, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, was also elected a member; his status as a foreign associate, dating from 1922, before he became an American citizen, will not be affected by the new election.

History of Science in Scotland

THE Regional Committee for Adult Education of the University of St. Andrews has followed up the issue of twelve pamphlets on "Britain and its People" by the publication of a further dozen under the general title "Scotland and its People". These pamphlets provide, in a very readable form, much general information about Great Britain, and particularly about Scotland. Through the help of the Pilgrim Trust, it has been possible to distribute them free

of charge to members of H.M. Forces and Allied troops. Among the titles in the second series are "The History of Science in Scotland", by Sir D'Arcy Thompson, "Scotland and Advances in Medicine and Surgery", by Dr. J. Patrick, "The Scottish Universities", by Sir James Irvine, and "Scottish Agriculture and Industry", by Mr. J. W. Nisbet. In his rapid survey of Scottish science Sir D'Arcy Thompson points out that Napier of Merchiston was the first true man of science in Scotland since Michael Scot. Soon after Napier's death, began the long line of "academic Gregories", contributing some fourteen professors of mathematics, medicine and chemistry to the Scottish universities during the succeeding two hundred years. "There is hardly such another instance known of scientific heredity, unless perhaps that of the Cassinis, who directed the Paris Observatory for nearly as long." John Napier, James Gregory, Colin Maclaurin and James Stirling are characterized as the four great Scottish mathematicians; "but there came after them many a good man", including Ivory and Tait.

Among outstanding figures in chemistry are Black, Graham, Couper, Dewar, Ramsay and James Young; in physics and engineering, emphasis is laid upon Watt (whom Davy likened to Archimedes), Robison, Russell (the builder of the *Great Eastern*), Brewster, Clerk Maxwell and Lord Kelvin. Of the last-named Sir D'Arcy writes: "Somehow he is not quite so great, he is not near so lovable, as Clerk Maxwell; but his achievements were in touch with the spirit of his time, and his fame was prodigious." In astronomy, John Lamont of Braemar became Johann von Lamont, head of the Munich Observatory and an authority on terrestrial magnetism, and with him are mentioned Broun, Buchan and Henderson. Geology is represented by James Hutton, 'the father of modern geology', and many another; for "Scotland has done so much for geology that this science seems peculiarly her own". Finally, in natural history and botany we encounter Sir Robert Sibbald, founder of the Edinburgh medical school, Goodsir the anatomist, Edward Forbes, Wyville Thomson, and Robert Brown of Montrose—Humboldt's *princeps botanicorum*. One lays down this attractive and admirable account with a lively sense of the truly remarkable nature of Scotland's contribution to pure and applied science.

Irish Sea and Inland Fisheries

A VERY satisfactory state of affairs is shown in the report of the Minister for Agriculture (Eire) on the sea and inland fisheries for 1940. The yield of sea fish exceeded that of any year since 1930 and was appreciably larger and of greater value than in 1939. The position has been affected materially by the