

During his life-time, more than sixty books, periodicals and films were devoted to his life and work, and he had delivered addresses at most of the leading universities in the States. Carver was awarded the Spingarn Medal in 1923 for distinguished services to science, and in 1939 he was given the Roosevelt Medal for outstanding contributions to agriculture. The unique position he won for himself in American scientific and social life was marked by the Variety Clubs' award of 1941. This award was made by a national nominating committee of thirty-four eminent editors, publishers, authors and radio commentators, and consisted of a silver plaque commemorating his selection, and an honorarium of one thousand dollars in cash "in token of his sublime service in restoring a multitude of helpless people

to happy and productive life through the instrumentality of his brilliant laboratory researches".

Thus grew to maturity and fame, a lad who was once traded for a horse! R. E. G. ARMATTOE.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Dr. H. D. S. Honigmann, formerly director of the Breslau Zoological Gardens, and recently scientific adviser to the Dudley Zoo, on November 17, aged fifty-one.

Mr. Geoffrey H. Livesey, a former president of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, and former editor of the *Veterinary Record*, on November 29.

Prof. James Young, O.B.E., formerly professor of science at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, on December 2, aged eighty-one.

NEWS and VIEWS

Physical Society: Duddell Medal Award

THE twentieth Duddell Medal has been awarded by the Council of the Physical Society to Mr. John Guild, of the Light Department of the National Physical Laboratory, in recognition of his design of a number of optical and physical instruments of outstanding merit. Mr. Guild, who was born on November 16, 1889, was educated at Allan Glen's School, Glasgow, and the Imperial College, London. His instruments are noteworthy for their sound mechanical, optical and physical design and for the scrupulous avoidance of all elaborations that would not contribute to their final precision and accuracy; they incorporate many features that were novel at the time the instruments were developed. The best-known and most important of them are, perhaps, his spectrophotometer (1924), trichromatic colorimeter (1925) and absolute radiometer (1937); but it is difficult to select any one instrument as being more elegant in design than the others, which include a spherometer of precision (1917), a very accurate angle comparator for the goniometry of prisms (1923), a flicker photometer (1923), a vector colorimeter (1925), an improved goniometric spectrometer (in collaboration with the late Mr. George Watts, 1926), a compensated thermopile (1931) and a new instrument for evaluating the surface finish of metals (1940). The Medal will be presented to Mr. Guild at a meeting of the Physical Society at the Imperial College on December 17.

Chair of Geology, Durham: Prof. L. R. Wager

DR. L. R. Wager, whose appointment to the chair of geology at Durham has been announced, takes with him a distinguished record as a petrologist, an explorer and a mountaineer. Since 1929 he has been lecturer in petrology in the University of Reading, where the efficiency of that section of the Geological Department owes much to his vigorous enthusiasm. While still at Cambridge he had given a foretaste of his ability as a research student in a series of papers on the Whin Sill and part of Connemara. In 1930 he was granted leave to take part in the British Arctic Air Route Expedition to East Greenland, where he made preliminary studies of a peculiarly interesting suite of igneous rocks. In 1933 he was released again to act as one of the climbing party on that year's expedition to Mount Everest. He took part in the first assault, reaching as great a height

as has yet been attained. Incidentally, he made many valuable contributions to our knowledge of the stratigraphy and physiography of that part of the Himalaya. On his return to Reading he began to organize a scientific expedition to continue his work in East Greenland, and took a small party which spent twelve months there. The published results of the petrological and mineralogical studies thus made, although as yet incomplete, are works of outstanding scientific importance. Shortly after the outbreak of war he joined the Royal Air Force in a specialist capacity, and held the rank of squadron leader at the time of his appointment to Durham.

Suggested New School of Aeronautical Science

REPLYING to a question raised in the House of Commons on December 1, the Minister of Aircraft Production, Sir Stafford Cripps, announced that the Aeronautical Research Committee had recommended the creation of a new school of aeronautical science, co-ordinated with existing training facilities, to bridge what it considers to be a gap in the present system. This report is approved in principle by the Government, and an interdepartmental committee has been appointed to prepare detailed proposals for its establishment. The Committee is under the chairmanship of Sir Roy Fedden, sometime designer and chief engineer of the engine section of the Bristol Aeroplane Co. This Company was one of the first in the aeronautical world to initiate an apprentice training school in its works under Sir Roy's guidance, and in addition he has just returned from a tour of the United States, where he has studied the systems of aeronautical instruction in use there.

Although the terms of the report were not announced, it presumably follows the scheme envisaged by Sir Bennett Melville Jones, the chairman of the Aeronautical Research Committee, in his remarks at a recent discussion upon aeronautical education, before the Royal Aeronautical Society. The school will be postgraduate and will be additional to the facilities of a similar standard at present available at universities. It will deal with advanced study and experimental work of a technical nature, leaving the more scientific and research aspect to the university schools. It is also hoped to include certain aspects of flying, incidental to the teaching. It is hoped that such a training will appeal to the university graduate