

a position which she held until her retirement in 1937. Her activities in these various spheres were tireless, but as a life member of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, she also took part in many of the meetings, including those of Australia (1914), Canada (1924), and South Africa (1929); also acting as recorder (1920, 1921) and vice-president (1933) to Section K. She was elected fellow of the Linnean Society in 1908 and served on the Council during 1910-15. She was deeply interested in questions affecting the professional status of women workers. She also tried to promote the formation of a central botanical research institute; but the funds collected were insufficient and were used in furtherance of research by other means. She had friends in many lands, and in 1924 served, appropriately, on the executive committee of the Imperial Botanical Conference.

Dr. Thomas's published work included double fertilization (*Ann. Bot.*, 14; 1900); anatomy of

*Acrostichum* (*New Phyt.*, 4; 1905) and a series of articles on seedling anatomy, reinforced by those of some of her students. Her name is especially associated with the theory of the double leaf-trace (*New Phyt.*, 6; 1907); but the trend of her views on more general questions of seedling anatomy is clearly indicated by a series of summaries (British Association Reports for 1906, 1914, 1923 and 1924) as well as by longer articles (*Ann. Bot.*, 1914; *Proc. Linn. Soc.*, 1923). She had hoped to develop these researches further, but failing health and other circumstances prevented her from bringing her work to full fruition. On her breakdown in 1940, her slides, records, etc., were catalogued and placed in the Jodrell Laboratory, Kew. She was married to Mr. H. H. F. Hyndman, but his sudden death in 1934 brought to an untimely end a particularly happy union. The shock, though faced with characteristic courage, was undoubtedly one of the causes precipitating her final breakdown.

## NEWS and VIEWS

### British Non-Ferrous Metals Research Association : Retirement of Dr. Harold Moore, C.B.E.

DR. HAROLD MOORE, who will retire from the position of director of the British Non-Ferrous Metals Research Association on October 31, has occupied that position for the last twelve years. Dr. Moore is a native of Middlesbrough, and received his metallurgical training from the late Dr. J. E. Stead, taking a London degree. After two years in a Northamptonshire blast-furnace works he joined Messrs. Beardmore at their Parkhead works, where he was engaged on problems of armour-plate manufacture. In 1904 he became chief metallurgist in the Research Department, Woolwich, being given the title of Director of Metallurgical Research in 1919. Besides controlling a staff engaged in research on armaments, he did valuable work on the development and interpretation of the hardness test, and in collaboration with S. Beckinsale published an important investigation on the season cracking of brass, work which arose out of difficulties with cartridge cases, but was the starting point of a study which has been actively taken up by others.

Dr. Moore was awarded the C.B.E. in 1932, in which year he was appointed to succeed Dr. R. S. Hutton as director of the British Non-Ferrous Metals Research Association. During his tenure of the directorship the equipment and staff of the laboratories in Euston Street have grown considerably, and many investigations of great value to the non-ferrous metals industry have been carried out. Dr. Moore has from the beginning taken an active part in the work of the Institute of Metals, of which he was president during 1934-36. In 1943 he received the Platinum Medal of the Institute. He has also served on many councils and committees concerned with metallurgy. In all these capacities his personal qualities have contributed largely to the smooth working of research organizations.

### Royal Holloway College : Chair of Mathematics

THE chair of mathematics at the Royal Holloway College, vacant through the resignation of Prof. Bevan Baker, has been filled by the appointment of Prof. W. H. McCrea. Since 1936 Prof. McCrea has

been professor of mathematics at the Queen's University, Belfast, but for some time has been on leave in London on war service. Prof. McCrea had previously been an appointed teacher in the University of London, while holding an assistant professorship at the Imperial College during 1932-36, and during that time he took an active part in the scientific life of London, particularly in connexion with the Royal Astronomical Society. In addition to being an excellent teacher to university students over a wide range of mathematical ability and interest, his scope as a researcher is unusually extensive. He is specially distinguished for his researches in astrophysics, to which he has contributed many fertile ideas. His theory of the solar chromosphere, modifying an earlier theory by Prof. E. A. Milne which attributed the main support to selective radiation pressure, is generally accepted, and includes pioneer work that first showed the importance of turbulence for the structure of the sun's atmosphere. He also constructed a model of a stellar atmosphere based solely on physical as distinct from astronomical data, thereby initiating a method of investigation afterwards widely followed. Among his other astrophysical researches are a theory of the ejection of matter from 'new' stars (novæ), and a study of the drag of one gas on another through which it is streaming. Prof. McCrea has also shown marked originality in other fields, which include the quantum theory of specific heats and of quadrupole radiation, cosmological relativity theory, wave-tensor calculus, and differential and difference equations.

### New Chair of Geography at McGill University

MR. GEORGE H. T. KIMBLE has been appointed first professor of geography and head of the newly created Department of Geography in McGill University. Until the outbreak of the War, when he volunteered for the Naval Meteorological Service, Mr. Kimble was lecturer in geography in the University of Reading. He took his bachelor's and master's degrees at King's College, London, during 1927-31, where he studied under Prof. L. Rodwell Jones and the late Prof. A. P. Newton, and did his early work in historical geography. The results, so far published,