

laboratory research, both before and during the War, and covering such subjects as rheumatic fever, influenza and typhus.

#### British Council Office in China: Mr. C. M. G. Bolton

MR. C. M. G. BOLTON has left for China to join the staff of the British Council in Chungking as a geological specialist. Born in Plymouth in 1904, the son of the late Commander A. W. Bolton, R.N., from Berkhamsted School he went to Merton College, Oxford, and graduated in the Honours School of Natural Science in geology. He worked with the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company in Persia, and later was field geologist to the Finsbury Pavement House group of mining companies, working in the Gold Coast area, and was associated with oil-boring in Sussex. In 1940 he joined the R.A.F. and served in Iceland, where he studied the geology, and in 1942 was appointed to the Military Mission in Moscow. In 1944 he was seconded to a military unit to carry out researches on military geology. Mr. Bolton is a fellow of the Geological Society and an associate member of the Institute of Petroleum. As a practising field geologist, he has travelled widely—across Persia from the Persian Gulf to the Caspian Sea and beyond to Moscow, twice across the Sahara from West Africa to Algeria and Morocco, across Africa from West Africa to Kenya, and through the Sudan and the Levant.

#### Secretary of the American Chemical Society: Mr. A. H. Emery

MR. ALDEN HAYES EMERY has been elected secretary and business manager of the American Chemical Society. Mr. Emery, a former official of the United States Bureau of Mines, succeeds Dr. Charles L. Parsons, who retired on December 31 after serving the Society as secretary for thirty-eight years and as business manager for fourteen. Mr. Emery has been the Society's assistant manager since 1936 and assistant secretary since 1943. Born in Lancaster, N.H., on June 2, 1901, he graduated in 1922 from Oberlin College, where he specialized in chemistry, and obtained his master's degree from Ohio State University in 1923. Mr. Emery then joined the staff of the Bureau of Mines as a chemist at the Pittsburgh Experiment Station. In 1927 he went to Washington to take up administrative work in the Bureau. When he resigned in 1936 to become assistant manager of the American Chemical Society, he was assistant chief engineer of the Bureau's Experiment Stations Division. Mr. Emery was secretary of the American Chemical Society's Division of Gas and Fuel Chemistry during 1933-37, and was assistant editor of *Chemical Abstracts* in charge of its fuel section during 1931-39. He has also edited several sections of *Metallurgical Abstracts* dealing with the chemical aspects of metallurgy. As a member of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, he helped to establish the Institute's Industrial Minerals Division, of which he was secretary in 1938 and vice-chairman in 1939.

#### Meteorological Research in Australia

RESEARCH in Australia in the fields of meteorology and atmospheric physics has been receiving active attention recently. Present proposals envisage a subdivision of research between the Meteorological Bureau, the University of Melbourne, and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. The Meteorological

Bureau is concerned with applied meteorology and climatology for public, economic and defence interests, and is carrying out research on problems connected with its practical functions. During the War it has extended its studies to include intensive investigations in areas to the north of the Australian continent. The School of Meteorology at the University of Melbourne provides theoretical post-graduate training in meteorology, and is undertaking research into problems associated with aeronautical meteorology and other problems of a long-range nature referred to it by the Meteorological Bureau.

It is now proposed that the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research shall establish a Section of Meteorological Physics to concentrate on fundamental research into the physics of the atmosphere. The research work of the three organisations will be co-ordinated by a Meteorological Research Consultative Committee. As a first step, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research is appointing an officer to take charge of this new phase of its activities, and it hopes to develop in Australia a research laboratory devoted to meteorological physics.

#### Summer School in Social Biology

THE British Social Hygiene Council is holding a residential summer school in social biology, at Wadham College, Oxford, during August 1-15. The School is being planned to illustrate the scientific approach, through biology, to human life and culture, as well as the ways in which the biological sciences find application in individual and social life. It is designed to appeal to teachers in all types of schools, along with others concerned with education: youth leaders, nurses, welfare workers, people in administrative positions and members of the general public. The main course of lectures will deal with broad aspects of social biology of interest to specialists and laymen alike. The evening lectures will be given by distinguished visiting biologists and social workers, each speaking on work and problems in his own particular field. At the Sunday sessions a special feature will be the discussions on the relation of biological science to ethical and spiritual values.

At the first session each day members will be able to attend either an instructional course in elementary biology, to extend their basic knowledge, or talks and discussions dealing with present-day social and cultural aspects of biology. These alternative courses will be supplemented by tea-time sessions at which speakers will discuss class-room problems of teaching biology and the scope for the biological approach to certain social questions. A series of practical demonstrations, and of visits to scientific institutions, research departments and other places of interest, in and around Oxford, is being arranged. An introductory course in animal dissection will also be offered, if there is sufficient call for it. Social arrangements are also being made. For the whole Summer School, apart from dissections, the inclusive fee will be £14 14s. Further details can be obtained from the British Social Hygiene Council, Tavistock House North, London, W.C.1.

#### Summer School in Health Education

THE Central Council for Health Education will hold one residential summer school in England, this year, at Somerville College, Oxford, during August 14-28 inclusive. The directors of the school will be Miss D. E. M. Gardner, head of the Child Development Department, University of London Institute of Educa-

tion, and Dr. Robert Sutherland, medical adviser and secretary to the Council. The school is intended primarily for those who have to do with the training and care of children and young people—teachers, youth leaders, health visitors, school nurses, educational and medical administrators, training organisers, welfare superintendents, sanitary inspectors and students. The object of the school is to present the general content, methods and practice of health education. Mornings will be devoted to lectures in physiology, psychology, the biology of infection, sociology and health, as well as to lectures, demonstrations and discussions on the various methods and applications of health education. Evening lectures will deal with wider educational, psychological, social, philosophical, and spiritual aspects. There will be opportunity for discussion under experienced leaders, for viewing health films and acquiring technique in visual aids. The afternoons will be left free for optional visits, sports and physical recreation under expert leadership. Local authorities will be asked to consider the possibility of nominating students to attend the school. The inclusive fee will be £14 14s. Further details can be obtained from the Medical Adviser and Secretary, the Central Council for Health Education, Tavistock House, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

#### Root-infecting Fungi

A BRIEF review by S. D. Garrett of recent work upon several root-infecting fungi (*Endeavour*, 4, 15; July 1945) contains outlines of two new techniques for the prevention of fungal attacks in tropical countries. R. P. N. Napper's method for rubber plantations (which are started with a minimum of jungle clearance in this case) involves half-yearly inspection of the roots of the young trees by trained squads. The mycelium of any root-disease fungus which is found is traced back to its source, usually a jungle root, which is eradicated. Similarly, R. Leach found, in Nyasaland, that the root diseases of plantations arose from fungi developing in moribund roots of jungle stumps. If the jungle trees are ring-barked one year before felling, the roots are entered by saprophytic and not parasitic fungi. Mr. Garrett refers to the beneficial effect of the steam-sterilization of greenhouse soils even when root-infecting fungi are not a danger. He directs attention, also, to the important part such fungi have played in making unprofitable the monoculture of soil-exhausting crops such as wheat in Australia and cotton in the United States.

#### Old Scientific Books

DURING the last few years Herbert Reichner, of 34 East 62nd Street, New York, 21, has issued a number of catalogues offering for sale early and classic works on all branches of science and philosophy. Nos. 3-6 bear the following titles: Civilization through Five Centuries; French Science and Thought; Great Thinkers from Albertus Magnus to Albert Einstein; Literature, History, Art and Science. These catalogues are well printed, extensively annotated, and indexed; and each of the last three includes a useful list of reference works that have been consulted. Many important and uncommon works are listed, and the catalogues are full of interest for students of the history and early literature of science. They should afford collectors and librarians, if their purses are sufficiently well lined, a number of opportunities to fill gaps in their collections.

#### Royal Astronomical Society: Officers for 1946

THE following have been elected officers of the Royal Astronomical Society: *President*: Prof. H. H. Plaskett, Savilian professor of astronomy, University of Oxford. *Vice-Presidents*: the Rev. M. Davidson; Dr. H. R. Hulme, scientific adviser to the Air Ministry; Prof. E. A. Milne, Rouse Ball professor of mathematics, University of Oxford; Mr. J. H. Reynolds. *Treasurer*: Sir Harold Spencer Jones, Astronomer Royal. *Secretaries*: Prof. W. H. McCrea, professor of mathematics in the University of London (Royal Holloway College); Mr. D. H. Sadler, superintendent of the Nautical Almanac. *Foreign Secretary*: Prof. F. J. M. Stratton, professor of astrophysics, University of Cambridge. *Council*: Miss M. G. Adam, chief assistant (astronomy), University Observatory, Oxford; Mr. B. C. Browne, lecturer in geodesy, University of Cambridge; Dr. H. A. Brück, John Couch Adams astronomer, University of Cambridge; Mr. D. L. Edwards, director of the Norman Lockyer Observatory, Sidmouth; Dr. M. A. Ellison; Mr. F. J. Hargreaves; Dr. A. Hunter, assistant, Royal Observatory, Greenwich; Dr. E. M. Lindsay, director of the Armagh Observatory; Dr. E. H. Linfoot, lecturer in mathematics, University of Bristol; Mr. P. J. Melotte, assistant, Royal Observatory, Greenwich; Mr. F. J. Sellers; Dr. W. H. Steavenson.

#### Announcements

RECENT appointments at the University of Sheffield include the following: Dr. Charles Horrex to be lecturer in chemistry; Dr. Eric Hutchinson and Mr. Basil G. Skinner to be assistant lecturers in chemistry; Mr. J. H. Woodhead to be lecturer in metallurgy. The title of emeritus professor has been conferred upon Prof. W. E. S. Turner, who retired from the chair of glass technology on December 31.

DR. T. F. WEST, recently chief chemist to Stafford Allen & Sons, Ltd., is joining the board of the Hygienic Chemical Co., Ltd., as director in charge of scientific research and development.

THE following appointments have recently been made by the Colonial Office: J. B. Clegg, to be agricultural officer, Tanganyika; S. Hunter, to be agricultural officer, Nigeria; T. S. Jones, to be agricultural officer, Sierra Leone; A. Leslie, to be agricultural superintendent, Gold Coast; R. H. Montgomery, to be agricultural officer, Nigeria; R. T. Gray, to be assistant conservator of forests, Nigeria; K. Sargent, to be assistant conservator of forests, Kenya; D. I. Shirlaw, to be assistant conservator of forests, Nigeria; P. T. Preston, to be veterinary officer, Kenya; L. G. Cooper, to be assistant conservator of forests, Nigeria; A. C. Frith, to be assistant conservator of forests, Sierra Leone; J. D. Brown, principal agricultural officer, Nigeria, to be deputy director of agriculture, Nigeria; A. V. Gibberd, agricultural officer, Nigeria, to be senior agricultural officer, Nigeria; A. F. Posnette, botanist, West African Cocoa Research Institute, to be senior specialist, West African Cocoa Research Institute; S. D. Ross, agricultural officer, Nigeria, to be senior agricultural officer, Nigeria; F. S. Collier, deputy chief conservator of forests, Nigeria, to be chief conservator of forests, Nigeria; D. A. Bates, geologist, Gold Coast, to be senior geologist, Gold Coast.