

of policy, and its results applied in improving the standard of life both of the people in Great Britain and of the whole Commonwealth.

Science and Anglo-American Relations

THE Messel Memorial Lecture of the Society of Chemical Industry was delivered on July 12 by Dr. W. F. COHOE, president of the Society during 1943-44, and previously chairman in turn of the Canadian and the American Sections of the Society. Dr. Cohoe took as his subject "Science and Anglo-American Relations". Referring to the co-operation which existed during the War, he said that if Great Britain, Canada and the United States could work together for purposes of destruction, it should equally be possible for them to work together in the cause of world peace. The physical domination which they possess involves the responsibility for moral leadership, and Dr. Cohoe pointed out that we have yet to learn the lesson that in scientific findings there resides a centre or nucleus of preparedness which may be used for the preparation of peace. The scientific leadership and pre-eminence possessed by the English-speaking nations at the present time centre around the release and control of nuclear energy, but without belittling such achievements, Dr. Cohoe insisted that we should not overlook the scientific work which has been done for the preservation of the health of the human race. Furthermore, the benefits mankind has derived from scientific advance depend upon common understanding and co-operation between workers in pure science, in technology and in production.

Dr. Cohoe rests his hopes of permanent co-operation between the members of the Anglo-American family on three factors: friendly intercourse; a recognition of the value and use of the religious motive in human affairs; and a common interest in the affairs of everyday life. The use of the scientific method in matters of religion, he believes, will establish freedom from fear of the unknown, from superstition, from orgiastic emotion characteristic of paganism, and from the inhibitions of man-made dogma. Science, he thinks, will be a major factor in the establishment of an everyday common interest in business. But we must face three other problems in international business relations to which he referred briefly in conclusion: the gradual domination of the technological mind over the accounting habit and attitude, a trend which enhances the importance of the technologist being able to expound his ideas and plans clearly; the problem presented by the value of intellectual property, such as patents; and the probability that America, as a consequence of the exigencies of war finance, will become a capital-exporting country and will seek investment in the United Kingdom.

Prehistoric Archaeology at the University of Edinburgh: Mr. Stuart Piggott

MR. STUART PIGGOTT, who has been appointed to the chair of prehistoric archaeology in the University of Edinburgh in succession to Prof. V. Gordon Childe (see *Nature*, March 9, p. 293), is still appreciably under forty and is a notable instance of a man rising to academic eminence without having graduated at a university at the ordinary time of life. He is a native of Petersfield, Hants, where he studied the local archaeology keenly in boyhood; he then began his career as a museum assistant at the Reading Museum, where his work both in the museum and

as a field student of the antiquities of the Berkshire Downs attracted the attention of archaeologists; and he was appointed to the staff of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments in Wales. He specialized in the Neolithic archaeology of Britain, and in 1932 published what became the standard monograph on British pottery, in collaboration with Prof. Gordon Childe. He next went to the Morven Institute of Archaeological Research operated by Mr. Alexander Keiller, with its headquarters at Avebury; in addition to valuable work with Mr. Keiller, he also published further researches of his own, notably on the Early Bronze Age of Wessex and its relations with Brittany and Europe generally and with Mycenaean Greece, for he had by this time travelled in France, Greece and Scandinavia. After his marriage shortly before the War, he and his wife settled at Rockbourne near Salisbury and undertook excavations and surveys of the prehistoric antiquities of Cranborne Chase and other districts.

When war broke out, Piggott at once joined the Royal Artillery; when he obtained his commission he was seconded for duty with the R.A.F. Central Interpretation Unit at Medmenham, as experience in interpreting archaeological air photographs qualified him especially for this work. So successful was he that in 1942 he was transferred to India, where a similar interpretation unit was built up for the service of S.E.A.C. He remained in India until nearly the end of the War; and found time in intervals of duty to make an intensive study of the prehistoric archaeology of Northern and Central India and the districts of Baluchistan between the Indus valley and the Iran-Iraq areas of ancient civilization. Mr. Piggott is an excellent black and white draughtsman, and illustrates all his own work. He will take to Scotland a wide grasp of prehistoric archaeology in general and its place in the realm of humane and of scientific studies, as well as a keen eye for the problems of local field-work and excavation.

Civil Engineering at King's College, London: Prof. C. H. Lobban

PROF. C. H. LOBBAN, who is retiring, during the present summer, from the chair of civil engineering at King's College, London, took his degree at the University of Glasgow and had practical experience in the Glasgow area; he served as demonstrator for two years at that University, going on from there to a lectureship at the University of Manchester, and later to a professorship at Madras. For four years before the First World War he was in practice in Scotland as a civil engineer, and during the War served in France with the Royal Engineers. After serving as assistant controller of the Disposals Board, he joined King's College, London, in 1920. There he is remembered by many generations of engineering students as a keen and efficient engineering teacher, and, in particular, for the elegant solutions that he developed for problems in the field of structural theory. His research work into structural analysis by the deformer is widely recognized and he was awarded the D.Sc. of Glasgow in 1925 for a thesis on "Grillage and Reinforced Concrete Foundations". He has also carried out important consultative work. He was responsible for the structural design of various buildings, including Victoria House, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and University College, Nottingham. He served as the first technical

officer of the Steel Structures Research Committee of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

Mr. J. S. L. Gilmour

MR. J. S. L. GILMOUR, who has just been appointed director of the Royal Horticultural Society's gardens at Wisley, has been assistant director at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, since 1931, although during the War he was seconded to the Ministry of Fuel and Power. While at Kew he showed himself to be an able administrator, and his genuine and assiduous interest in the welfare of the student-gardeners will engender a feeling of personal loss beyond the circle of his immediate colleagues. It is a happy augury for the future of horticulture that the directorships of the Royal Gardens, Kew, and the gardens at Wisley should be thus held by men linked by ties of friendship and common interests. Changing economic conditions must inevitably bring about considerable re-orientation of the pursuits and interests of the fellows of the Royal Horticultural Society and thus influence the purpose and policy of their Gardens, so that our good wishes go out to Mr. Gilmour in his difficult but interesting task.

National Union of Teachers: New General Secretary

MR. RONALD GOULD has been appointed general secretary of the National Union of Teachers in succession to Sir Frederick Mander, who is to retire in 1947. Mr. Gould was president of the Union during 1943-44. He is at present headmaster of Welton Council School, Bath, and is a well-known figure in the teaching world. He was educated at Shepton Mallet Grammar School and received his professional training at Westminster College. After leaving college, he was appointed assistant master at Radstock Council School, and while in this area became president of the Radstock Association of the National Union of Teachers, a representative on the County Teachers' Association and Somerset's representative on the Lower Paid Areas' Association Council. He was elected as an executive member of the National Union of Teachers in 1937. He has been a member of the Burnham Committee on Teachers' Salaries since 1938.

Society for the Protection of Science and Learning

IN 1933, when the rise of the Nazi party rendered the position of men of science and other scholars extremely dangerous, the Academic Assistance Council was founded to help the refugees; later its title was changed to the Society for the Protection of Science and Learning. The recently published fifth annual report (issued from Westminster College, Cambridge) surveys the Society's activities for the years 1939-45. These years, being war years, have necessitated the limitation of the survey chiefly to an account of the academic refugees in Great Britain. Of the 2,541 individuals who were registered, only 601 are now in this country. The majority of those who have found employment abroad are in the United States. Some of these are in the special foundations of French and Polish exiled scholars, or on the staff of the School for Social Research in New York. Spanish exiles have found their way to Mexico, and the Central and South American countries have absorbed a large number of the refugees. Others have gone to the

British Dominions, some to Turkey, Palestine, Sweden and Switzerland. Of those in Great Britain, about 40 per cent are in universities and parallel institutions. Another group, about 36 per cent, are employed in some of the professions, industry and the Government service. Scholars of Allied nationality have returned or will return to their own countries if they are Dutch, Belgian, French or Scandinavian, but the Poles and some of the Czechs are in a difficult position. So far as numbers are concerned, the Germans and Austrians present special problems. Some with a good war record have been naturalized; these will presumably remain in Britain, but some definitely wish to return, and discussions are now taking place for the return of some of them to the British zone. The report emphasizes that the Society is not a welfare agency in the usual sense, but exists to make the work of refugee scientific workers and other scholars available, by maintaining them while other support is not forthcoming. It is expected that in a few years time the activities of the Society will be considerably curtailed, but in the meantime much work still remains to be done.

Fifty Years of Danish Marine Biology

THE interruption to research caused by the War has been utilized by Dr. Blegvad to produce a lavishly illustrated account, full of interesting personal details, of the first fifty years work of the Danish Biological Station (*Report Danish Biol. Stat.*, 45; 1940, published 1944). In 1899 a moored transport vessel was adapted for use as a laboratory under the direction of C. J. Johannes Petersen. A long series of papers published during thirty years shows how much marine biology owes to his energy, ability and originality. Early famous for his invention, still in use, of a method of marking living fish, his bottom-sampling grab led to a greatly extended knowledge of animal life of the sea-bottom and of the food available for marketable fish such as plaice. The laboratory has always been closely connected with the University of Copenhagen, while under the late A. C. Johansen and the present director there has developed a friendly and valuable collaboration with the fishermen, who have benefited financially from the experiments on transplantation of young plaice from the North Sea to richer feeding-grounds. Housed now in the beautiful Charlottenlund Castle, with a fine modern aquarium close by and a well-equipped research vessel and motor-boat available, the Station is well qualified to play again an active part in solving regional and international problems of aquatic biology.

Nuclear Energy and its Utilization

AN address delivered at Cordoba Observatory, Argentina, by E. Gaviolo, president of the Argentine Physical Association, points out that men of science are generally agreed that within five years every major industrial country that wishes will possess atomic bombs, that there is no defence against surprise atomic aggression and in any such warfare both combatants will suffer unparalleled destruction in a few days. Accordingly, the object should be to avoid war; and nations should surrender a part of their sovereignty to achieve security. Commenting that the scientific workers of the southern hemisphere are in a privileged position and unlikely to be a target, Dr. Gaviolo suggests that the fact that governments themselves will be exposed to attack