

to Kew. Bean retired in 1929, since when he lived in Kew within a stone's throw of his old office, spending a good deal of time in the Gardens and Herbarium, mostly at work. In his early days he found his recreation in cricket; later he played both lawn-tennis and golf.

Personally, I feel the loss of Mr. Bean very greatly. We were associated in one capacity or another for nearly forty years. For several years I was his subordinate in the Arboretum and succeeded him as foreman. I was then transferred to the museums where we had adjoining offices, he as assistant curator, I as an assistant in the museums. Later he became curator and I keeper of museums, positions which brought us into daily contact; and throughout the whole of the time we spent together never a disagreeable word passed between us. I last saw him in September 1946, when he was far from well. He had been a widower for many years and leaves one son and one daughter, to whom our sympathy is extended.

W. DALLIMORE

#### Prof. B. A. McSwiney, F.R.S.

MAY I please supplement the obituary notice in *Nature* of May 3 as follows: McSwiney, a Cork man, entered Trinity College, Dublin, in 1912, and I first met him when assigned to my section of a practical class for first-year medical students. He joined the

O.T.C. and in September 1915 was commissioned as a Surgeon Sub-Lieutenant R.N.V.R., and served in H.M.S. *Staunch*. He graduated in 1916 and afterwards completed his medical course and received the Sc.D. degree. In anatomy and physiology we were both grateful pupils of Prof. A. F. Dixon and Sir William Thompson. The latter was drowned when the *Leinster* was sunk in 1918. He was on his way back to his post as scientific adviser to the Ministry of Food in London. Thompson was a pioneer in the study of nutrition; he and his assistant, Dr. Caldwell, fed themselves on a rigid diet for weeks on end, performed all necessary analyses and then varied the diet and noted the changes—this asceticism on top of arduous teaching work.

W. R. G. ATKINS

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

M. Edouard Chatton, formerly professor of zoology in the University of Montpellier, *Correspondant* for the Section of Anatomy and Zoology of the Paris Academy of Sciences, on April 23.

Prof. P. L. R. Lespieau, titular member of the Section of Chemistry of the Paris Academy of Sciences, on April 21, aged eighty-two years.

Mr. G. H. Tipper, formerly of the Geological Survey of India, on April 23.

Commander H. D. Warburg, formerly superintendent of tides, Admiralty, on May 7, aged seventy-eight.

## NEWS and VIEWS

### Royal Society: New Foreign Members

#### Prof. P. Karrer

PAUL KARRER, professor of chemistry in the University of Zurich, is one of the world's leading organic chemists. A pupil of Ehrlich, his work, beginning on chemotherapeutic problems, has since ranged over a wide field of organic chemistry. In particular he has achieved outstanding success in the study of substances of biological importance, notably in the vitamin field, and his work has played a large part in the spectacular successes of organic chemistry during the last twenty years. Karrer's work on the carotenoid pigments and the structural elucidation of vitamin A has been the basis of our present knowledge of the group, and mention may also be made of his constitutional work on the structure and synthesis of vitamin B<sub>2</sub> (riboflavin) and the vitamins E. Notable contributions, too, have been made by him to the chemistry of plant colouring matters of the anthocyanin type, and to our knowledge of the nature and mode of action of various co-enzymes. His laboratories have for long been a centre of attraction for workers from many countries. The brilliance of his achievements was recognized in 1937 by the award of a Nobel Prize. In addition to furthering chemistry by his research, Karrer has made a notable contribution to teaching through his text-book of organic chemistry, which enjoys a world-wide reputation.

#### Prof. H. C. Urey

PROF. H. C. UREY is known internationally for his great contributions to physical chemistry, and for his human approach to the problems of the social implica-

tions of science. His discovery of deuterium (heavy hydrogen) in water was recognized by the award of a Nobel Prize; but most important of all, this work established his interest in the problem of isotope separation. His development of chemical exchange, distillation and other methods of separation of isotopes has enabled American firms to market such materials as N<sup>15</sup> as commercial commodities. Urey was one of the first in the United States to recognize that atomic weapons could be made, and his influence was crucial in the early history of the American project. He was identified closely with development at Columbia University of the diffusion process for separation of the uranium isotopes, and he visited Great Britain in this connexion at the height of the War. The menace to civilization presented by the discovery of atomic explosives was a challenge to Urey's social conscience, and after the War he devoted himself wholeheartedly to the public dissemination of information designed to impress the problem on the people of America and the rest of the world. Since the War ended, Urey has joined the new Institute which has been established in the University of Chicago to carry out academic researches in nuclear physics.

#### Prof. Øjvind Winge

PROF. ØJVIND WINGE has a record of extraordinary versatility and success in genetics and cytogenetics. In his early work with the fish *Lebistes reticulatus* he established the partial sex-linkage of a large group of genes determining the male polymorphism of the species. This was the first demonstration of the genetic activity of the pairing segment of the sex chromosome. Later he established genetic

sex-determination in plants, and elucidated the nature of polyploidy. One remarkable success based on keen observation and appropriate experimentation was to demonstrate the balanced lethal situation established in the 'ever-sporting Stocks'. He has contributed much to the clarification of linkage groups in *Pisum*, and his recent work proving sexual reproduction in the yeasts is of fundamental importance for the genetics of micro-organisms.

#### James Alfred Ewing Medal Awarded to Sir Clifford Paterson, O.B.E., F.R.S.

ON the joint recommendation of the presidents of the Royal Society and the Institution of Civil Engineers, the Council of the Institution of Civil Engineers has awarded the James Alfred Ewing Medal for 1946 to Sir Clifford Paterson, for specially meritorious contributions to the science of engineering in the field of research. The medal is awarded annually and was founded in 1936 in memory of Sir Alfred Ewing. Sir Clifford Paterson is in charge of the Research Laboratory of the General Electric Co., Ltd., Wembley, Middlesex. His contributions to the science of engineering in the field of research have extended over forty-five years. His work has been particularly outstanding in the development of new sources of illumination, in the study of their use and in their precision measurement. This work was carried out at the National Physical Laboratory until 1919 and later continued after he had joined the General Electric Co. More recently he has co-ordinated the work of numerous teams in connexion with outstanding developments in the use of high radio frequencies, thus making possible many of the vital new weapons of defence and offence. The production of special devices and particularly of new valves in quantity, at many stages of the War, kept our Services ahead of those of the enemy.

#### Royal Aeronautical Society Awards

THE following medals have been awarded by the Council of the Royal Aeronautical Society:

*Simms Gold Medal*: awarded annually for the best paper read in any year before the Society on any science allied to aeronautics, such as meteorology, wireless telegraphy, instruments, to Prof. L. Aitchison, professor of industrial metallurgy, University of Birmingham;

*George Taylor (of Australia) Gold Medal*: awarded annually, at the discretion of the Council, for the most valuable paper submitted or read during the previous session, to Prof. A. R. Collar, Sir George White professor of aeronautical engineering, University of Bristol;

*Wakefield Gold Medal*: awarded annually to a member or non-member, to the designer of any invention or apparatus tending towards safety in flying, to Mr. Edwin Link, inventor of the 'Link trainer';

*Society's Silver Medal*: awarded, at the discretion of the Council, for an advance in aeronautical design, to Mr. W. G. Garter, chief designer, Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., for his work on the development and design of jet-propelled aircraft.

*R.38 Memorial Prize*: offered annually for the best paper received by the Society on some subject of a technical nature in the science of aeronautics, preference being given to papers which relate to airships, to Mr. J. K. Hardy, of the Royal Aircraft Establishment;

*Edward Busk Memorial Prize*: offered annually for the best paper received by the Society on some subject of a technical nature in connexion with aeroplanes (including seaplanes), to Mr. J. Smith, chief designer, Vickers Armstrongs, Ltd., Supermarine Works.

#### University of Glasgow: Freshwater Biological Laboratory and Insect Field Station

IMPORTANT additions to the facilities available at the University of Glasgow for research and teaching in the field have recently been made available by the erection of two former Government huts on the shores of Loch Lomond, on a site kindly provided by Sir Iain Colquhoun, Bt., of Luss, and only some twenty miles distant from the University. The freshwater work is under the care of Dr. H. D. Slack, lecturer in freshwater biology, who has charge of one hut together with a motor-boat and dinghy. For the first time, continuous investigations can be carried out on the biology of freshwaters in Scotland, and the great size and exceptional depth of Loch Lomond render it an admirable site for such work. A generous gift of money by Sir Harold Bowden, Bt., for entomological research over a period of seven years, with particular reference to the biology of midges, is responsible for the erection and equipment of the second hut, and for the appointment of two research assistants who work under the direction of Mr. J. A. Downes, lecturer in entomology. The money is being shared with the Department of Natural History, University College, Dundee (University of St. Andrews), where the biology of *Monomorium* together with certain aspects of the midge problem are being studied by Prof. A. D. Peacock and assistants. This opportunity of co-operation between two Universities is particularly appreciated. The work of both centres is being co-ordinated with that of the Committee on the Control of Midges appointed by the Department of Health for Scotland. The Insect Field Station is also being used as a centre for the teaching of insect ecology. The University of Glasgow is thus in the fortunate position of being able to conduct field classes in freshwater biology and in insect ecology at Loch Lomond, and also to avail itself of the rapidly increasing facilities for marine biology available at the Millport Laboratory of the Scottish Marine Biological Association on the Clyde.

#### Further Education

IT is the custom to greet a new magazine by asserting, often with more courtesy than truth, that it will fulfil a long-felt need. No such formula need apply to *Further Education*, published by the Turnstile Press, 10 Great Turnstile, London, W.C.1 (1s. 6d. monthly). The field which it covers is only beginning to be opened up, for a recognition of the need for further education too seldom troubled the education administrators of the last generation. The War did much to disclose the need and (what was more unexpected) did something to give it satisfaction. Many thousands of men and women in the Forces made their first acquaintance with 'serious pleasures', and have returned to civil life seeking the extension of that experience. The Education Act of 1944 envisaged a wide post-war enlargement of educational activity, and in its recent pamphlet, "Further Education", the Ministry set forth for the benefit of local education authorities many ideas and projects worthy of experiment and