

NEWS and VIEWS

Theoretical Physics at Manchester: Prof. L. Rosenfeld

DR. LEON ROSENFELD has now taken up the position, to which he was recently appointed, of professor of theoretical physics in the University of Manchester in succession to Prof. D. R. Hartree. Prof. Rosenfeld was born in 1904 in Liège, graduating there in 1926. He then spent a year in Paris at the *École Normale Supérieure*, during which he worked with Prof. Louis de Broglie. His first published work, on five-dimensional relativity, appeared about this time. In 1927 he went as assistant to Prof. Max Born in Göttingen, and while there worked on problems of optical activity and the Faraday effect; then to Zurich with Prof. Pauli, where he studied quantum electrodynamics. In 1931 he became a teacher in the School of Electrical Engineering at Liège. From 1930 until 1940 he worked in very close collaboration with Prof. Niels Bohr, spending a considerable part of each year in Copenhagen. In 1935 he was elected to the chair of theoretical physics at Liège, and in 1940 moved to a similar chair at Utrecht in Holland. Prof. Rosenfeld is one of the leading theoretical physicists of to-day and is distinguished not only for his great original contributions to the most difficult and deep parts of modern quantum mechanics and nuclear structure, but also for his wide knowledge and scholarship. He is now completing a book on the quantum theory of nuclear forces which should prove valuable to all theoretical workers on nuclear structure. In his new position in Manchester he will add greatly to the strength of theoretical physics in England. He will be in very close touch with the experimental researches being carried out in the laboratory of Prof. P. M. S. Blackett.

Case Institute of Technology: Dr. T. K. Glennan

DR. T. KEITH GLENNAN, now an executive of the Anso Division of General Aniline & Film Corporation, Binghamton, New York, and war-time director of the U.S. Navy Underwater Sound Laboratory, has been appointed president of the Case Institute of Technology. Dr. Glennan will be the first business executive to head the Cleveland engineering school, which has had but three presidents since its establishment sixty-seven years ago as the Case School of Applied Science and which adopted its new name on July 1. He succeeds Dr. William E. Wickenden, who retires on September 1, after eighteen years of service.

Dr. Glennan received the Medal for Merit, the highest civilian award which the U.S. Government can bestow, for his work during 1942-45 at the U.S. Navy Underwater Sound Laboratory, which was operated by Columbia University at New London, Conn., for the Office of Scientific Research and Development, headed by Dr. Vannevar Bush. As director of this laboratory he guided the development of various submarine detection and location devices. One of these, the expendable radio sono-buoy, is described in James Phinney Baxter's Pulitzer prize volume, "Scientists Against Time", as "one of the outstanding developments of the war". This device led to the destruction of a large number of German submarines and played an important part in the Battle of the Atlantic.

Electrical Engineering in the University of Alberta: Prof. J. A. Harle

MR. J. A. HARLE, head of the Technical and Research Department of Messrs. A. Reyrolle & Co., Ltd., has been appointed professor of electrical engineering in the University of Alberta at Edmonton, Canada, and is sailing early in August to take up his appointment on September 1. He served his time with Messrs. C. A. Parsons and Co., Ltd., and studied at Armstrong (now King's) College under the late Prof. W. M. Thornton, graduating with distinction in 1919. He was appointed lecturer in electrical engineering at Armstrong College in the same year. In 1922 the late Mr. Clothier invited him to join the Technical and Research Department of Messrs. A. Reyrolle & Co., Ltd., and he took over the headship of the Department in 1937, when he succeeded Mr. B. H. Leeson. Mr. Harle served as chairman of the North-Eastern Centre of the Institution of Electrical Engineers during the session 1944-45, and he has been the Institution's area member for the Education and Training Advisory Service for returned Service members. He is particularly interested in insulation and circuit-breaking problems, both from the research and from the standardization point of view.

Genetical Society of Great Britain: Honorary Members

AT the annual general meeting of the Genetical Society of Great Britain, held at Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, on July 3, the following were elected honorary members of the Society: Prof. Herman Joseph Muller, Department of Zoology, Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind., who has played a leading part in the analysis of the genetics of *Drosophila*, and is known especially for work on the induction of mutation by X-rays, which he initiated and developed; Prof. Otto Renner, Department of Botany, University, Jena, known for his analysis of the genetics of *Oenothera*, by which he solved a problem which had exercised evolutionists for twenty-five years, and also for his outstanding work on the autonomy of plastids; Prof. Øjvind Winge, Carlsberg Laboratory, Copenhagen, distinguished for his studies on the sex chromosomes, especially of fish and of flowering plants, by which he successfully demonstrated the evolution of the XX-, XY-chromosome mechanism, also for his distinguished researches on the genetics of wheat and of the ever-sporting stock (*Matthiola*).

International Union of Crystallography

AT an international conference of crystallographers held in London in July 1946 under the auspices of the X-ray Analysis Group of the Institute of Physics (*Nature*, 158, 260 (1946); *J. Sci. Instr.*, 24, 1 (1947)) a committee was appointed to prepare a permanent international organisation of crystallographers. This task has now been achieved, and an International Union of Crystallography has been formed and recognized by the International Council of Scientific Unions. In the countries adhering to the Union, national crystallographic committees will be set up. Among the purposes of the new Union listed in the statutes are the promotion of international co-operation and publication, and the representation of crystallography

in its relations to other sciences. The first full constitutive general assembly may be delayed for a year or two, until a full-scale international gathering becomes desirable after the meeting in 1946; but the committee charged with preparing the formation of the Union has been authorized to carry on meanwhile as the executive committee. The acting general secretary is Dr. R. C. Evans, Crystallographic Laboratory, Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, England, to whom all correspondence should be directed.

Acta Crystallographica

THE most urgent task confronting the new Union of Crystallography is the re-establishment of an international journal for publishing crystallographic research. Thanks to generous financial support from the United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation and from many research associations and industrial organisations in Britain, preparations are now well advanced for the launching in January 1948 of *Acta Crystallographica*, a journal to appear in six issues a year under the editorship of Prof. P. P. Ewald (Queen's University, Belfast, Northern Ireland), with Dr. R. C. Evans (Crystallographic Laboratory, Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, England), Prof. I. Fankuchen (Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, 99 Livingston Street, Brooklyn 2, N.Y., U.S.A.), Prof. A. V. Shubnikov (c/o Academy of Sciences, Moscow, U.S.S.R.) and Prof. J. Wyart (Laboratoire de Minéralogie, La Sorbonne, 1 rue Victor-Cousin, Paris V, France) as regional co-editors. The Cambridge University Press will be the publishers and general distributors; but by arrangement of the American Institute of Physics it will be possible for subscribers in North America to pay their subscription through that Institute. Authors wishing to submit papers in English, French, German or Russian are asked to send them to Dr. Evans or Prof. Fankuchen, Prof. Wyart, Prof. Ewald, and Prof. Shubnikov, respectively, according to the language used.

Council for the Promotion of Field Studies

THE Council for the Promotion of Field Studies announces that it has gratefully accepted the generous offer of the Court of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths to provide the sum of £6,000 for the establishment of a residential field study and research centre at Malham Tarn House, near Settle, Yorkshire. It is desired that the gift should be associated in name with the Goldsmiths' Company, and that a portion of it should be used to set up a rock and water garden for plants in their natural setting. Last year this property of 457 acres, including the tarn and tarn moss, came into possession of the National Trust, which offered to lease it to the Council. Malham Tarn House is situated in a district of great geological, ecological and archaeological interest, and for certain branches of study the position of this field centre will be unique in the British Isles.

The Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, through the generosity of which the Council was enabled to open its pioneer field centre at Flatford Mill in 1946, has recently made a further grant of £5,000 to complete the establishment of that centre. Further centres are being established at Juniper Hall, near Box Hill, Surrey, and at Dale Fort, on the Pembroke-shire coast.

Prof. A. G. Tansley has accepted the office of president of the Council, and the executive committee has made the following appointments: Director and

Secretary: F. H. C. Butler, Ravensmead, Keston, Kent; Warden of Flatford Mill Field Centre: E. A. R. Ennion; Warden of Juniper Hall Field Centre: G. E. Hutchings; Assistant Wardens: J. H. Barrett, E. J. Douglas, J. H. P. Sankey. A central office for the Council will be opened shortly in South Kensington.

Bradford Technical College

THE application of the Bradford City Council to the University Grants Committee for the recognition of Bradford Technical College as a university college ranking for a Treasury grant has been refused. In communicating this decision, the University Grants Committee has stated that it considers the application of the term 'university college' to an institution primarily or exclusively technological in scope to be inappropriate and confusing; the distinction is not one of rank or status, but of kind. The Committee also pointed out that financial support for a college of which the primary function is technology is a matter for the Ministry of Education and not for the University Grants Committee. Following consideration of the report of the University Grants Committee at a meeting on June 18, Bradford Further Education Sub-Committee decided to seek an interview with both the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Minister of Education to investigate further the possibilities of securing for the College university status.

"A Century of British Chemistry"

WE have received "A Century of British Chemistry", by Dr. F. Sherwood Taylor, published for the British Council by Longmans, Green and Co., Ltd. (1s. 6d. net). This is intended to mark the centenary celebrations of the Chemical Society, which were due in 1941 but were postponed on account of the War (see *Nature* of July 5, p. 6). The booklet deals with the contributions of British men of science to various branches of chemistry during the century in which the Society has been in existence; but as no historically sound document could be produced on such lines alone, account has also been taken in some places of the contributions of other nations in initiating or extending chemical knowledge. The booklet includes plates of portraits and illustrations of apparatus of historical interest. There is an index.

History of Chemistry

THE University of Pennsylvania Press is initiating an annual publication on the history of chemistry, entitled *Chymia*. A volume will consist of about a dozen articles, each of about 4,000–5,000 words, contributed by outstanding scholars from all over the world. The publication is sponsored by the Edgar F. Smith Memorial Collection at the University of Pennsylvania, a well-known collection of rare books, manuscripts, prints, and other items of interest in the development of chemistry. Publication will be under the direction of a board of American editors with a group of consulting editors, all of international prominence. The first number is ready for the press and will probably be issued this autumn. The Oxford University Press will publish *Chymia* in Great Britain. Requests for further information should be addressed to Eva V. Armstrong, secretary of the Board of Editors, Edgar F. Smith Collection, Harrison Laboratory, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia 4.