NEWS and VIEWS

New Year Honours List

THE following names of men of science and others associated with scientific work appear in the New Year Honours List:

Baron: Sir John Boyd Orr, lately director-general of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations.

Privy Councillor: Lord Hailey, chairman of the Colonial Research Committee, for services to the Colonial Empire.

G.C.B.: Sir Henry Tizard, chairman of the Defence Research Policy Committee, Ministry of Defence.

G.B.E.: Sir Wilson Jameson, chief medical officer, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education.

D.B.E.: Miss Myra Curtis, principal of Newnham College, Cambridge, and lately chairman of the committee on children deprived of a normal home life.

Knights: Prof. J. D. Beazley, professor of classical archæology, University of Oxford; Prof. H. Cohen, professor of medicine, University of Liverpool; A. J. Gill, assistant director-general (engineering), and engineer-in-chief since 1947, of the General Post Office; Dr. H. L. Guy, chairman of the Mechanical Engineering Research Organisation, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research; Dr. W. G. Ogg, director of Rothamsted Experimental Station; Dr. R. E. Priestley, vice-chancellor of the University of Birmingham; Dr. J. L. Simonsen, director of research, Colonial Products Research Committee; Prof. S. A. Smith, dean of the Faculty of Medicine and regius professor of forensic medicine, University of Edinburgh; W. L. Taylor, lately director-general of the Forestry Commission; Capt. F. O'B. Wilson, chairman of the Board of Agriculture, Kenya.

C.B.: Air Commodore A. H. Robson, director of educational services, Air Ministry.

C.M.G.: V. Boyle, superintending inspector, Animal Health Division, Ministry of Agriculture; Brigadier M. Hotine, director of Colonial Surveys, and adviser on surveys to the Secretary of State for the Colonies; Dr. J. M. Stewart, formerly vice-chancellor of the University of Adelaide.

C.B.E.: B. C. Aston, of Wellington, New Zealand, for services to agriculture and botany; O. V. S. Bulleid, chief mechanical engineer, Southern Region, Railway Executive; Prof. J. B. Cleland, formerly professor of pathology, University of Adelaide; F. S. Collier, chief conservator of forests, Nigeria; Colonel W. C. Devereux, managing director of Aluminium, Ltd., and chairman of International Alloys, Ltd.; I. G. Evans, assistant secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research; Dr. J. Hammond, reader in agricultural physiology, University of Cambridge; J. McDonald, director of agriculture, Cyprus; Prof. F. H. Newman, professor of physics, University College of the South-West of England, and chairman of Exeter Joint Recruiting Board; Miss M. H. Read, head of the Colonial Department, Institute of Education, University of London; Lieut.-Colonel W. Campbell Smith, deputy chief scientific officer and keeper of mineralogy in the British Museum (Natural History); Dr. O. J. Voelcker, director of the West African Cacao Research Institute; Prof. W. Wardlaw, professor of physical chemistry, University of London (Birkbeck College), scientific adviser, Appointments Department, Ministry of Labour; R. T. B. Wynn, assistant chief engineer, B.B.C.

Sir C. V. Raman, F.R.S.

SIR C. V. RAMAN has been appointed the first National Research Professor in India; he has just retired from his professorship at the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore. It is expected that he will take up his new duties immediately and will work at the newly founded Research Institute under the auspices of the Indian Academy of Sciences at Bangalore. This appointment is the first of its kind in India. Sir C. V. Raman is known particularly for his work on the molecular scattering of light, whereby the frequency of incident radiation is changed by an amount characteristic of the scattering compound. This had been predicted on theoretical grounds, but it was first observed by Raman and is generally known as the 'Raman effect'. It has proved of great interest and importance in studying the theory of the structure of chemical compounds. Among the many honours received by Sir C. V. Raman are the Nobel Prize for Physics (1930), Hughes Medal of the Royal Society (1930), and the Franklin Medal of the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia (1942).

Progress Medal of the Photographic Society of America: Dr. C. E. K. Mees, F.R.S.

THE first presentation of the Progress Medal of the Photographic Society of America was made, during the Society's 1948 Convention held in Cincinnati, to Dr. C. E. Kenneth Mees, vice-president in charge of research of the Eastman Kodak Company, in recognition of his contributions to photography—technical, literary and inspirational. Dr. Mees delivered the Society's first Progress Medal Lecture, dealing with the work of the Kodak Research Laboratories. Emphasizing the spirit of freedom in the Laboratories, he said: "When the scientist selects a field of work, he is left free to exploit it as he sees fit. No attempt is made to anticipate scientific discoveries that may be made, or to regulate or organise the direction which the work may take." He traced the growth and achievements of the Laboratories, mentioning studies from 1920 onward of the physical chemistry of gelatin and the crystalline structure of the silver halides, important to photographic emulsions. He described the discovery in 1925 of the sensitizing action of gelatin for silver bromide. The chemistry of development, sensitometry, the psychophysics involved in viewing photographs, and granularity and graininess of photo materials were among the topics discussed. The largest single division of the Laboratories, he said, is that devoted to the making of photographic emulsions, both for film and paper. The emulsion laboratories have also done important work on optical sensitizing dyes, which brought rapid changes in photographic materials between 1925 and 1935.

Agricultural Advisers to United Kingdom High Commissioners in Australia and New Zealand

THE Agricultural Departments and the Commonwealth Relations Office announce the appointment of Mr. C. W. Strutt and Mr. D. S. Hendrie to be agricultural advisers to the United Kingdom High Commissioners in Australia and New Zealand, respectively. These are new appointments, although a similar post has existed in Canada for some time.

Mr. C. W. Strutt, who was born in 1902, was brought up on his father's mixed farm in Sussex. He studied at the South Eastern Agricultural College,

Wye, and after graduation he remained at the College for a year as a lecturer in agricultural chemistry, before going as head of the Advisory Department at Messrs. Fostock, Ltd., Welwyn Garden City. Later he became superintendent and technical adviser to Messrs. R. Silcock and Sons, Ltd., and from September 1945 was attached to the Animal Nutrition Institute, Cambridge. He was appointed to the staff of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in 1946, as a livestock husbandry advisory officer of the National Agricultural Advisory Service. He was lent to the Ministry of Food to take part in the recent Government food mission to Australia under the chairmanship of Sir Henry Turner.

Mr. D. S. Hendrie is thirty-nine years of age. He studied at the University of Glasgow and West of Scotland Agricultural College, and later at the School of Agriculture, Cambridge, and Ontario Agricultural College. During 1932–36 he was an assistant lecturer and assistant farm manager to the West of Scotland Agricultural College, and in 1936 became district lecturer to the University of Leeds. In 1940 he was seconded to the Yorkshire (North Riding) War Agricultural Executive Committee as executive officer. He was appointed to the staff of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in 1946, being made county agricultural officer for the North Riding.

Central Committee for Adult Education in H.M. Forces

Mr. E. C. Read, senior lecturer in education, University College, Hull, has been appointed secretary to the Central Committee for Adult Education in H.M. Forces, the body representing the universities, local authorities, and voluntary organisations which succeeds the Central Advisory Council. Dr. Basil A. Yeaxlee and Miss M. E. Holloway, who served the Council from its inception in January 1940 until its transformation last June into the Central Committee, will continue as acting secretary and deputy secretary respectively until Mr. Read takes office on April 1. Prof. Robert Peers, deputy vice-chancellor of the University of Nottingham and professor of adult education, is chairman of the Central Committee, succeeding Sir Walter Moberly, who was chairman of the Central Advisory Council.

A statement made in the House of Commons on December 17 by the Minister of Defence spoke of the great value attached by the Government to the co-operation of the civilian educational bodies with the Services during and since the War, and of the Government's satisfaction that this has now been put on a permanent basis. Fourteen universities and university colleges have consented to establish in their areas representative committees replacing the old *ad hoc* regional committees, and in the remaining areas the universities will continue, without special organisation for the purpose, to secure for the Services such assistance as may be requested. The universities have, of course, made it a condition that they shall not be directly responsible for the work of less than university extra-mural standard and that the administrative and educational cost shall be defrayed from Government sources. A large proportion of the work will be appropriate to local education authorities and voluntary bodies such as the Workers' Education Association and the Y.M.C.A., but this will all form part of the annual programme agreed upon with the Services in the area and co-ordinated and financed through the university committees.

Eels and their Environment

In 1937 Dr. G. D. Athanassopoulos, professor of zoology in the University of Thessaloniki (Greece), reported that elvers and very young eels kept for a few days, or at times for only a few hours, in the tanks of fish culture stations in Italy, developed small blisters in their head regions (*Internat. Rev. Ges. Hydrobiologie und Hydrographie*, **36**, 218; 1937). Later he observed the same kind of blisters on elvers and very young eels in Greece. At first he believed this blistering to be caused by the water in the tanks becoming too warm, and attempted to prevent its occurrence by improving the flow of running water to the tanks in which the eels were kept. To his surprise, however, this treatment notably increased the incidence of blisters which, on examination, were found to contain atmospheric air. Further investigation revealed that the causative factor was excessive aeration of the water. The vesicles arise chiefly on the head, but occur also on other external surfaces of the body and even internally. They soon become centres of infection by bacteria and protozoa.

Satellites of Uranus

W. H. Steavenson has given the results of his observations of the four chief satellites of Uranus (*Mon. Not. Roy. Ast. Soc.*, **108**, No. 2; 1948) and has arrived at some interesting conclusions. Using his 30-inch reflector between January 9, 1947, and April 8, 1948, his observations of the position-angles of Umbriel, Titania and Oberon showed that there were no appreciable errors in their computed longitudes, so that the assumed periods of these three satellites are correct, or if there are discrepancies they must be very small. In the case of Ariel, the discrepancy between theory and observation of the hour-angle indicated that a correction of + 6·1° to the computed longitude was necessary. The epoch of Newcomb's orbit is 1872·0, from which it is deduced that the old period should be decreased by 0·34 sec. —a small error considering the shortness of the time between the discovery of the satellite and Newcomb's computation of its orbit. The period of Ariel, applying Steavenson's correction, is now 2·5203796 days. Revised magnitudes of the satellites are given, and the following magnitudes, which are not based on photometric measures but on Steavenson's familiarity with the North Polar Sequence and the fields of numerous variable stars, are closer to the truth than those usually given: Oberon, 13·8; Titania, 13·7; Umbriel, 14·5; Ariel, 13·7. The satellites are brighter than has been generally assumed by 0·2, 0·3, 1·5 to 2·5, and 2·7 magnitudes, respectively. In the case of Titania and Oberon, Steavenson found decided changes in magnitude from night to night during his observations, and the variations seem to indicate that the axis of rotation of one or both of the satellites makes a large angle with the normal to the orbit-plane and may even lie in or at least close to that plane.

India Society of Engineers

In July the *Journal of the India Society of Engineers*, first published in 1935, appeared under the new title *Science and Engineering*; its content, which has always consisted almost exclusively of descriptive comment on the Indian industrial outlook and events, remains unchanged. The altered name is intended to signify a break with the past and to symbolize the fact that India is now controlled by