

## NEWS and VIEWS

## King's Birthday Honours

THE following names of men of science and others associated with scientific work appear in the King's Birthday honours list:

*K.C.B.*: Dr. Thomas D. Kendrick, director and principal librarian, British Museum; Sir Edwin Plowden, chief planning officer, H.M. Treasury.

*K.C.M.G.*: Mr. Geoffrey F. Clay, agricultural adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

*K.B.E.*: Mr. Hamish D. MacLaren, director of electrical engineering, Admiralty; Dr. William K. Slater, secretary, Agricultural Research Council.

*D.B.E.*: Prof. Hilda N. Lloyd, president of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists; Prof. Lillian M. Penson, vice-chancellor of the University of London.

*Knights*: Mr. Roger Duncalfe, chairman of the British Standards Institution; Prof. Charles A. Lovatt Evans, emeritus professor of physiology, University of London; Dr. Ernest F. Finch, for services to surgery and medical education; Prof. John W. McNee, regius professor of medicine, University of Glasgow; Prof. Eric K. Rideal, professor of chemistry, King's College, London, president of the Chemical Society; Dr. Henry W. H. Warren, managing director, Associated Electrical Industries, Ltd.

*C.B.*: Mr. T. E. Harris, chief superintendent, Royal Ordnance Factory, Woolwich; Dr. W. Thomas, chief inspector for Wales, Ministry of Education; Mr. H. E. Watts, H.M. chief inspector of explosives, Home Office.

*C.M.G.*: Mr. H. A. Gill, chartered patent agent, for services at international conferences on industrial property; Dr. J. W. Field, director of the Institute for Medical Research, Federation of Malaya.

*C.B.E.*: Dr. W. R. G. Atkins, head of the Department of General Physiology, Plymouth Laboratory, Marine Biological Association; Mr. H. R. Blanford, editor-secretary, Empire Forestry Association; Mr. H. Bradley, director of research, British Boot, Shoe and Allied Trades Research Association; Mr. W. K. Brasher, secretary, Institution of Electrical Engineers; Mr. A. Campbell, chief mechanical engineer, Office of the Crown Agents for the Colonies; Mr. H. T. Chapman, managing director, Armstrong-Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Mr. W. H. Chatten, assistant director of dockyards, Admiralty; Prof. G. M. B. Dobson, reader in meteorology, University of Oxford; Mr. A. N. East, chief engineering inspector, Ministry of Fuel and Power; Mr. L. R. East, chairman of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, State of Victoria; Mr. E. I. Fawcett, director-general of agriculture, Department of Agriculture, New Zealand; Mr. G. W. H. Gardner, director of guided weapons research and development, Ministry of Supply; Mr. F. Y. Henderson, director, Forest Products Research Laboratory, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research; Mr. H. A. Hepburn, deputy chief inspector of factories, Ministry of Labour and National Service; Dr. A. B. Hill, consultant in medical statistics to the Royal Air Force; Mr. L. Howles, chairman, South Wales Electricity Board; Mr. A. H. Megaw, director of antiquities, Cyprus; Prof. J. S. Mitchell, professor of radiotherapeutics, University of Cambridge; Mr. W. E. W. Petter, deputy managing director, Folland Aircraft, Ltd., Hamble, Hampshire; Prof. B. E.

Murphy, professor of economics, Victoria University College, New Zealand; Mr. O. J. Sangar, director of forestry for England, Forestry Commission; Mr. A. G. Strickland, chief horticulturist, Department of Agriculture, State of South Australia; Prof. J. M. Webster, director, West Midland Forensic Science Laboratory, Birmingham.

## Research Laboratories of The General Electric Co., Ltd.: Mr. O. W. Humphreys

MR. O. W. HUMPHREYS, who has recently been appointed director of the Research Laboratories of The General Electric Co., Ltd., was born in 1902 and educated at Caterham School and University College, London. He graduated with honours in physics in 1925, and joined the scientific staff of the Research Laboratories of The General Electric Co., Ltd., in July of that year. Two years later, Mr. Humphreys was put in charge of the Heat Group; here he was responsible for research and development work associated with all forms of industrial and domestic heating, as well as their applications. During the Second World War, Mr. Humphreys was concerned with such specialized problems as the heating of guns on warships to fit them for Arctic service. He also studied the unique space-heating problems that arose in connexion with the installations of 'Fido' for fog dispersal on aerodromes. It was also during the war period that the late Sir Clifford Paterson (then director of the Laboratories) arranged for Mr. Humphreys to be closely associated with him in the administration of the Laboratories, in addition to his research activities. At this time the Laboratories, under the leadership of their founder director, were rapidly expanding to more than double their pre-war strength. Following the death of Sir Clifford in 1948, Mr. Humphreys was appointed manager of the Laboratories in February 1949. Under his leadership, the expansion of the research activities of The General Electric Co. has continued. The shortage of space in the main Laboratories has made necessary the opening of other establishments, two more in the Wembley area, in addition to the laboratories operated by the Company at Stanmore. The total staff now numbers more than two thousand and the annual expenditure exceeds £1½ millions per annum. Mr. Humphreys's many other activities include membership of the Councils of the British Electrical and Allied Industries Research Association and of the British Non-Ferrous Metals Research Association. He is on the Board of the Institute of Physics, a member of the Utilization Section Committee of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, and a manager of the Royal Institution. Mr. Humphreys serves on various committees of the British Standards Institution.

## Hoblizelle National Award in Agricultural Sciences: Prof. C. E. Marshall

THE Hoblizelle National Award in Agricultural Sciences has been made to Prof. C. E. Marshall, professor of soils in the University of Missouri. This Award, consisting of a gold medal and 5,000 dollars, was given by the Texas Research Foundation for research judged to be the greatest scientific contribution to American agriculture during 1948-50. A similar award was given to a Texas farmer who had, in the State of Texas, made the most successful application of scientific methods to practical farming in the same period. Prof. Marshall was born in