

NEWS and VIEWS

Civil Engineering at Adelaide: Prof. F. B. Bull

THE appointment has recently been announced of Mr. F. B. Bull to the chair of civil engineering in the University of Adelaide, South Australia. Mr. Bull, who is at present a University lecturer at the Engineering Laboratory, Cambridge, studied at University College, Nottingham, where he took the London (External) B.Sc.(Eng.) with first-class honours. After graduation Mr. Bull worked for a number of years with Messrs. Dorman Long and Co., Ltd., where he was engaged in the design of structural steelwork. Following this he was for four years a lecturer in structural engineering at the Constantine Technical College, Middlesbrough. During the Second World War, Mr. Bull served with the Admiralty Department of Scientific Research, where he led a party of engineers, physicists and naval architects engaged in the experimental determination of the stresses in ships' structures. This programme of trials, which was designed to reveal any differences in structural behaviour between ships of welded and riveted construction, included comprehensive measurements of the forces to which a ship is subjected when in a seaway. Various technical papers on this work have been read to professional societies, and the results of the trials are being published by H.M. Stationery Office. Since the War Mr. Bull has been on the staff at the Engineering Laboratory, Cambridge, where he has been concerned with teaching surveying and the theory and design of structures.

Royal Society: Officers for 1952

THE following have been elected Officers and Council of the Royal Society for the ensuing year: *President*: Prof. E. D. Adrian; *Treasurer and Vice-President*: Sir Thomas Merton; *Secretaries and Vice-Presidents*: Sir Edward Salisbury and Sir David Brunt; *Foreign Secretary*: Sir Cyril Hinshelwood; *Other Members of Council*: Dr. R. W. Bailey, Dr. O. M. B. Bulman, Prof. P. A. Buxton, Sir John Cockcroft, Dr. I. de B. Daly, Prof. E. C. Dodds, Prof. M. G. Evans, Sir Howard Florey (vice-president), Mr. P. Hall, Sir Geoffrey Jefferson, Prof. E. J. Maskell, Dr. W. G. Penney, Prof. H. H. Plaskett, Dr. R. Stoneley, Prof. A. R. Todd, and Prof. J. Z. Young.

National Science Foundation: Officers

DR. CHESTER I. BARNARD, president of the Rockefeller Foundation, has been elected chairman of the National Science Board of the National Science Foundation at its second annual meeting held in Washington on December 3. Dr. Barnard succeeds Prof. James B. Conant, president of Harvard University, who was the first chairman of the Board, having been elected to serve for the initial term which began December 12, 1950. Dr. Edwin B. Fred, president of the University of Wisconsin, was re-elected vice-chairman of the National Science Board. The new chairman and the vice-chairman were elected for two-year terms of office as prescribed by the National Science Foundation Act of 1950. Dr. Barnard, who plans to retire soon from the presidency of the Rockefeller Foundation and General Education Board, was long associated with the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. He was a member of the board of consultants to the State Department on atomic control in 1946 which

drafted the Acheson-Lilienthal Report. He was also a member of the Presidential Special Committee on Integration of the Medical Services in the Government in 1946. Dr. Fred has been president of the University of Wisconsin since 1945. He is a bacteriologist, and was chairman of the U.S. National Advisory Committee on Biological Warfare of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences during 1941-43.

New Engineering School, University of Bristol

ON December 12, at Bristol, the Chancellor of the University, Mr. Winston S. Churchill, laid the foundation stone of the new Engineering School building, in the presence of the Lord Mayor of Bristol, other civic dignitaries, many distinguished visitors and members of the University. In a brief ceremony, the architect, Mr. R. H. Brentnall, was presented to the Chancellor by the chairman of Council, Mr. W. R. Verdon Smith. Mr. Brentnall then presented the representatives of the contractors and consultants, after which he handed the Chancellor a set of silver tools with which he laid the stone. In declaring the stone well and truly laid, Mr. Churchill spoke of the great need for hastening the application of the discoveries of science by training men and women for this purpose. He complimented the University of Bristol in devoting its greatest post-war expansion to this end.

The complete building will comprise a central block around two small courtyards, with two large wings, running roughly east and west, to form a magnificent frontage over the City below. The whole building, 690 ft. long, is to be faced in light-coloured brick with its principal features in Bath stone. Of the three main floors, the ground floor will consist of the laboratories of mechanical engineering in one wing, aeronautical engineering in the other, with civil engineering in the centre block. On the first floor, electrical engineering and geology will occupy two wings, with staff and student rooms occupying the central block, where the main lecture theatre forms the division between the two courtyards. The second floor provides lecture rooms and drawing offices and will house the departments of mathematics and theoretical mechanics. Completion of the interim stage is expected in two years.

Lord Rutherford

To mark the opening of the Rutherford Memorial Appeal in New Zealand, six addresses were delivered at Canterbury University College, Christchurch, on May 18. Three of these were afterwards broadcast. The text of the six addresses is reprinted in the July number of the *New Zealand Science Review* (9, No. 7), the official organ of the New Zealand Association of Scientific Workers. Lord Rutherford of Nelson was born on August 30, 1871, at Brightwater, near Nelson, in New Zealand. He was a student at Canterbury University College and graduated M.A. in 1893 with double first-class honours. He was awarded an 1851 Exhibition science scholarship in 1895, and he left New Zealand to study in Cambridge under Sir J. J. Thomson. Except for brief visits on official occasions, Rutherford never took up residence again in his native land, although many New Zealand physicists came to Great Britain to study under him. Five of the addresses are by his former students. Rutherford's early life is described by Dr. L. Bastings; his connexion with Canterbury University College by Prof. R. S. Allan, now professor and formerly lecturer