NEWS and VIEWS

Coronation Honours

THE Coronation Honours list contains the following names of scientific men and others associated with scientific activities :

Viscount : Lord Woolton, recently Lord President of the Council.

K.C.B. : Sir John Cockcroft, chairman of the Defence Research Policy Committee and scientific adviser to the Minister of Defence, and director of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment.

K.C.M.G. : Sir James Hance, medical adviser and president of the Medical Board, Commonwealth Relations Office ; Stephen E. V. Luke, comptroller for development and welfare in the West Indies and British co-chairman of the Caribbean Commission.

K.B.E. : Dr. John A. Carroll, deputy for research and development to the controller of the Navy and scientific adviser to the Board of Admiralty ; Major-General Clive S. Steele, for services to engineering in Australia ; Prof. Hugh S. Taylor, professor of chemistry and dean of the Graduate School at Princeton University.

Knights : Dr. Edward C. Bullard, director of the National Physical Laboratory ; Sydney Camm, director and chief designer, Hawker Aircraft, Ltd. ; Enoch B. Levy, formerly director of the Grassland Division, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Zealand ; George D. A. MacDougall, chief adviser, Statistical Branch, Office of the Paymaster General ; Charles R. Morris, vice-chancellor of the University of Leeds ; Thomas O. M. Sopwith, for services to aircraft production ; Dr. Francis M. R. Walshe, president of the Royal Society of Medicine.

C.B. : R. Cockburn, scientific adviser to the Air Ministry ; E. T. Jones, principal director scientific research (air), Ministry of Supply.

C.M.G. : J. Durward, deputy director, Meteorological Office, Air Ministry ; Prof. G. Macdonald, professor of tropical hygiene, University of London, and director of the Ross Institute of Tropical Hygiene ; G. W. Nye, deputy agricultural adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies ; C. T. Saunders, deputy director of the Central Statistical Office, Cabinet Office.

C.B.E. : Prof. W. G. Barnard, professor of pathology in the University of London at St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School ; F. S. Barton, principal director of electronic research and development, Ministry of Supply ; A. G. Beattie, lately inspector-general of agriculture, Nigeria ; A. D. J. Brennan, deputy chief veterinary officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries ; R. L. Brooks, Colonial Forest Service, permanent secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Gold Coast ; J. N. Brown, assistant comptroller, Patent Office ; R. W. Cheshire, deputy chief scientific officer, Admiralty ; D. D. W. Cole, assistant controller (production), Atomic Energy Establishment, Risley, Ministry of Supply ; W. J. Duncan, Mechan professor of aeronautics and fluid mechanics, University of Glasgow ; A. Fage, superintendent of the Aerodynamics Division, National Physical Laboratory ; J. E. Hurst, president of the British Cast Iron Research Association ; R. G. Lloyd, secretary to the Royal Commission on Awards to Inventors ; Dr. A. A. Miles, director of the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine, London ; A. McL. Mooney, deputy director of electrical engineering, Admiralty ; D. A. Oliver, metals economy adviser, Ministry of Supply ; F. Rayns, director of the Norfolk Agricultural Station at Sprowston, Norwich ; F. H. Rowe, director-general, Commonwealth of Australia Department of Social Services ; R. L. Scarlett, chairman of the Scottish Horticultural Advisory Committee ; Lieut.-Commdr. P. M. Scott, director of the Severn Wildfowl Trust ; P. M. Sherlock, vice-principal and director of extra-mural studies, University College of the West Indies ; H. S. Young, deputy chief scientific officer, Ministry of Defence.

I.S.O. : F. R. Callaghan, secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Zealand ; F. R. Ennos, senior principal scientific officer, Government Chemist's Department ; W. R. Penhall, secretary of the Aborigines Protection Board, South Australia ; E. F. Peck, Colonial Veterinary Service, director of agriculture and veterinary services, Somaliland.

Prince Louis de Broglie, For.Mem.R.S.

PRINCE LOUIS DE BROGLIE was one of the four recently elected foreign members of the Royal Society. We owe to him one of the fundamental ideas forming the basis of quantum theory, the universal connexion between particles and waves. This connexion was obtained by de Broglie in 1924, apparently by a process of pure reasoning from mathematical relations suggested by relativity, and was for a while unsupported by any evidence, except in the case of light-quanta. However, it stimulated Schrödinger to seek for an explanation of the stationary states of atoms as a resonance phenomenon and led him to his famous wave equation, which is the accurate extension to curved orbits of de Broglie's relations for a particle on a straight course. In 1927 came the direct verification of de Broglie's ideas by Davisson and Germer working with slow electrons, and by G. P. (now Sir George) Thomson working with fast electrons, and a new era began in our understanding of atomic processes. The precise relationship of the waves to the particles remains a subject of controversy ; what is established is that one must carry out calculations to determine the motion of the waves and then interpret them in terms of probabilities for the particles.

Geography at Leeds : Prof. A. V. Williamson

ANOTHER of the pioneers of university geography is retiring. It is much to be regretted that, for health reasons, Prof. A. V. Williamson is leaving the chair of geography in the University of Leeds, of which he was the first occupant. Trained in the school of geography in the University of Liverpool, he went to Leeds in 1922 as assistant lecturer when the department was small and struggling for adequate recognition. In 1927 he was given the title and status of lecturer as the department grew under his thoughtful guidance ; and he became head of the department in 1928. His merits brought him the title of reader in 1933 and he was elected to the first chair of geography in 1944. By this time he had built up a large department which was continually outgrowing the accommodation available. Experience in the First World War widened his interests and directed particular attention to the East ; but Prof. Williamson had no narrow outlook in his view of geography and no doctrines on the subject. Prof. Williamson also took a leading part in administration, taking his turn as dean of the Faculty of Arts and as a member