

chair in the University of London, which carried with it the directorship of the Archaeological Institute of the University. Here again with his colleagues he built up an important school, and one can only regret that his retirement occurs before the Institute moves into more official quarters in the new University building itself. It is to be hoped that, as is the case at Cambridge, the University of London may yet see its way to recognize archaeology as an honours school for degree-giving purposes. It is well known that Childe holds strong ideological views not acceptable to everyone, but that must not be allowed to obscure the enormous amount of solid factual archaeological work and teaching that he has accomplished; he is one of the leading prehistorians to-day.

#### Mr. W. F. Grimes, C.B.E.

THE University of London Institute of Archaeology, founded with a voluntary staff and director in 1937, has been directed since 1946 by the professor of prehistoric European archaeology in the University, Prof. V. Gordon Childe; but since it has been receiving financial support from the University of London the Institute has extended so rapidly, and in particular the teaching work in prehistoric European archaeology has increased so much, that on the resignation of Prof. Childe the Senate has decided to separate the posts, and has invited Mr. W. F. Grimes to accept the directorship. Prof. Gordon Childe's resignation from his double post takes effect on September 30, 1956.

Mr. Grimes, a graduate of the University of Wales, began his professional archaeological career as assistant in the National Museum of Wales. While there he conducted many important excavations on prehistoric and Roman sites, undertook comprehensive field surveys of prehistoric monuments, and wrote a "Guide to the Collections illustrating the Prehistory of Wales". This was published in 1939, but republished in 1951 as "The Prehistory of Wales"; for it was, in fact, far more than a guide, but presented Welsh prehistory in its British and European setting. At the end of 1938 Mr. Grimes was appointed assistant to the Archaeological Officer in the Ordnance Survey; but on the outbreak of war he was seconded to the Ministry of Works to conduct rescue excavations on archaeological sites threatened by the construction of aerodromes or military works. These excavations resulted in many important discoveries, of which only a small part has yet been published, a full publication by H.M. Stationery Office being in preparation. At the end of the War, Mr. Grimes was appointed director of the London Museum when Mr. (now Sir Mortimer) Wheeler was appointed director-general of archaeology in India. It thus fell to Mr. Grimes to find a new home for the Museum that was ejected from Lancaster House, and to install the collections in their new premises in Kensington Palace. At the same time Mr. Grimes had to organize and direct the excavations of the bombed sites in the City of London that have brought to light so many new details as to the topography and architecture of the Roman and medieval city, including the Temple of Mithras. Mr. Grimes is now president of the Council for British Archaeology.

#### The Engineer

THIS week sees the centenary of *The Engineer* (see p. 10 of this issue), and a special issue has been prepared to mark the occasion. It is a remarkable

and absorbing compilation, with its 124 pages of editorial matter and its 300 or so pages of advertisements. The Editor has assembled a notable collection of articles from leading authorities on the development and present situation in the main fields of engineering. These have been grouped into six sections, concluding with a fine series of coloured plates of modern manufacturing plant and products. The articles range from one by Sir Albert Pugsley on "Scientific Discovery" to others by Sir Christopher Hinton on "Nuclear Power", Dr. H. A. Thomas on "Electronics" and Dr. D. F. Galloway on "Production Methods"; between them these two give a good condensed picture of the present and future influence of automatic control in industry. Attention is also paid to engineering materials with articles on "Iron and Steel", "Non-ferrous Metals", "Concrete" and "Plastics". The publishers are to be congratulated on producing a volume, worthy of their high reputation, which will be of permanent value and interest.

#### Institute of Metals: Medal Awards

THE Institute of Metals has awarded the following medals: *Institute of Metals Medal in Platinum* (1956), to Prof. G. L. Chaudron (professor at the Sorbonne and director of the Vitry Laboratory of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique), in recognition of his outstanding contributions to knowledge, particularly in the field of the light metals, which have greatly benefited the metal industries; *Rosenhain Medal* (1956), to Dr. D. McLean (principal scientific officer, Metallurgy Division, National Physical Laboratory, Teddington), in recognition of his outstanding contributions to knowledge in the field of physical metallurgy; *W. H. A. Robertson Medal* (1955) and premium of fifty guineas, to E. J. Thackwell (Northern Aluminium Co., Ltd., Rogerstone, Mon.), for a paper on the choice and construction of monolithic linings for twin-bath induction furnaces for melting aluminium alloys.

#### Staffing the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority

AN adjournment debate on the staff of the Atomic Energy Authority, opened by Mr. A. Neave, was held in the House of Commons on December 21, and in replying for the Government the Minister of Works, Mr. N. Birch, said that, since the annual report of the Authority was issued, further measures have been taken to improve the pay and conditions; these should give the Authority greater flexibility and enable it to compete successfully with outside industry. As regards the transfer of staff from the Civil Service, 78.5 per cent of the Civil servants now with the Authority have accepted the offers; 10.5 per cent have rejected them and 11 per cent have not yet notified the Authority of their wishes. Only 8 per cent of the professional and scientific staff have decided not to avail themselves of the offer, whereas 15 per cent of the executive and clerical staff have rejected them. Many of these latter are of considerable seniority, but the numbers are not large and most of the wastage has been made good without much difficulty. As regards training, there are comprehensive schemes for craft and student apprenticeships, and practical training is sometimes provided for students before they enter the university or after graduation. Very special consideration has been given to 'sandwich' courses, and the Authority also runs a large number of advanced courses in nuclear