

historical investigations into such matters as the identity of the kangaroo discovered by Captain Cook's expedition in 1770 and of the cats of ancient Egypt, to morphological investigations into the growth and succession of elephants' teeth. His major contributions have, however, been in the field of taxonomy; publications such as the Check List of Palearctic Mammals (jointly with J. R. Ellerman, 1951) and Southern African Mammals (with J. R. Ellerman and R. W. Hayman, 1953) won immediate recognition and have become standard works of reference. In addition to his work in the Museum he has played a prominent part in other zoological affairs. He has been honorary treasurer since 1950 of the Zoological Society of London. At the thirteenth and fourteenth International Congresses of Zoology he was much involved in the activities of the Section on Zoological Nomenclature, and he is the honorary treasurer of the forthcoming fifteenth Congress in London in 1958. Among his hobbies are sailing and skiing; he is an amateur astronomer and is no mean lathe-turner.

#### Prehistoric European Archæology in London :

Prof. J. D. Evans

MR. J. D. EVANS, whose appointment to the chair of prehistoric European archæology tenable at the University of London Institute of Archæology has recently been announced, is an outstanding product of the Department of Archæology and Anthropology at Cambridge. After taking his Tripos, in which he gained a first class with distinction, Mr. Evans entered on a course of research on the prehistoric archæology of the Mediterranean with special reference to relations between the eastern and western basins. He began by studying the Neolithic and Early Metal Age cultures of Spain, working under Santa-Ollala at Madrid and under Pericot y Garcia at Barcelona. Next he held a fellowship at the British Institute of Archæology at Ankara, during the tenure of which he took part in excavations, not only in Turkey, but as far afield as Jericho. At this stage his original plan was interrupted by an invitation from the Royal University of Malta to prepare a survey of the known monuments and archæological material from the Maltese Islands. In his paper on "The Prehistoric Culture-Sequence in the Maltese Archipelago", published in the *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* (19, 41; 1954), Evans made known the results of his analysis of the pottery, and he has since, in a communication to the Society of Antiquaries, of which he was elected a Fellow in 1955, published the results of his own excavations, by means of which he has been able to confirm his sequence and to relate to it the main prehistoric structures of the islands. Mr. Evans, who has held a research fellowship at Pembroke College, Cambridge, since 1953, has thus gained that broad experience of European prehistory that one has a right to expect of the successor to Prof. V. Gordon Childe.

#### Physics at Exeter :

Dr. G. K. T. Conn

DR. G. K. T. CONN, at present reader in physics in the University of Sheffield, has been appointed professor of physics in the University of Exeter in succession to Prof. H. O. W. Richardson, who is taking up the chair of physics at Bedford College, London. Dr. Conn graduated in mathematics and natural philosophy from the University of Aberdeen in 1933, and then spent the following five years in the Cavendish

Laboratory, Cambridge, working on research problems in infra-red spectroscopy, a field which has since engaged a major part of his activities. In 1938 he was appointed to an assistant lectureship at the University of Sheffield, and it is there that he has developed his research to an impressive extent. His contributions on the optical properties of metals have made him a recognized authority in this field and have led to a substantial number of papers on new techniques covering a wide range. Recently he has extended this work to semi-conductors, and the broad field of his activities may be described as the physics of the solid state. His publications include contributions on vacuum gauges and low-pressure measurements as well as the study of the magnetic properties of solids in connexion with investigations in other fields. Dr. Conn possesses an original and inventive mind, with an unusually wide range of knowledge and general interests. His freshness of outlook at all levels of teaching and his active participation in many student activities have combined to make him an invaluable member of the physics staff at Sheffield.

#### Paris Academy of Sciences : Elections

PROF. M. FRÉCHET, formerly professor of mathematics in the University of Paris, has been elected a member of the Geometry Section of the Paris Academy of Sciences in succession to the late Prof. E. Borel. The following have been elected *correspondants* for the Geometry Section: Prof. H. Milloux, professor of differential and integral calculus in the University of Bordeaux, in succession to the late Prof. H. Dulac; Prof. C. L. Siegel, formerly professor of mathematics in the University of Frankfurt am Main, in succession to the late Prof. H. Weyl; and Prof. Marston Morse, of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, in succession to the late Prof. F. Riesz.

#### University of Leeds : Building Developments

A GIFT of £21,000 has been made by Brotherton and Co., Ltd., to the University of Leeds towards the building fund for the Chemical Engineering Section of the Department of Coal Gas and Fuel Industries. This firm has for many years given substantial financial help to the University for the purpose of furthering teaching and research in the Departments of Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, Textile Industries and Colour Chemistry and Dyeing, and, in particular, the late Dr. Charles Ratcliffe Brotherton bequeathed £50,700 for the development of chemical engineering, which has been invested pending the commencement of building work. The latest gift of £21,000 to the Department of Coal Gas and Fuel Industries brings the total received during the past twelve months for new buildings for this Department to £81,660; the cost will be £615,000, of which the Government, through the University Grants Committee, will find £450,000. The steel framework for the new buildings is now in place, and it is hoped to occupy them during 1958-59.

The present scheme of development of the University includes a number of new buildings and is the most ambitious ever undertaken by the University. That for the Man-made Fibres Section of the Department of Textile Industries is in its final stages of completion, and is due to be opened by the Duke of Edinburgh on June 29 next. Good progress is being made with an extension of the buildings now occupied by the Departments of Physics and Chemistry, which