

Progress Medal of the Royal Photographic Society :
Dr. J. D. Kendall

THE Silver Progress Medal of the Royal Photographic Society has been awarded to Dr. J. D. Kendall, head of the Renwick Laboratory of Ilford, Ltd., in recognition of his distinguished contributions to research in the chemistry of photographic processes and materials. Dr. Kendall is known for his work in relation to photographic emulsion sensitizers, emulsion stabilizers, colour couplers, developing agents and desensitizers. His discovery, some twenty years ago, of particular *p*-dialkylaminobenzylidene derivatives of compounds having a reactive methylene group activated by carbonyl (the merocyanines) as efficient optical sensitizers for emulsions, was a starting-point for advances of considerable consequence in emulsion technology. In 1935 he proposed an original theoretical principle for relating the chemical structure of sensitizers, desensitizers and developing agents to their respective properties, and his name is now linked with those of Andresen and Lumière in the 'Andresen-Lumière-Kendall rules' for photographic developing agents. Dr. Kendall's relatively recent discovery of 1-phenyl-3-pyrazolidone (phenidone) as a developing agent has led to greatly improved commercial developers and has also initiated a great deal of research on superadditivity phenomena in photographic laboratories throughout the world. Even more recently (1954) he has described, in collaboration with G. F. Duffin, a new class of optical sensitizers, namely, the iminazolenine cyanines. The Progress Medal was instituted in 1878, and this is the forty-fourth such award, twenty-two being to persons of foreign nationality; it is awarded for any invention, research, publication or exhibition which leads to an important advance in photography.

British Broadcasting Corporation :
Miss Mary Somerville, O.B.E.

WITH the retirement in January of Miss Mary Somerville from the B.B.C., one of the links with the pioneering days of *2LO* has been broken. Miss Somerville joined the B.B.C. in 1925 as assistant to the then educational director, J. C. Stobart, having been attracted to the new field of intellectual adventure through the broadcasts of Sir Walford Davies. Within four years she had taken full charge of the embryonic Schools Department, and imbued by a strong sense of educational purpose, in the eighteen years of her active direction of this Department she carved out a unique place for this activity of the B.B.C. in the educational history of our time; and this in the face of considerable resistance from the vested interests of the essentially conservative educational world. In 1947 she toured the Commonwealth and on her return became assistant controller of Talks Division, thus entering a field where she could to an even greater extent explore the radio medium as a means of communication. Three years later she took over one of the toughest assignments in the whole B.B.C. organization, that of full controller of Talks Division, and as such became the Corporation's first and only woman controller. With the whole of the Corporation's Talks output under her control, the world of science was not the least of her interests, and the present position of the B.B.C.'s science talks owes not a little to her sympathetic understanding of the problems that face the producer who is presenting science to a mass audience.

Mr. John Green

THE new controller of talks, Mr. John Green, also had connexions with science, if in the applied field, namely, agriculture. Mr. Green comes from a Gloucestershire landowning family. He went up to Cambridge, where he was President of the Union, and was afterwards called to the Bar. In 1934, however, he joined the B.B.C. and specialized in the production of agricultural talks, being the Corporation's agricultural liaison officer until he became Miss Somerville's chief assistant a number of years ago. Thus the new controller has risen from the ranks, as it were; he is familiar with the professional problems concerned with talks production and sees in the producer a public servant with a valuable part to play in bridging the gap between those who have something to say and those who are prepared to listen.

British Iron and Steel Research Association :
Dr. J. Pearson

THE British Iron and Steel Research Association has appointed Dr. J. Pearson as assistant director of research, to assume such duties as are delegated to him by the director, Sir Charles Goodeve; Dr. Pearson will continue his present duties as head of the Steelmaking Division and Chemistry Department of the Association. After graduating from the University of London in 1933, Dr. Pearson did some research in organic chemistry, and then joined the Research Department of Tube Investments, Ltd., to carry out work in connexion with the manufacture of steel tubes and allied products. During 1937-46 he was employed in the explosives branch of the Armament Research Department, Ministry of Supply, and obtained his Ph.D. in 1946 for research work on the polarography of organic compounds. After the Second World War he joined the British Iron and Steel Research Association as head of the Chemistry Section of the Swansea laboratories, where he was largely concerned with problems on the disposal of spent pickle liquor. He was appointed head of the Chemistry Department in 1950, assuming the additional duty of head of the Steelmaking Division four years later.

Nuffield Foundation Awards in Dentistry, Biology
and the Social Sciences

THE Nuffield Foundation is offering a number of fellowships, scholarships and bursaries in the fields of dentistry, biology and the social sciences. The fellowships for dentistry are for persons, aged 25-35 years, with dental qualifications to receive additional training in pure and applied science so as to fit them for an academic career in dentistry, and also to enable graduates in medicine and science to receive training (not necessarily for a registrable dental qualification) so as to undertake teaching and fundamental research on dental health and disease. (It is to be noted that in past years few applications have been made by those eligible in the latter category.) The fellowships are worth £500-800 a year for one to three years, and applications must be received by March 1. The dental scholarships, normally for one year only, are for students at university dental schools in the United Kingdom and cover tuition fees and a subsistence allowance of not more than £200; applications must be received by June 30. The Foundation's scholarships and bursaries in biology and the social sciences are for graduates of British universities, preferably within the age-group 22-35 years. The