

published a series of papers with a bearing on the metabolic cost of various types of muscular work. Wishart's familiarity with the physical approach to biological problems found expression in 1931 in the publication of a most useful small book, "Groundwork of Biophysics". Yet he did not abandon his interest in more conventional biochemical studies. He took an active part in the work of the Hannah Dairy Research Institute at Ayr and spent several long vacations working in the laboratories there.

During most of this period of fruitful activity, Wishart was Grieve lecturer in physiological chemistry in Glasgow. In 1935 he was elected to the Gardiner chair, and then teaching and administration began to take their toll of his time. All Wishart's work, scientific, academic and administrative, was characterized by meticulous accuracy and by a scrupulously fair presentation of his views. No one better served his University as research worker, teacher and administrator.

R. C. GARRY

NEWS and VIEWS

International Co-operation and Geophysical Research

At the recent International Geophysical Year meeting in Moscow, the following resolution was accepted: "The C.S.A.G.I. [Comité Spécial de l'Année Géophysique Internationale] endorses the A.C.I.G.Y. [Advisory Council of the International Geophysical Year] recommendation that observational and data-collecting activities in the geophysical and related sciences be conducted during 1959 on the same general plan as in 1957-58 under the direction of the C.S.A.G.I. or the C.U.R.A.G.I. [Comité d'exploitation et utilisation des résultats de l'Année Géophysique Internationale] as far as practicable and at such levels and in such fields as may be determined by each participating committee. The name International Geophysical Co-operation 1959 is suggested for this period". In accordance with earlier decisions, the International Geophysical Year as such will cease at the end of 1958. It was agreed, however, that international co-operation in geophysical research shall continue in so far as each nation finds it practical, and it is left to each nation to decide in which disciplines it shall continue to make observations as during 1957-58 and whether its activity shall be on a higher or lower or at the same level as during 1957-58. The Comité d'exploitation et utilisation des résultats de l'Année Géophysique Internationale is a body which will take over from the Comité Spécial de l'Année Géophysique Internationale the work of ensuring international co-operation, and in particular the utilization of the International Geophysical Year results.

California Institute of Technology :

Prof. Linus Pauling, For.Mem.R.S.

THE resignation of Prof. Linus Pauling as chairman of the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering at the California Institute of Technology is of interest to chemists all over the world. For there can scarcely be any chemist anywhere better known than he. In his books, of which "The Nature of the Chemical Bond" will always remain a classic, and in his 300 research papers, Prof. Pauling has done more than any other person to apply the ideas of the quantum theory to the study of molecular structure. During his tenure of office, the Gates and Crellin Laboratories at 'Caltech' have achieved an almost unique reputation. It was entirely right that he should be elected a Foreign Member of the Royal Society in 1948, and receive the Nobel Prize in 1954.

True to the fate of most pioneers, Prof. Pauling has frequently been at the centre of some kind of controversy. Many people will recall the decision made in the U.S.S.R. some years ago to the effect that his

theory of resonance in molecules should be rejected on political and philosophical grounds. Others will think of his difficulties in obtaining a passport from the United States, as a result of the strong opinions which he has courageously refused to disguise. But everyone will be glad that his resignation as chairman is not to imply any diminution of his research interests, for Prof. Pauling will continue in his post as professor of chemistry at 'Caltech'. During the past few years, Prof. Pauling has undertaken fundamental studies of protein structure which are of the highest importance and merit, and show promise of leading to an understanding of the molecular chemistry of such matters as mental disease. In this field his intimate knowledge of molecular geometry and crystal architecture is already showing its tremendous importance. Physicists, chemists and all those who appreciate his warm humanity will wish him well in his newly acquired freedom.

Prof. E. H. Swift

PROF. ERNEST H. SWIFT, who is to succeed Prof. Pauling as chairman of the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering at the California Institute of Technology, graduated from the University of Virginia in 1918. He joined the staff of the California Institute of Technology in 1920 and was appointed professor of analytical chemistry in 1943. As an official investigator for the U.S. Office of Scientific Research and Development during the Second World War, Prof. Swift worked on problems related to the identification of chemical warfare agents and their detection in the field. More recently he has worked on the development of coulometric analysis and is a recognized authority in this field. Prof. Swift is the author of the well-known text-books, "A System of Chemical Analysis for the Common Elements" and "Introductory Quantitative Analysis", and in 1955 he received the Fisher Award of 1,000 dollars given annually in recognition of "outstanding contributions to the science of analytical chemistry, pure or applied, in the United States or Canada".

Botany at Aberystwyth :

Prof. L. Newton

PROF. LILY NEWTON, who is retiring from the Chair of Botany at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, began her career as assistant lecturer in the Botany Department, University of Bristol, and in 1920 became lecturer in botany at Birkbeck College, London, under Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan. She afterwards worked at the Imperial College of Science and Technology under Prof. V. H. Blackman and her special interest in algæ led her to the position of research worker in the British Museum (Natural History), where she devoted herself to the publication