

NEWS and VIEWS

The Royal Society : New Foreign Members

THE following have been elected foreign members of the Royal Society : Prof. Melvin Calvin, University of California, Berkeley, California, distinguished for his researches into the mechanism of photosynthesis ; Prof. Gerhard Domagk, University of Münster, director of the Research Laboratories for Experimental Pathology and Bacteriology, Farbenfabriken Bayer, Wuppertal-Elberfeld, Germany, distinguished for his researches leading to the discovery of 'Prontosil', the first chemotherapeutic agent against septic infection ; Prof. Jan Hendrick Oort, State University of Leyden, The Netherlands, distinguished for his contributions to the knowledge of galactic structure, of stellar distribution and of stellar dynamics ; Prof. Axel Hugo Teodor Theorell, of the Nobel Medical Institute, Stockholm, Sweden, distinguished for his work in the field of enzyme chemistry, particularly in relation to oxidation in animal tissues.

Overseas Geological Surveys :

Dr. Frank Dixey, C.M.G., O.B.E., F.R.S.

DR. FRANK DIXEY will retire on June 30 from the post of director of Overseas Geological Surveys. Dr. Dixey graduated in the University of Wales in 1914. After service on the Western Front from 1915 to 1918 he was appointed government geologist in Sierra Leone. He worked in Africa for nearly thirty years, and was successively director of the Geological Survey of Nyasaland (1921-39) ; director of Water Development, Northern Rhodesia (1939-44) ; and director of the Geological Survey of Nigeria (1944-47). In addition, at various times in the years 1938-44, he carried out advisory work on water development and on geological survey matters for the Governments of the Sudan, Eritrea, Kenya and Tanganyika. In 1947 the Directorate of Colonial Geological Surveys was inaugurated as a central organization in London to link and provide specialist services for the surveys overseas, and Dr. Dixey became its first director. There were then eleven Colonial territories with Geological Survey Departments. In the next ten years surveys of thirteen other territories were organized ; the number of senior staff overseas was increased from 50 to 212 ; Photogeological and Geophysical Sections were set up in London ; the Mineral Resources Division was formed by transfer from the Imperial Institute, and its activities were extended ; and among many other developments, arrangements were made for extensive co-operation with universities and other institutions in the United Kingdom. The establishment of this thriving organization is the climax of an official career during which Dr. Dixey has been the author of more than 130 publications, relating mainly to Africa. Their range includes mineral resources and water supply, Karroo and Mesozoic stratigraphy, the rift system, many aspects of geomorphology, and petrological topics, including work in collaboration with Dr. W. Campbell Smith and Mr. C. B. Bisset which afforded the first recognition of carbonatites in Africa. Dr. Dixey was awarded the Draper Medal of the Geological Society of South Africa in 1945, and the Murchison Medal of the Geological Society of London in 1953. Since 1948 he has been president of the Association of African Geological Surveys.

Dr. S. H. Shaw, O.B.E.

DR. S. H. SHAW has been appointed to succeed Dr. Frank Dixey as director of Overseas Geological Surveys. Dr. Shaw, who is fifty-five, graduated in 1926 at the Royal School of Mines with first-class honours in mining and mining geology. From 1926 to 1928 he worked with the late Dr. A. Broughton-Edge on electrical prospecting in what is now the copper-belt in Northern Rhodesia, and from 1928 to 1930 in Australia as a member of the Imperial Geophysical Experimental Survey. He then returned to the Royal School of Mines as a demonstrator in the Experimental Department. In 1932 he joined the staff of the Geological Department of the University of Birmingham, where he continued his work on the development and application of various methods of geophysical prospecting, including resistivity measurements in boreholes. At the invitation of the Government of Southern Rhodesia, he visited that country in 1933 to make tests of resistivity methods for locating underground water supplies, with results which led to the adoption of these methods as standard procedure. In 1937 Dr. Shaw was appointed as government geologist in Palestine, where he served until the termination of the mandate in 1948. In 1949 he joined the Directorate of Colonial Geological Surveys, and was charged with the task of initiating and developing the Photogeological and Geophysical Sections. He was promoted to deputy director in 1950. Dr. Shaw's publications include part-authorship of the official report of the Imperial Geophysical Experimental Survey, and a series of papers on resistivity work and on the estimation of free quartz in rocks by micrometric methods.

Geology at Leicester :

Prof. P. C. Sylvester-Bradley

PETER COLLEY SYLVESTER-BRADLEY, appointed to the recently created chair of geology in the University of Leicester, was educated at Haileybury and the University of Reading. After a short period in charge of the Department of Geology at the Seale-Hayne Agricultural College (1937-39) he served in combined operations, and later as administrative officer in a branch of the Admiralty Operations Division in the Mediterranean. His appointment to the staff of the Geology Department of the University of Sheffield followed in 1945, and there he now holds the post of senior lecturer in geology.

Bradley's comprehensive teaching experience also includes an appointment as visiting Rose Morgan professor in the University of Kansas during 1955-56. His researches in palaeontology have dealt authoritatively with fossil Ostracoda, for he is part author and general co-ordinator of the volume dealing with these fossils in the "Treatise on Invertebrate Palaeontology". Other fields of palaeontological research are concerned with the fossil oysters of the Jurassic of north-west Europe, and with the ammonites of the Lias of the Yorkshire coast. His published work also bears witness to a deep interest in fundamental and philosophical aspects of palaeontology, such as those concerned with the study of communities, with speciation, and with the taxonomic problems which arise therefrom. This varied and successful research activity has been recognized by the Geological