

Canadian Meteorological Service comes as no surprise to the world of professional meteorology, for he has been Dr. Thomson's right-hand man for many years. Mr. McTaggart-Cowan, who is forty-seven, was born in Scotland but has spent most of his life in Canada. After securing first-class honours in mathematics and physics at the University of British Columbia, he won a Rhodes scholarship to Corpus Christi College, Oxford, where he graduated with honours in natural science. He joined the Canadian Meteorological Service in 1936 and quickly became known internationally, especially in relation to trans-Atlantic aviation, then in its infancy. During the Second World War he was largely responsible for the development of forecasting at the Canadian end of the ferry flights to and from Britain. When hostilities ceased he took an active part in the formation of the body which has now become the International Civil Aviation Organization. Among professional meteorologists his name stands high, not only as a forecaster, but also as an energetic and skilful administrator, with a gift of clear thinking and direct speech. The future of the Canadian Meteorological Service could not be in better hands.

#### Chemical Engineering at Leeds:

Prof. G. G. Haselden

DR. G. G. HASELDEN, whose appointment to the new chair of chemical engineering at the University of Leeds has been announced, was educated at Sir Walter St. John's School, Battersea, and the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London. He graduated in chemical engineering with first-class honours in 1944 and afterwards undertook research under the late Sir Alfred Egerton on problems connected with the liquefaction of methane: on the results of this work he was awarded his Ph.D. In 1949 he was appointed lecturer and later senior lecturer in low-temperature technology in the Department of Chemical Engineering of the Imperial College. In addition to his teaching duties, Dr. Haselden has during the past ten years built up an active school in low-temperature research. His main fields of interest have been in the liquefaction of natural gas, the development of new or more efficient gas-separating processes and refrigeration cycles, and the measurement and correlation of the thermodynamic properties of mixtures. In 1958 he was awarded the Lightfoot Medal of the Institute of Refrigeration for his work on mixed refrigerants. Dr. Haselden was one of the founder members of the Low Temperature Group of the Physical Society; and he is a member of the Education and Papers Committees of the Institution of Chemical Engineers and a member of the Research Committee of the Institute of Refrigeration.

#### Illuminating Engineering Society Award:

Dr. J. W. T. Walsh

To mark the occasion of its golden jubilee, the Illuminating Engineering Society has instituted an award to be known as the Illuminating Engineering Society Gold Medal, which will be bestowed at intervals of not less than two years for outstanding contributions to the advancement of lighting. Recipients of the medal may be of any nationality and need not be members of the Society. At the meeting of the Illuminating Engineering Society held in London on October 13, the first award of the gold medal was made to Dr. J. W. T. Walsh, who is without doubt the most outstanding and highly

esteemed person in the world of lighting to-day. From Merton College, Oxford, Dr. Walsh went to the Department of Photometry of the National Physical Laboratory until he retired in 1951, having been there for thirty-eight years. His first outstanding contribution was the making of a large-scale photometric survey of factory lighting for the Home Office Departmental Committee in 1913. During subsequent years, he supervised much important work relating to the principles of good lighting and to the design and performance of lighting equipment, and he published a number of papers on all aspects of photometry and illuminating engineering. Dr. Walsh served for many years as chairman of the British National Illumination Committee and has participated actively in the meetings and work of international bodies concerned with lighting. He has served as honorary secretary and vice-president of the International Commission on Illumination and was president of that body from 1955 until June 1959. He has been a member of the Illuminating Engineering Society since 1923; he is the only member who has served two terms as president of the Society (1929 and 1947). He was chairman of the committee responsible for the current codes of practice for street lighting. Dr. Walsh has indeed been a prodigious worker in the cause of better lighting and this together with his high principles and strict regard for scientific accuracy has endeared him to lighting people all over the world. There is no doubt that his contributions to the advancement of lighting have been truly outstanding.

#### Royal Australian Chemical Institute:

Mr. C. E. C. Nicholls

MR. C. E. C. NICHOLLS has been elected president of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute. He was born and educated in England, and gained his degree in the University of London with honours in chemistry. After spending about two years with the British-American Tobacco Co., Ltd., he joined the Distillers Co., Ltd., in October 1929, very shortly after the latter company had entered the chemical field. He spent some years at the Company's main factory in Hull, and brought into operation the first synthetic acetic acid plant in England. Early in 1942 he was sent to Australia, where he played a major part in establishing the war-time synthetic acetone production. Early in 1945 Mr. Nicholls returned to England, where he resumed duties with the Distillers Co., Ltd. He made a short visit to Australia in 1946, and again in 1947 when the Colonial Sugar Refinery and the Distillers Co., Ltd., obtained a larger interest in Robert Corbett Pty., Ltd. He is at present manager of Colonial Sugar Refinery Chemicals Pty., Ltd., and a director of Robert Corbett Pty., Ltd. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute in 1947, holding office as president of the New South Wales Branch for two years and during the last year of this term he was also vice-president of the Institute.

#### Atomic Energy Authority's Thermonuclear Programme

THE United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority is seeking the necessary approvals to acquire and develop a site of some 175 acres within the perimeter of the Royal Naval Airfield at Culham, Oxfordshire, for development as a new research establishment. The new establishment would be for research into controlled thermonuclear reactions and plasma