During the War he took part in chemical work aimed at developing new natural resources in Australia. He returned to Britain in 1947 to join the Chemistry Division at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, but went back again to Australia in 1954. Prof. Anderson is joint author with Prof. H. J. Emeléus of "Modern Aspects of Inorganic Chemistry".

Directorship of Colaba and Alibag Observatories : Mr. S. L. Malurkar

MR. S. L. MALURKAR, who has retired from the directorship of the Colaba and Alibag Observatories, was born in Hassan on August 15, 1903, and educated in government schools and colleges at Bangalore. Due to Prof. M. Venkatrama Iyer's influence, he turned to original studies in mathematics after 1920, in addition to the subjects in physical sciences taken in the Central College at Bangalore. His studies included ellipsoidal wave functions, producing many new results. These led to a study of non-linear integral equations for a large number of types of functions, and their evaluation in terms of elliptic functions, asymptotically and otherwise. At Cambridge (1927–29), while working in the Solar Physics Observatory, he published a classification of arc spectra of antimony and arsenic. His stay at Cambridge was initially helped by the Government of Mysore at the instance of Dr. E. P. Metcalfe and the late Sir Mirza M. Ismail. He joined the India Meteorological Department in 1930, taking over the investigations on radiation; by this means he examined temperature distributions near heated surfaces, in collaboration with Dr. L. A. Ramdas. While at Agra (1936–37) he developed a basic theory of balloons for meteorological purposes. In 1948 he was put in charge of the Colaba and Alibag Observatories, where he carried out much important work on geomagnetism and cognate phenomena, the magnetogram and the photolysis of atmospheric ozone in the presence of water vapour. He was president of the Physics Section of the Indian Science Congress held at Madras in 1958.

Royal Society of South Australia Award : Dr. C. G. Stephens

THE Verco Medal is the highest award which the Royal Society of South Australia can bestow on scientific workers who have made exceptional contributions in their particular field of interests. This year the Medal has been awarded to Dr. C. G. Stephens for his excellent and outstanding work on soils. Dr. Stephens attended the Launceston High School, following which he attended the University of Tasmania, where in 1929 he graduated, and later gained his master's degree. He was awarded a D.Sc. by the University of Adelaide in 1950 for his work on Australian soils. He joined the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization—then known as C.S.I.R.—on a postgraduate scholarship in April 1929 and has remained with the Organization since that date. His association with its Tasmanian staff ceased in 1938 when he was transferred to South Australia. To-day, he is head of the Soil Survey and Pedology Section, Soils Division, Adelaide. The practical applications of Dr. Stephens's work have important bearing especially in the relationships of soil to land uses and development, and to soil fertility problems. In consequence, he has been asked to give assistance in these matters both within Australia and overseas. Dr. Stephens was appointed consultant at the Food and Agriculture Organization headquarters in Rome in 1952. During this period he added to his publications with the report, "Soil Survey for Land Development". In 1954 he was appointed president of Commission 5 (Soil Classification) at the International Congress of Soils at Leopoldville, Belgian Congo. Dr. Stephens is prominent among Fellows of the Royal Society of South Australia and served two periods as vice-president, namely, 1954–55 and 1956–57, and was president during the year 1955–56.

Higher Education in East Africa

IN reply to a question in the House of Commons on November 24, the Secretary of State for the Colonies said that work had begun on the new technical institute building in Nairobi with the help of a £65,000 grant from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds. The East African Governments had accepted the recommendations of the Working Party on Higher Education in East Africa for a University of East Africa, comprising three inter-territorial university colleges, of which the re-constituted Royal Technical College would be one, and they were now studying the financial and other implications of the recommendations with the view of preparing a phased programme acceptable to all three territories.

Petroleum Industry Centenary

THE September issue of *The British Survey*, published by the British Society for International Understanding, is a survey of the petroleum industry from 1859, the year that Edwin Laurentine Drake drilled his historic well at Oil Creek, Titusville, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., until the present time, the centenary year of the petroleum industry, which to-day is the biggest industry in the world. The survey traces the evolution of the industry from its origins, but also stresses the economic aspects as affecting not only peoples of the producing countries but also those who consume rather than produce petroleum and its multitudinous products—now well over a thousand in the domestic field alone, quite apart from the more widely known, major refined products. This article is not merely a re-statement of time-worn facts regarding the oil industry and its international ramifications. The sections on "Oil Industry as a Citizen", "Cost, Need and Complication", and "Tendencies to State Participation" are refreshingly original and logically sound. The survey concludes with a modest forecast of the rate of increase in demand for oil in the next 10–15 years: United States, 4–5 per cent per annum; rest of the Free World, 6–7 per cent per annum; Western Europe, 7 per cent per annum. So far as can be estimated at present, the crude oil production to the end of 1958 amounted to the staggering figure of nearly 19 million barrels a day.

Soviet Scientific Information in the United States

THE National Science Foundation, Office of Science Information Services, has issued a revised edition of a pamphlet, "Providing U.S. Scientists with Soviet Scientific Information", which presents a concise picture of what is being done to make scientific periodicals, serials and books published in the U.S.S.R. readily accessible to scientists in the United States (pp. 36. Washington, D.C.: National Science Foundation, 1959). The magnitude of the problem is displayed in four tables which give a total of 2,026