

Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich. He graduated at the latter in 1948, obtaining a diploma in mathematics and physics.

Thereafter he commenced research work under the direction of Prof. W. Pauli, who was professor of theoretical physics at the Institute and Nobel prize-winner of 1944. Dr. Schafroth obtained his doctorate degree in 1949 and was thereafter appointed as assistant to Prof. Pauli—a post he held until 1953. During that time he continued research in collaboration with Prof. Pauli in quantum field theory and solid state physics.

At this stage the Schweizer Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Mathematik und Physik offered him an overseas travel grant for two years, which he decided to spend in the Department of Theoretical Physics of the University of Liverpool with Prof. H. Fröhlich. After one year in Liverpool, however, he left Europe to accept a lectureship offered him by Prof. H. Messel in the then newly expanded School of Physics at the University of Sydney. He remained at the University of Sydney until his death, having been promoted to a senior lectureship on January 1, 1955, and to a readership on January 1, 1957. In May 1958 he was invited to accept the chair of theoretical physics at the University of Geneva, Switzerland, which invitation he had accepted and intended taking up this post on September 1, 1959.

Starting mainly with his stay with Prof. Fröhlich in Liverpool, Dr. Schafroth became interested in the theoretical understanding of the phenomenon of superconductivity. This was also his chief research interest during his five years at the University of Sydney. He published several penetrating papers on this subject himself and also inspired contributions

from others in the School. There can be no doubt that his work in this field will go down in science as having been a major contribution to the understanding of superconductivity. Several papers by him are yet to appear. These include a review of the field in the series "Solid State Physics", edited by Profs. Seitz and Turnbull.

Apart from this particular field of research, Dr. Schafroth was an expert and inspiring lecturer in the fields of statistical mechanics, solid state physics in general and quantum field theory. He brought into his lectures something of the qualities of his old teacher, Prof. Pauli.

The death of Robert Schafroth and of his wife Käthi will be a great loss to all who knew them.

S. T. BUTLER

Mr. H. W. Greenwood

THE death of Mr. H. W. Greenwood occurred on April 30 at the age of seventy-seven. In the course of a very active life, Mr. Greenwood was associated with three industries. Before the First World War he was a mining plant superintendent in the south of Spain. In 1919 he joined Leto Photo Materials Company, manufacturers of photographic paper, and continued with the firm after their amalgamation with Wellington Ward and their later amalgamation with Ilford, Ltd. Since 1937 he had been associated with Powder Metallurgy, Ltd.

Mr. Greenwood wrote profusely in all three subjects, papers and books of a popular but well-informed nature. For many years he was an important contributor to the *British Journal of Photography*.

W. D. JONES

NEWS and VIEWS

Electrical Engineering at Newcastle upon Tyne :

Prof. J. C. Prescott

PROF. J. C. PRESCOTT, professor of electrical engineering at King's College, Newcastle upon Tyne, retires this year. He was elected in 1937, succeeding W. M. Thornton, who was the first holder of the chair. After studying at the University of Liverpool under Prof. E. W. Marchant, he entered a college apprenticeship with the British Westinghouse Company in 1915, continuing later with that Company as research engineer. He saw service with the R.N.V.R. during the First World War, being attached to H.M. Mining School at Portsmouth. After the War, he returned to the University of Liverpool as lecturer in electrical engineering, where he was to remain for 18 years. His early researches were concerned with the behaviour of constant-current dynamos, and this led by way of a study of the free period of coupled alternators to researches on the inherent instability of parallel connected synchronous electrical machinery. His papers of this period reveal that electrical measurement and measuring instruments were also occupying a substantial part of his time. For this work he was awarded the degree of doctor of engineering by the University in 1931. In Newcastle his research work has been concerned with synchronous governing of alternators, and further studies of the stability of parallel-connected alternators have been made; latterly he has been engaged in an investigation into

the performance of turbo/alternator governors, which is still in progress.

The Department of Electrical Engineering at Newcastle has grown greatly in size during Prof. Prescott's tenure of the chair. Under his direction the expansion has been conducted so as to preserve a balance between so-called 'light' and 'heavy current' electrical engineering, and to avoid too early specialization in undergraduate courses. Always playing a large part in the teaching activities of his Department, he has consistently emphasized the necessity for the teaching of fundamentals in university courses, and has always insisted upon the maintenance of a high academic standard in his Honours School. Like his predecessor, he has been active in the affairs of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, being chairman of the North Eastern Centre in 1943-44, and has taken a continued interest in the North East Radio and Measurements Group. Coming from a literary family, he is a man of uncommonly wide interests who holds the respect and affection of all who know him. His friends both inside and outside the University wish him many years of active and happy retirement.

Dr. R. L. Russell

DR. R. L. RUSSELL, who has been appointed to the chair of electrical engineering at King's College, Newcastle upon Tyne, in succession to Prof. J. C. Prescott, graduated B.Sc. in 1938 and M.Sc. in 1939,