

NEWS and VIEWS

British Association for the Advancement of Science

THE July issue of *Advancement of Science* is noteworthy for a number of reasons. Besides articles on a variety of widely differing subjects by leading authorities, it provides enough information about the forthcoming Cardiff meeting of the Association (August 31–September 7) to whet the appetites of those who will be attending. There is to be a whole-day meeting freed from sectional activities when all members will be able to consider the bewildering world food-population problem. Speakers will include Dr. H. C. Wright, Prof. D. V. Glass, Principal W. A. Lewis, Prof. Dudley Stamp, Sir Alexander Fleck, Prof. H. D. Kay and Prof. P. M. S. Blackett. The needs of young people are to be provided for at Cardiff along similar lines to the admirable junior British Association meetings which have been held during 1960 in Birmingham, Belfast and Sheffield. Besides illustrated lectures and a 'brains trust' there is to be a display of work being done in science classes in many Welsh schools.

Ministry of Aviation : Mr. F. S. Barton

MR. F. S. BARTON retired on August 31, thus terminating some forty years in the public service, almost the whole of it in the radio field. He is the eldest son of the late Prof. E. H. Barton, of University College, Nottingham, who was the only Englishman to work with Hertz in Bonn during 1893, work for which he obtained his doctorate of the University of London. F. S. Barton was educated at Nottingham High School and was a foundation scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge. His Cambridge career was interrupted during the First World War by service with the Royal Naval Air Service Radio Experimental Unit at Cranwell. Returning to Cambridge in 1918, he obtained a first class in the Natural Sciences Tripos and rejoined as a scientific officer the Instrument Design Establishment at Biggin Hill, transferring to the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, in 1922. Mr. Barton continued to serve there, his chief interest being in radio control of pilotless aircraft and radio research work, rising to be deputy head of the Department, until he left in 1941 to assume the appointment of director of radio engineering to the British Air Commission in Washington. While there, he served on numerous joint British-American committees and was the vice-president during 1943 of the Institute of Radio Engineers. Mr. Barton returned to Britain at the end of 1946 as director of communications development, becoming afterwards director general of electronics research and development at the time of the integration of the Air and Army sides of electronics research and development in the Ministry of Supply. In the autumn of 1955 he was posted to the U.K. High Commission in Ottawa to inaugurate on a more formal basis the interchange of research and development and production information between Canada and the United Kingdom in the defence field. While in Canada he was during 1954–56 the Council representative for the Institution of Electrical Engineers in the province of Ontario.

Mr. C. J. Francis

MR. C. J. FRANCIS has been promoted to deputy chief scientific officer in the Ministry of Aviation and appointed to the post of counsellor (Defence Research and Supply) to the United Kingdom High Commission, Canada, in succession to Mr. F. S. Barton. He joined the Civil Service in 1939, and spent the War years in the Directorate of Communications Development, where he had responsibilities for the ground radar chain, radar navigational aids, and blind-bombing aids. During 1945–54 he was at the Telecommunications Research Establishment (now Royal Radar Establishment), and was divisional leader in charge of development of ground search radars for both military and civil applications. In 1947 he became superintendent in the Airborne Radar Department, and was responsible for research and development of blind-bombing systems, Doppler navigational aids, radar reconnaissance systems, and airborne collision warning; for part of the time he was, in addition, head of the Blind Landing Experimental Unit at Martlesham. In 1954 he was appointed to the British Joint Services Mission in Washington, covering the research and development programmes undertaken by the United States Services in the field of electronics. In 1957 he returned to the United Kingdom as assistant director of electronics research and development (air), which post he will relinquish on taking up the appointment in Ottawa.

Mr. M. B. Morgan, C.B.

MR. MORIEN BEDFORD MORGAN has been appointed deputy controller of aircraft (research and development) in the Ministry of Aviation. In this appointment—which takes effect in September—he will succeed Dr. W. Cawood, whose appointment as chief scientist to the War Office was announced in July. Mr. Morgan, who has been scientific adviser to the Air Ministry since July 1, 1959, was born in 1912 and educated at Rutlish, Merton, and at St. Catharine's College, Cambridge. At Cambridge he obtained first-class honours in the Mechanical Science Tripos and won the Seely Prize in aeronautics in 1934. After an apprenticeship with Mather and Platt, Ltd., he joined the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, in 1935, where as a member of the Aerodynamics Department he was engaged on general flight research and development, specializing on problems of stability and control. He was appointed head of the Aerodynamics Flight Section at Farnborough in 1946, and in 1948 was made head of the newly formed Guided Weapons Department. He held this post until January 1954, when he took over as deputy director (air), Royal Aircraft Establishment, a post he held until 1959. In 1957 he was awarded the Silver Medal of the Royal Aeronautical Society for his contributions in the execution and direction of aeronautical research and development. He has maintained a keen interest in flying—he obtained his pilot's 'A' licence in 1944.