

NEWS and VIEWS

Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins (1861-1947)

To mark the centenary of the birth (June 30, 1861) of Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins, "the father of British biochemistry", and as a tribute to one "whose services to nutrition enriched the well-being of mankind", Messrs. Van den Berghs, Ltd., manufacturers of vitaminized margarine, have published a 26-page memoir. It has been written by Prof. Ernest Baldwin, a former colleague of Hopkins, and it is a moving account of Hopkins as a great scientist and as a most lovable man. The booklet, which contains a reproduction taken from the well-known portrait of Hopkins owned by the Royal Society, can be obtained from Messrs. Van den Berghs, Ltd., Kildare House, Dorset Rise, London, E.C.4.

Chemistry in University College, Dublin :

Prof. Eva M. Philbin

DR. EVA M. PHILBIN, senior lecturer in organic chemistry in University College, Dublin, has been appointed, in succession to the late Prof. J. Algar, to the chair of organic chemistry tenable in that College. Prof. Philbin graduated with first-class honours in chemistry at University College, Galway, and afterwards was awarded the degrees of Ph.D. and D.Sc. in the National University of Ireland. After a time in industry, Prof. Philbin joined the staff of University College, Dublin, in 1945, and was later appointed senior lecturer in organic chemistry. Her research interests have been mainly in the field of flavonoids, though recently she has moved on to investigations relative to the stereochemistry of pyrans. She has held visiting and research fellowships in the United States, and at Zurich, with Prof. V. Prelog.

Agriculture at Bangor :

Prof. E. J. Roberts

PROF. E. J. ROBERTS retires this year from the chair of agriculture at Bangor, after sixteen years of distinguished service as a teacher and a prominent figure in the farming world. He comes from the Vale of Clwyd, and graduated with honours in chemistry at Bangor in 1917. After a short period in the Navy as sub-lieutenant, he proceeded to the School of Agriculture at Cambridge, for postgraduate work under the late Prof. T. B. Wood. He was appointed lecturer in agriculture at Bangor in 1922. At the outbreak of the Second World War he was seconded as agricultural executive officer for Denbighshire. In 1942 he was appointed to the chair of agriculture at Aberystwyth, returning to Bangor when that professorship fell vacant in 1945.

Roberts's research interests have covered a wide range of problems in animal husbandry; among these were lactations of various breeds of dairy cows, flushing and fat-lamb production from grassland, and the breeding of polled Friesians and Welsh Blacks. In 1936 he was seconded to the Agricultural Research Council to make a detailed survey of grass-drying, and the monograph he produced was the most comprehensive of its kind on this subject. He has served on numerous bodies concerned with agriculture, for example, the Agricultural Improvement Council, Hill Farming Committee, the Sub-committee on Agri-

culture of the University Grants Committee, and the Welsh Joint Education Committee. The Arton Wilson Report (1956) on the Provincial and Local Organization and Procedures of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food also bears his name among its signatures. At Bangor, during the past ten years, he has carried out, by the aid of moneys from the University Grants Committee, an extensive scheme of remodelling and adaptation of the College Farm to form an efficient teaching unit.

Prof. I. A. McK. Lucas

MR. IAN A. MCK. LUCAS succeeds Prof. Roberts at the comparatively early age of thirty-four. A graduate in agriculture of the University of Reading, he was a prizeman in agriculture. During 1947-49 he held a Ministry of Agriculture postgraduate scholarship in the Nutrition Department of Macdonald College of McGill University. There he took his M.Sc. under Prof. E. W. Crampton. After a short period as assistant lecturer in agricultural chemistry at Harper Adams Agricultural College, Prof. Lucas in 1950 joined the Applied Nutrition Department of the Rowett Research Institute as head of its section on pig nutrition, which post he now holds with distinction and with the rank of principal scientific officer. For a year (1957-58) Lucas, on study leave, held a New Zealand Department of Scientific and Industrial Research Fellowship at Ruakura Animal Research Station, where he broadened his experience by conducting experiments on grazing cattle and sheep. For six weeks thereafter he toured Australia at the invitation of the Australian Meat Board. He is the author of some thirty-two papers on various aspects of animal nutrition, mainly those concerned with the physiology of nutrition of the pig, particularly during early growth. Lucas is at present technical secretary of the Agricultural Research Council's Technical Committee on Nutrient Requirements of Farm Livestock and of its Working Party on Terminology. He is also a member of the Working Party on Pigs. Lucas also serves as a member of the Pig Commission of the European Society of Animal Production.

Presidency of the Mellon Institute: Dr. P. C. Cross

DR. PAUL C. CROSS, of the University of Washington (Seattle), has been appointed president and chief executive officer of the Mellon Institute. Dr. Cross, a native of Bruin (Butler County), Pa., has been professor and executive officer of the Department of Chemistry of the University of Washington since 1949. He will assume his new post on September 1. He was born on July 19, 1907, received his bachelor's degree from Geneva College in 1928, and his doctor's degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1932. Afterwards, he held research fellowships at Wisconsin, the California Institute of Technology, and Stanford University. He became an assistant professor at Stanford in 1926, and in 1938 joined Brown University as an associate professor. During 1942-49 he served successively as professor, director of the Metcalf Research Laboratory, and chairman of the Chemistry Department at Brown University.