

NEWS and VIEWS

The Royal Society: Officers for 1962

At the anniversary meeting of the Royal Society on November 30, Sir Howard Florey, professor of pathology in the University of Oxford, was re-elected president. The other officers re-elected for the ensuing year were: Treasurer, Lord Fleck, formerly chairman of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd.; Biological Secretary, Sir Lindor Brown, Waynflete professor of physiology in the University of Oxford; Physical Secretary, Sir William Hodge, Lowndean professor of astronomy and geometry in the University of Cambridge; and Foreign Secretary, Sir Patrick Linstead, rector of the Imperial College of Science and Technology. Other members of Council elected (or re-elected) were: Mr. F. C. Bawden, director of Rothamsted Experimental Station; Mr. E. J. H. Corner, reader in plant taxonomy in the University of Cambridge; Prof. J. E. Harris, professor of zoology in the University of Bristol; Sir Harold Himsworth, secretary, Medical Research Council, consulting physician to University College Hospital, London; Prof. A. F. Huxley, Jodrell professor of physiology at University College in the University of London; Sir Christopher Ingold, emeritus professor of chemistry at University College in the University of London; Prof. W. T. J. Morgan, deputy director of the Lister Institute and professor of biochemistry in the University of London; Prof. C. F. Powell, Melville Wills professor of physics in the University of Bristol; Prof. O. A. Saunders, professor of mechanical engineering at the Imperial College of Science and Technology in the University of London; Dr. C. J. Stubblefield, director of the Geological Survey of Great Britain and the Museum of Practical Geology; Sir Gordon Sutherland, director of the National Physical Laboratory; Sir Graham Sutton, director-general of the Meteorological Office; Dr. H. W. Thompson, reader in infra-red spectroscopy, University of Oxford; Prof. C. H. Waddington, professor of animal genetics in the University of Edinburgh; Prof. A. G. Walker, professor of pure mathematics in the University of Liverpool; Prof. F. C. Williams, professor of electrical engineering in the University of Manchester.

Psychology at Cardiff: Prof. G. Westby

MR. G. WESTBY, who has been appointed to be the first holder of the new chair of psychology in the University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire, is at present head of the Department of Psychology at Hull. He is well known by reason of his outstanding success in developing his present department during the past twelve years. Starting almost from scratch, its activities now include a large and flourishing honours school, the high standards of which are widely admired, and a varied and enthusiastically pursued programme of research. The broad basis, coupled with the strong integration, of the Department have enabled it also to make a full contribution to interdisciplinary courses at the honours level and to the training of graduate students in the social sciences.

Mr. Westby, after reading the Honours School of Philosophy, Politics and Economics, acquired considerable experience in the education and treatment of mal-

adjusted children before returning to Oxford after the War to gain a distinction in the diploma in psychology in 1946. Soon after he went to Hull it became apparent that he commanded the wide understanding of issues in the many diverse aspects presented by contemporary psychology, and the power to attract to his staff people of ability and initiative, without which all effort to build a living department must be in vain. These talents will find full scope at Cardiff, where exceptional possibilities exist, not only because of the keenness for a department of psychology among all the faculties concerned, but also by reason of the proximity and interest of the Welsh National School of Medicine. When difficulties inseparable from starting almost at the beginning have been surmounted, and the advantages exploited, we may confidently look forward to the establishment of a notable new centre of psychological studies.

Atlas Computer Laboratory, National Institute for Research in Nuclear Science: Dr. J. Howlett

DR. J. HOWLETT has been appointed head of the Atlas Computer Laboratory of the National Institute for Research in Nuclear Science. The appointment is effective from December 1. This Laboratory, to be built adjacent to the Institute's Rutherford High Energy Laboratory at Harwell, will house an Atlas electronic digital computer. Dr. Howlett, born in 1912, was educated at Stand Grammar School, Manchester, and the University of Manchester, where he read mathematics. Following an initial period in the Research Department of the London, Midland and Scottish Railway Co., Dr. Howlett joined the Ministry of Supply in 1940, where he was engaged in mathematical and computational work on a variety of defence problems. Since 1948 he has been head of the Computing Group of the Theoretical Physics Division at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell.

Courtaulds, Ltd.: Appointments

SIR ALAN WILSON, a deputy chairman of Courtaulds, Ltd., has been appointed chairman of the company in succession to Sir John Hanbury-Williams, who retires next summer. Sir Alan was elected to the Royal Society in 1942 in recognition of his work on the electronic theory of solids and on the properties of metals, and joined Courtaulds in 1945. Mr. C. F. Kearton and Mr. H. R. Mathys have been appointed deputy chairmen of Courtaulds. Mr. Kearton has been with the firm since 1946, and was elected to the Royal Society in 1961 for his work on the chemical engineering characteristics of volatile uranium products and technological developments in the textile industry. Mr. Mathys is a chartered patent agent and was in general practice until the outbreak of war in 1939; he joined Courtaulds in 1946 to take charge of the Patent Department at Coventry, and was appointed a director in 1954.

Nora: a New Zero Power Reactor in Norway

THE zero power reactor, *Nora*, of the Norwegian Atomic Energy Institute (IFA), which will serve in connexion with the joint research programme in reactor physics of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Norway, was inaugurated at