

different fields which border on each other. There is, however, evidence that in many instances the publication *in extenso* of papers delivered at symposia is leading to repeated publication of the same material. When, moreover, complete publication of a symposium is achieved only 1-2 years after the event, it becomes doubtful whether much of the material is still of value. There appears to be a growing impression that attendance at a symposium should imply the delivery of a paper which will be published, and indeed this is sometimes made the criterion whereby some organizations permit the attendance of their representatives: this is undesirable.

It is inevitable that the frequency of symposia and the numbers attending them should increase, and it is certainly desirable that younger workers should be

able to attend symposia; but there is no reason why discussions should always be published in full. There is much to be said for the printing of special, invited papers and critical reviews given by experts, for reviews are of great value to other workers in the particular field and to those who need a general appreciation of developments. Publication of other matter that could better appear in an ordinary journal after proper editing is to be deprecated, since it leads to duplication of publication, to the making of statements often unsupported by proof and to preliminary announcements that afterwards prove to be wrong. It is suggested that encouragement should be given to an increased number of symposia at which there is no obligation on participants to publish their observations in a special volume.

NEWS and VIEWS

The Rockefeller Institute : Lord Adrian a Trustee

LORD ADRIAN, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, and past president of the Royal Society, has been elected a trustee of the Rockefeller Institute, New York. The election of a foreign scholar to the governing board of a university in the United States is unusual, if not without precedent. This action was taken in recognition of the growing international character of institutions of higher learning and especially the Rockefeller Institute which is devoted entirely to graduate education. Lord Adrian is a Nobel Laureate in Medicine (1932). He was vice-chancellor of the University of Cambridge from 1957-59, and is at present chancellor of the University of Leicester. He was president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science in 1954, and is now president of the Royal Society of Medicine. More than half the trustees of the Rockefeller Institute are actively engaged in academic or scientific pursuits, the rest being men of affairs. The president of the Institute is Dr. Detlev W. Bronk, and the chairman of the Board of Trustees is Mr. David Rockefeller.

Biology at the California Institute of Technology :

Prof. R. C. Owen

DR. RAY C. OWEN, geneticist and immunologist, has been appointed chairman of the Biology Division of the California Institute of Technology. Prof. Owen, who is widely known for his research in the fields of tissue transplantation and inherited blood groups, has served as acting chairman since Prof. George W. Beadle resigned a year ago to become chancellor and then president of the University of Chicago. Prof. Owen's appointment continues the strong genetics tradition in the Biology Division of the Institute. Its first chairman, Prof. T. H. Morgan, and Prof. Beadle, who succeeded him in 1946, were both awarded a Nobel Prize for their work in genetics. Prof. Owen is president of the Genetics Society of America. He is also chairman of the Genetics Study Section of the National Institutes of Health, and with Prof. Adrian Srb, of Cornell University, is co-author of the textbook, *General Genetics*. He has published some sixty papers on his work.

Mechanical Engineering at Manchester :

Prof. R. S. Benson

THE Councils of the University and the Manchester College of Science and Technology have appointed

Dr. R. S. Benson to a new chair in mechanical engineering in the Faculty of Technology. Dr. Benson began his engineering studies on a part-time basis at the Liverpool Technical College and afterwards at the Northampton Polytechnic, where he was awarded a first-class honours B.Sc.(Eng.) degree of the University of London in 1953. In 1954 he qualified for the degree of M.Sc.(London) and in 1959 for the Ph.D. of the University of Liverpool. Concurrently with his part-time studies, Dr. Benson completed a five-year apprenticeship with Messrs. Cammell Laird and Co., Ltd., and successively became a junior engineer with Messrs. Sulzer Bros., of London, and a marine research engineer with the British Shipbuilding Research Association. He was appointed lecturer in mechanical engineering in the University of Liverpool in 1953 and senior lecturer in 1959. He spent the academic year 1960-61 as visiting associate professor in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and was appointed reader in mechanical engineering in the University of Liverpool in 1961. Dr. Benson has investigated the scavenging of two-stroke cycle engines. He is at present working in the field of unsteady-flow gas dynamics. He was awarded the Thomas Lowe Gray Prize of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers in 1960 and 1961, and the Clayton Award in 1960.

U.S. National Bureau of Standards :

Mr. T. G. Digges

MR. THOMAS G. DIGGES, an authority on the heat treatment and properties of steels, has retired as assistant chief, Metallurgy Division, and chief, Thermal Metallurgy Section, of the National Bureau of Standards, U.S. Department of Commerce. During the forty-one years at the Bureau, Mr. Digges directed and performed research in physical metallurgy on problems related to the flow, fracture and ductility of metals and alloys; the influence of temperature on their properties, and their transformations when heated and cooled. He also established procedures for evaluating the machinability of steels and studied experimental high-speed steels. His investigations of hardenability made substantial contributions to an understanding of that phenomenon. During the Second World War he made an exhaustive study of the effects of boron in steels. He was awarded both the Department of Commerce Exceptional Service and Meritorious Service Medals, and the American Society for Metals Gold Medal for service