NEWS and VIEWS

C.S.I.R.O. Division of Soils: Mr. J. K. Taylor

Mr. J. K. Taylor will retire in December 1963 as chief of the Division of Soils, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization, Australia. Mr. Taylor graduated in agriculture at the University of Sydney in 1920 and became demonstrator in agricultural chemistry at that University. In 1921 he was awarded a Walter and Eliza Hall research fellowship for postgraduate research in soils and plant nutrition at the Universities of Sydney and California. He obtained his M.Sc. degree at the latter University in 1923, his B.A. degree at the University of Sydney in 1924, and was appointed lecturer in agricultural and dairy bacteriology at Hawkesbury Agricultural College, New South Wales. In 1927, Mr. Taylor was appointed to the Division of Soils Research of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, the forerunner of C.S.I.R.O., where he undertook the first soil surveys conducted by the Council. Mr. Taylor was closely associated with his chief, Prof. J. A. Prescott, in building up the Division and expanding its soil survey activities. He also played an important part in the establishment of regional laboratories in various parts of Australia so that the work of the Division could be carried out more effectively. Mr. Taylor was appointed deputy chief of the Division in 1944 and chief in 1947. Since then, the scope of the Division's research has been greatly increased and there are now strong research groups concerned with the chemistry, physics, and microbiology of soils, and with clay mineralogy, pedology and soil survey. Mr. Taylor has been closely associated with many aspects of the development of soil science in Australia. He played a leading part in the formation of the Australian Society of Soil Science and was its president during 1958–60.

Prof. E. G. Hallsworth

Prof. E. G. Hallsworth, professor of agricultural chemistry at the University of Nottingham, has been appointed to succeed Mr. Taylor. Prof. Hallsworth graduated at the University of Leeds in 1936 and became assistant lecturer in agricultural chemistry at that University. He obtained his Ph.D. from Leeds in 1939 and in 1940 went to Australia as lecturer in agricultural chemistry in the University of Sydney. While at Sydney he developed investigations on pedogenesis and fertility of soils and published a series of papers with his students, dealing with particular soils of New South Wales ranging from the alpine humus soils to the gilgais. He built up a substantial knowledge of these soils during this period and was able to make a critical review of shortcomings in the great soil group system of classification when applied to Australian soils. In 1950 he returned to England to become professor of agricultural chemistry in the University of Nottingham, where he took a leading part in building up one of the most flourishing university departments of agriculture in Britain. At Nottingham, Prof. Hallsworth undertook research on the micro-element nutrition of legumes. He and his colleagues demonstrated recently that cobalt has a part to play in nitrogen fixation by nodulated clover. During 1960–61 Prof. Hallsworth revisited Australia as visiting professor of soil science in the University of Western Australia.

Biochemistry at Ghana: Prof. C. B. Coulson

Dr. C. B. Coulson, at present head of the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics of the Arthur D. Little Research Institute, near Edinburgh, has been appointed to the recently instituted chair of biochemistry, nutrition and food science in the University of Ghana at Legon. Dr. Coulson, born in Nottinghamshire and educated at the Riley High School, Hull, and High Pavement School, Nottingham, graduated with honours in chemistry in Prof. R. D. Haworth's Department in the University of Sheffield in 1949. His research on plant proteins and amino-acids in Prague gained him the Doctor of Natural Sciences of the Charles University in 1952. Work in the same field gave him an M.Sc. degree (University of Sheffield), while his work on biochemical aspects of triterpenoidal saponins led to the award of a Ph.D. of the University of Wales. In 1952, as a junior research fellow of the then Institute of Seaweed Research, he examined the proteins and amino-acids of marine algae. In 1955, after military service, he joined the research staff of the Department of Agricultural Chemistry (now Department of Biochemistry and Soil Science) under Prof. W. Charles Evans at the University College of North Wales, Bangor. He continued work there as an Imperial Chemical Industries Research Fellow and as a lecturer in biochemistry and soil organic matter. His research interests extended to farm animal biochemistry and soil biochemistry as well as triterpenoidal saponins. In 1960 Dr. Coulson took up his present post and has been concerned with research on wheat gluten, anti-tubercular glycopeptides of milk whey (with Prof. T. Fujiwara, of the University of Osaka) and the industrial utilization of peat humic acids, both at the Institute and for O.E.C.D,

The Department of Biochemistry, Nutrition and Food Science, in the Faculty of Agriculture of the University of Ghana, is to be associated with the Food Technology and Marketing Investigation Unit (F.A.O.), which is to be set up with a grant of nearly two million dollars spread over five years from the United Nations Special Fund and the Government of Ghana. The main task of the Department will be to develop the output of specialists in the fields covered by the Department and to extend research in biochemistry, nutrition and food science within the context of West Africa.

The National Council for Technological Awards

The sixth report of the National Council for Technological Awards covers the year ended March 31, 1963, in which 927 Diplomas in Technology were conferred, making a total of 2,019 since September 1958 (Pp. 59. London: The National Council for Technological Awards, 1963). At the end of the year, 7,310 students were following courses leading to the Diploma and the number of first-year students had risen to 2,715. Some 350 industrial organizations provided industrial training for students on whom the Diploma was conferred during the year. Over the past three years the proportion of college-based first-year students has increased from 17 per cent to 31 per cent in engineering courses, and from 53 per cent to 71 per cent in other technologies. Three awards were made of Membership of the College of Technologists. Among appendixes to the report is a list of 117 courses, at 28 colleges, which are now recognized by the Council as leading to the Diploma in Technology.

Effective Use of Outside Research Facilities

A brochure, issued by the Battelle Memorial Institute, outlines the procedures which are being used successfully by some corporations to establish a close working relationship with outside research laboratories such as the Battelle Memorial Institute (*A Practical Plan for the Effective Use of Outside Research Facilities*. Pp. 8. Columbus, Ohio: Battelle Memorial Institute, 1963). The benefits both to the corporation and the research institute resulting from such a relationship are outlined and the