

after he entered the Forensic Science Service, Holden became director of the Metropolitan Police Laboratory at New Scotland Yard.

Because of his interest in micro-organisms, it was perhaps natural that even when he became director of the Forensic Science Laboratories in Nottingham he still maintained contacts with industrial firms in the neighbourhood, and with the discovery of the importance of penicillin in the early years of the War he was instrumental in bringing together in a Nottingham laboratory a very considerable collection of cultures of species of *Penicillium*.

I have vivid recollections of my first meeting with Harry Holden in the Department of Botany, University of Glasgow, round about 1923. On that day he was sitting in the assistants' room inking in drawings of a fossil stem from the Kidston collection. I was captivated by the sureness of his draftsmanship, and by the speed with which he worked. He kept up a running fire of commentary during the whole of the period, and I had a

foretaste then of what has remained with me as an abiding memory of Dr. Holden, his immense vitality and deep interest in botany, and his rare genius for communicating with anyone his unbounded enthusiasm. He was a man who could not tolerate inactivity and slackness and who spent his energies in the service of biology, particularly of botany, without stint. He was gifted with considerable organizing ability, and was quick to see and to seize advantages in situations as they presented themselves.

There can be no doubt that Holden exemplified scientific versatility to an amazing degree. His success in the forensic science field bears witness to this, but after a long and active career in this service it gave pleasure to many of his friends that he returned to his palaeobotany studies in the last few years of his life, and brought to these the same enthusiasm and vigour which so marked him in his days in the Department of Botany, University College, Nottingham.

C. G. C. CHESTERS

NEWS and VIEWS

Biochemistry at Sheffield: Prof. W. Bartley

DR. W. BARTLEY, who has been appointed to succeed Prof. Quentin H. Gibson in the chair of biochemistry at the University of Sheffield (see *Nature*, 198, 939; 1963), returns to the University where he graduated in 1950 with first-class honours in physiology. In the same year he joined the Cell Metabolism Research Unit of the Medical Research Council in the Department of Biochemistry at Sheffield, and in 1954, on the appointment of the director of the Unit, Prof. H. A. (now Sir Hans) Krebs, to the Whitley professorship of biochemistry at Oxford, he moved with the Unit to the Biochemistry Department at Oxford. In 1959 he transferred to the staff of the Oxford Biochemistry Department as a University demonstrator. His main research interests concern the biochemistry of mitochondria, a field in which he has made important contributions distinguished by careful and systematic experimentation. His interests include the elucidation of the part played by lipids in structure and function in living cells, and generally the relations between structure and biochemical function. He has built up a reputation as an enthusiastic undergraduate and post-graduate teacher who may confidently be expected to add to the distinguished record of the Biochemistry Department at Sheffield.

The 1963 Guggenheim International Astronautics Award: Prof. M. Nicolet

PROF. MARCEL NICOLET, director of the Centre National de Recherches de l'Espace in Belgium, has been awarded the 1963 Daniel and Florence Guggenheim International Astronautics Award. The Award, which carries with it a prize of 1,000 dollars, is offered annually to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the progress of astronautics during the preceding five years. Prof. Nicolet is well known for his achievements in the fields of aeronomy and planetary atmospheres. He was the first to point out correctly the effect of sunlight and diffusion in modifying the composition of the upper atmospheres of Earth and planets. This work enabled him to predict in the planetary upper-atmospheres the existence of a helium belt which was later shown by space probes to be correct. He was awarded the Triennial Prize of the Agathon De Potter Foundation of the Belgian Royal Academy of Sciences and became a member of the Academy in 1962. For seven years he was secretary-general of the Special Committee of the International Geophysical Year.

The Nuclear Science and Engineering Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. Francis S. McMichael and Mr. Frank G. Chambers have been elected to the Board of Directors of the Nuclear Science and Engineering Corporation.

F. S. McMichael

Mr. Francis S. McMichael is a vice-president of Mellon National Bank and Trust Co. He is a director of the Jeannette Glass Co., the Keystone Box Co., South Hills Ornamental Iron Co., Division of Mulach Steel Corporation and the Pryce Machine and Manufacturing Co. He is also a member of the Allegheny County Bar Association, the American Society of Planning Officials, the Pennsylvania Planning Association and the Mt. Lebanon Planning Commission.

F. G. Chambers

Mr. Frank G. Chambers is president and a director of the Continental Capital Corporation, a small business investment corporation in San Francisco. He is chairman of the Board of Hazleton-Nuclear Science Corporation, the western affiliate of the Nuclear Science and Engineering Corporation. He is also a director of Maydwell and Hartzell, Guardian Paper Co., Kimball Manufacturing Co. and the *Journal of Commercial Art*. He served as director of the Office of Priorities and Controls, Munitions Board of the U.S. Defense Department.

The Nuclear Science and Engineering Corporation was formed in Pittsburgh, Pa., immediately after passage of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954. It conducts research and development, utilizing nuclear and radioactive tracer techniques on production and research problems of industry and Government. It also provides specialized radioactivity and radiation measurement services, and is considered a leading producer of radioactive isotopes. The four technical departments of the firm include physical sciences, biomedical isotope applications, radiation biology and radioactive materials.

The Royal Society and Nuffield Foundation Commonwealth Bursaries Scheme: Awards

AWARDS under the Royal Society and Nuffield Foundation Commonwealth Bursaries Scheme have been made as follows: Dr. M. Adhikari, lecturer in applied chemistry, University of Calcutta, to enable him to work on physico-chemical properties of clays and clay membranes at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, from July to December 1963; Dr. A. K. Chandra, lec-