

## NEWS and VIEWS

## International Meteorological Organization Prize for 1964:

Dr. F. W. Reichelderfer

DR. F. W. REICHELDERFER, formerly chief of the National Meteorological Service, U.S. Weather Bureau, has been awarded the International Meteorological Organization Prize for outstanding work in meteorology and international collaboration.

Dr. Reichelderfer was born on August 6, 1895, in Harlan, Indiana. He obtained a B.A. at the Northwestern University and joined the U.S. Naval Reserve Flying Corps in May 1918. After meteorological studies at the Harvard Meteorological Observatory he was appointed chief of Naval Aerological Service from 1922 and continued in that capacity until 1928. From 1928 until 1938 he served on U.S.S.s *Oklahoma* and *Lexington*, and as executive officer on board U.S.S. *Utah* and in the naval air station at Lakehurst, New Jersey, for lighter-than-air craft. In this latter capacity he participated in a flight of the German zeppelin *Hindenburg* from Lakehurst to Rio de Janeiro and Frankfurt and back in 1936. He was appointed chief, United States Weather Bureau, in 1938, and retired from office in 1963. Dr. Reichelderfer actively participated in international meteorological work both in the International Meteorological Organization (1938-51) and the World Meteorological Organization (1951-64). He participated in preparing the International Convention adopted in Washington in 1947 which created the World Meteorological Organization. He served as the first president of the World Meteorological Organization, after the Convention entered into force, from 1951 until 1955. He was a member of the Organization's Executive Committee from 1951 until his retirement in 1963. He also participated in the international scientific activities in meteorology undertaken by the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics. Dr. Reichelderfer is still active in a large number of scientific bodies in the United States, such as the National Academy of Sciences, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Institute of Aeronautical Sciences, the American Geophysical Union, the American Meteorological Society, over which he presided during 1945-46, and was a member of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics for many years.

## Physical Chemistry in the University of Exeter:

Prof. M. L. McGlashan

DR. M. L. MCGLASHAN, reader in chemistry in the University of Reading, has been appointed to the newly established chair of physical chemistry in the University of Exeter as from October 1. Dr. McGlashan was born in New Zealand. He graduated with a first in chemistry from the University College (now University) of Canterbury, Christchurch, and joined the teaching staff there. In 1949 he entered the University of Reading with the first Sims Empire Scholarship and obtained a Ph.D. degree for his work on theoretical chemistry, which he carried out with Prof. E. A. Guggenheim. He returned to Christchurch and was made senior lecturer; but in 1954 he joined the staff of the University of Reading. At Reading, Dr. McGlashan has won a reputation for his theoretical and experimental research in the field of intermolecular forces. He collaborated with Prof. Guggenheim on a variety of problems in statistical mechanics, and he built up an important research group making measurements of the thermodynamic properties of liquid mixtures and of gases. He was awarded a D.Sc. degree of the University of Reading in 1962 and in that year was given the title of reader. He is an enthusiastic mountaineer and is

keenly interested in the theatre. His three Shakespearean productions for the University Drama Society are well remembered.

## Department of Pure and Applied Chemistry:

University of Strathclyde

THE granting of a charter to the University of Strathclyde, formerly the Royal College of Science and Technology, Glasgow (*Nature*, 199, 1137; 1963), has approximately coincided with the completion of a new building to accommodate the University's chemical activities. The opportunity has been taken to reorganize these activities within a new framework by the formation of a Department of Pure and Applied Chemistry from the former separate Departments of Chemistry and of Chemical Technology. The new Department will be headed by a committee of professors, initially consisting of Profs. P. D. Ritchie (chemical technology), P. L. Pauson (organic chemistry) and M. Gordon (physical chemistry). Prof. Ritchie will be chairman of this committee for the academic year 1964-65. The Organic Chemistry, Physical Chemistry and Chemical Technology Sections of the Department have now moved into the new building on Cathedral Street, which provides greatly increased facilities for both teaching and research. Part of the old George Street building is being retained for the Inorganic Chemistry Section, and for the use of first-year classes. The staff has been augmented by the appointment to lectureships of Drs. S. R. Logan (physical chemistry), A. McAuley and G. A. Melson (inorganic chemistry). Dr. D. Pugh has been appointed to an assistant lectureship in theoretical chemistry, and Dr. W. E. Watts to a temporary lectureship in organic chemistry; and Dr. S. Affrossman has been promoted from assistant lecturer to lecturer in physical chemistry.

## The Morecambe Bay Barrage

IN reply to a question in the House of Commons on June 11, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade, Mr. D. Price, said that Mr. E. Heath had asked the North-West Study Group to make a thorough assessment of the material already available about the proposals for a Morecambe Bay barrage. Under the scheme, a road and rail link would be incorporated enclosing the estuaries of the Leven and Kent and the waters would be used for public supply and for cooling locally sited power stations. The assessment was to be made in order that the Minister might determine whether a survey was needed and, if so, on what lines it should be undertaken. He would willingly receive any further information on the proposals, and proposals for such projects as a barrage and road links across the Solway Firth would also be readily received by the Study Group. The Ministry conceived it as part of the Group's duties to take these into its general reviews.

## Aid to Developing Countries

IN reply to a question in the House of Lords on June 18, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Viscount Blakenham, said that aid to developing countries from British public funds in 1963 was £158 million, compared with £150 million in 1962. For the financial year 1963-64, expenditure was £175 million compared with £148 million in 1962-63 and £160 million in 1961-62. These figures did not include the substantial flow of private investment, nor the £24 million of military aid provided in 1963 or the £30 million of military aid made available in 1963-64.

The Minister of State for Commonwealth Relations and for the Colonies, the Marquess of Lansdowne, said that,