

in the New Forest, and conservation. Of special importance is the last mentioned as much attention has been directed to improving the deteriorating conditions of the New Forest, the Chalk grasslands, and the tidal and freshwater marshes along the coast. The chapter is well illustrated, with five graphs dealing with holdings, crop and livestock returns, crop acreages, and consumption of plant nutrients. Two maps show land classification in Hampshire and the New Forest.

"The Character of the Region" is rounded off with a descriptive chapter on the Hampshire Development Plan. The background to the Plan is described and sections are included on population and housing, industry and employment, road developments, social facilities, areas of comprehensive development, and areas of special interest.

Part 2, "The Historical Background", opens with a chapter in which an endeavour is made to define the mysterious region of Wessex. Theories are put forward as to how far the boundaries of Wessex spread, and the part played by Hampshire and Southampton. Wessex for many centuries lost its regional significance, but owes much of its revived popularity to Thomas Hardy. "Place Names of Hampshire" is a delight for all to read. The central position of Hampshire on the south coast of England has had a striking effect on its place-name structure. To the west of the Hampshire Avon, Celtic place-names become increasingly more frequent, while to the east of the county few pre-English names have survived. Sections deal with the earliest names, earthworks, Germanic names, Scandinavian names, Norman and French names, the New Forest and its place names in Domesday Book. The third chapter considers "Settlement in Prehistoric and Roman Times". This treats, in succession, the palaeolithic, mesolithic and neolithic periods, the Copper and Bronze Ages, the Iron Age, and finally the Roman period. A thirty-two page section on the history of Southampton rounds off the historical background. This commences with pre-conquest South-

ampton, medieval Southampton and aspects of its industry and power, the civic authority, trade and communications, Southampton in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries with the collapse of commerce and later the revival of the Town's trade, and the effect of war with Spain. This chapter ends with an account of Southampton in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

It was fortunate that the editor of the *Survey* was able to include in his preface the fact that "Her Majesty the Queen, on the recommendation of the Home Secretary, was graciously pleased to raise by letters patent the Town and County of Southampton to the title and dignity of a City on 11 February 1964". Unfortunately, the text of the volume was in the press at that time, and hence it was not possible to change the title of the third part, "The Character of the Town of Southampton". Essentially, the chapters within this part of the *Survey* deal with the social pattern, economic activity, the port of Southampton, communications, aspects of the civic scene, the Ordinance Survey, the University and the planning of Southampton. Under "Social Patterns" sections are included on the past and present activities of the city, the growth of the residential area, population growth, social ecology, industrial development, employment, etc. The chapter on the Port of Southampton describes the functions and activities of the Harbour Board, comparative port traffic, the docks, and the effects on Southampton if the recommendations of the Rochdale Committee's report, *The Major Ports of Great Britain*, are implemented.

It is inevitable that as each chapter has been written by separate authors there should be a certain amount of overlap. Prof. Monkhouse is to be congratulated on keeping this to a minimum and for encouraging bibliographies with almost all chapters. The absence of a general index is to be deprecated; no doubt its absence was necessary for the sake of expediency of publication. However, it is greatly to be hoped that one will be issued as a supplement in due course.

PRESIDENT FOR 1965 OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION

SIR CYRIL HINSHELWOOD, O.M., F.R.S.

SIR CYRIL HINSHELWOOD, former Dr. Lee's professor of chemistry in the University of Oxford, has been elected president for 1965 of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. Sir Cyril will deliver his presidential address at the next annual meeting in Cambridge.

Sir Cyril is retiring from his professorship in Oxford and has been succeeded by Dr. R. E. Richards, F.R.S., Oxford University reader in physical chemistry (see p. 917 of this issue).

He was appointed to the chair in 1937, and he first organized the transfer of the Department from the historic cellars and converted bathrooms of Balliol and Trinity Colleges to the first laboratory for physical chemistry at Oxford, built with the support of a benefaction from Lord Nuffield. Here he strengthened and enlarged his school of chemical kinetics on a broad front, to include physical and biological systems; and during his tenure of office he was able to see the development by members of his staff of distinguished groups in numerous branches of physical and inorganic chemistry. Now he has left the Oxford Department, his plans for the further expansion of the physical chemistry laboratory are still continuing.

Sir Cyril's distinction has been recognized far and wide, by awards from many universities, from the Royal Society, and from scientific academies in many countries. He is a Nobel prize-winner and holder of the Order of Merit. He can claim the unique record of having been at the same time president of the Royal Society and of the Classical Association. The tercentenary celebrations of the Royal Society in which he played the leading part will long be remembered.

Not only has Sir Cyril been awarded the Copley Medal of the Royal Society (*Nature*, 196, 1025; 1962), but he was also the first recipient of the Leverhulme Tercentenary Medal (*Nature*, 192, 907; 1961) and was awarded the Medal for 1961 of the Society of Chemical Industry. This Medal, a senior award of the Society, is presented every two years for conspicuous services to applied chemistry by research, discovery, invention or improvements (*Nature*, 189, 22; 1961).

Sir Cyril is now retiring to his native London, but his future will not be a period of inactivity. By his election to a senior research fellowship at the Imperial College of Science and Technology he will be able to continue scientific work, and his counsel will also be valued by the many organizations with which he is associated.