Society of Western Australia and the Royal Australian Ornithologists' Union, and he is warmly remembered by Australian ornithologists.

On his voyages to England in 1920 and 1926, he was struck by the difficulty of identifying sea-birds, and this resulted in his best-known work, *The Birds of the Ocean*, published in 1928, which may fairly claim to be the first ornithological field guide. After 3 years without a regular post (he was a bachelor with modest private means), he was in 1929 appointed superintendent of the Tees survey of the Marine Biological Association. He left this post in October 1930 to become director of the Oxford Bird Census, founded by E. M. Nicholson, the late B. W. Tucker and the Oxford Ornithological Society, which, after the creation of the British Trust for Ornithology in 1933–34, became the Institute of Field Ornithology, and in 1938 the Edward Grey Institute. In his period as director, he played a valuable part in encouraging undergraduate ornithologists, and it was after taking undergraduate parties to trap migrants on Holy Island in 1931 and 1932, and a visit with senior ornithologists to Heligoland in 1933, that Alexander stimulated the founding of the first British Bird Observatories, on Skokholm and the Isle of May. His other main service was to build up the library of the Edward Grey Institute, much of it from his own pocket, as funds were very low. When he retired as director in 1945, he remained as librarian for a further ten years, and the library was named after him. His remarkable memory, usually precise to the part of a page, helped all in search of information. By now, the Alexander Library is probably the most complete ornithological library in the world, and the residue of Alexander's estate has been bequeathed to it.

D. Lack

NEWS and VIEWS

The Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R.: Foreign Members

Thirty-five scientists were elected Foreign Members of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. at the recent meeting in Moscow. Included among these were four British scientists: Lord Florey, past-president of the Royal Society, and Provost of The Queen's College, University of Oxford; Prof. P. M. S. Blackett, president of the Royal Society and emeritus professor of physics, University of London, and part-time scientific adviser to the Ministry of Technology; Sir Robert Robinson, past-president of the Royal Society and emeritus professor of chemistry, University of Oxford: and Sir Geoffrey Taylor, formerly Yarrow research professor of the Royal Society. The total number of Foreign Members of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. is now seventy-three.

Honorary Fellowship of the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications : Sir Geoffrey Taylor, F.R.S.

The Institute of Mathematics and its Applications has elected Sir Geoffrey Taylor as its first Honorary Fellow. Sir Geoffrey, who will celebrate his eightieth birthday on March 7, 1966, has made distinguished mathematical and experimental contributions to the mechanics of fluids and solids and their technological and geophysical applications. He was elected to Fellowship of the Royal Society in 1919 and received the Copley Medal in 1944. From 1923 until 1952 he was a Yarrow research professor of the Royal Society. Sir Geoffrey Taylor has been honoured by universities, academies and societies throughout the world. A formal presentation of the certificate of honorary fellowship will be made at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, in the Department of Physics on February 23, immediately preceding a lecture to the Institute by Dr. J. W. S. Cassels on "What are p-Adic Numbers ?"

The Scottish Horticultural Research Institute, Mylnefield, Invergowrie: Dr. T. Swarbrick, C.B.E.

Dr. T. Swarbrick retired from the post of director of the Scottish Horticultural Research Institute, Mylnefield, Invergowrie, on January 31, 1965. He was appointed as the first director of the Institute on its establishment in 1951 and his retirement after 14 years thus marked the end of the first phase in the development of this important centre of horticultural research in Scotland. Dr. Swarbrick received his scientific training at the University of Leeds, where he graduated in agriculture and botany (1923), B.Sc. Hons. in botany (1924) and Ph.D. in plant physiology (1927), after holding a Ministry of Agriculture scholarship at Leeds, Long Ashton and Wisconsin (U.S.A.). On completing his training, he served on the staff of the Long Ashton Research Station first as physiologist and later as pomologist until 1945, when he joined the scientific staff of the Royal Dutch Shell Group, with headquarters in The Hague and Amsterdam. This was followed in 1951 by his appointment at Mylnefield, where he had the task of establishing and developing this new research centre to serve the special needs of the Scottish horticultural industry. In developing the research programme there, Dr. Swarbrick used as a basis the research units of the Department of Agriculture for Scotland for the investigation of diseases of raspberries and strawberries at Dundee and Auchincruive, and these subjects are still prominent in the present programme. Other important subjects of investigation include the breeding of raspberries, strawberries and vegetables, and the occurrence of natural growth substances in the strawberry in relation to environmental factors and developmental effects. Mylnefield, under Dr. Swarbrick's able guidance, has become a national research centre of repute and is a fitting memorial to his scientific ability and vision, his drive and enthusiasm, and his high personal qualities. His distinguished work there was officially recognized by the award of a C.B.E. in 1964; he has received the 1965 Scottish Horticultural Medal.

Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (O.E.C.D.), successor to the Organization for European Economic Co-operation (O.E.E.C.), was established in 1961; it comprises all the industrialized countries of North America and Western Europe, and also Japan. Three major aims guide its policy: first, promotion of the highest sustainable economic growth and employment and a rising standard of living in the member countries; secondly, support for sound economic expansion of member and non-member nations in the process of development; and thirdly, furtherance of the expansion of world trade on a multilateral, non-discriminatory basis. This Organization functions primarily as a forum for policy-making representatives of member Governments, and a brief account of its work has previously been noted in these columns (*Nature*, **205**, 1098; 1965). To take one example, agriculture, ". . . Because of the difficulties encountered in adapting national agricultural policies to the requirements of fuller co-operation, agriculture has often been considered an obstacle to co-operation. So far