

University and Educational Intelligence

CAMBRIDGE.—Appointments to three University lectureships in mathematics will be made in the Easter term, to take effect from October 1. The initial basic stipend of a University lecturer is £200 a year but the General Board may grant an additional allowance of £150 a year to a lecturer who is not a fellow of a College and may also grant a number of years seniority carrying with it an increased basic stipend. Candidates are requested to send their names with any evidence of qualification to Mr. M. H. A. Newman, secretary to the Faculty Board of Mathematics, St. John's College, Cambridge, on or before May 6.

The subject proposed for the Adams prize for the period 1933-34 is "The Mathematical Representation of Unsteady Flow in Fluids". Recent experimental researches on fluid flow close to a solid surface have revealed new facts of which no mathematical treatment has yet been given. Other aspects of the subject that might be studied include the stability of the flow of viscous fluids, the statistical treatment of turbulence and the conditions behind a body moving in a fluid. Each essay should be accompanied by a full and careful abstract, pointing out the parts which the author considers to be new and indicating the parts which are regarded as of more importance than the rest. The prize is open to the competition of all persons who have at any time been admitted to a degree in the University. The essays must be sent to the Registry on or before December 31. The value of the prize is about £268; the value may be increased when it seems desirable to the adjudicators, on occasions when the prize is divided.

LONDON.—The following appointments have recently been made: chair of civil engineering (Imperial College—City and Guilds College), Prof. A. J. S. Pippard, since 1928 professor of civil engineering in the University of Bristol; chair of physics (Birkbeck College), Mr. P. M. S. Blackett, since 1930 a University lecturer at the University of Cambridge; readership in physiology (Guy's Hospital Medical School), Mr. W. R. Spurrell, since 1931 demonstrator of physiology in the University of Leeds; Cassel lecturer in commerce (London School of Economics), Dr. Vera Anstey, since 1929 lecturer in commerce at the London School of Economics.

ST. ANDREWS.—The Senatus has resolved to confer the honorary degree of LL.D. at the graduation ceremony on June 30 upon the following: The Right Honourable Mabel-Frances-Elizabeth, Dowager Countess of Airlie, Airlie Castle, Kirriemuir; Mr. W. St. C. Baddeley, Castle Hale, Painswick, Gloucestershire (antiquarian and archæologist); Dr. R. W. Chapman, secretary to the Delegates of the Oxford University Press; The Right Honourable Viscount Chelmsford, formerly Viceroy of India, Warden of All Souls College, Oxford; Prof. Carl Neuberg, director of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institut für Biochemie, Berlin, and editor of the *Biochemische Zeitschrift*; Mr. R. S. Pearson, director of the Forest Products Research Laboratory, Princes Risborough; Mr. Evelyn C. Shaw, secretary to the Royal Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, and honorary general secretary of the British School at Rome.

DOCTORATES conferred in the sciences in American universities have increased steadily in number from 330 in 1919-20 to 1241 in 1931-32. The titles of the theses are published annually in the "Reprint and Circular" series of the National Research Council together with tables of comparative statistics for ten years. The tables show that last year the maximum numbers of doctorates conferred in previous years were exceeded or equalled in chemistry (420), zoology (127), physics (113), mathematics (75), bacteriology (46), pathology (43), physiology (46) and anatomy (16). Psychology (104) takes fourth place in the list of subjects, botany (79) fifth and engineering (47) seventh.

HIGHER education in Sweden is known in Great Britain chiefly by its fruits, the character of which argues excellence in the institutions in which it is conducted. A convenient summary account of those institutions has been published by the United States Government Printing Office as Pamphlet No. 32 of 1932 (10 cents). The author, who is the specialist for western Europe in the Foreign School Systems Division of the Federal Office of Education, has attempted to give such particulars as will enable university registrars to estimate the value of academic credentials of Swedish-trained students and has therefore described the various curricula and examination systems in use, both in the secondary schools and in the four universities and some sixteen other (specialist) institutions of university grade. The important reorganisation of the Swedish national scheme of education described some time ago in the Board of Education's Pamphlet No. 81 (H.M. Stationery Office, 1930) is still proceeding. Another useful pamphlet (No. 29; 1932) issued from the Foreign School Systems division of the Office of Education is a summary of official certificates, diplomas and degrees granted in France. This includes a graph exhibiting the successive stages of primary, secondary and university instruction.

How schools have been affected by the prevailing economic depression is told in the December issue of *School Life*, the organ of the United States Office of Education. Thanks to the traditional esteem which education enjoys in the United States, school budgets were scarcely affected during the first year of the depression, but they have now begun to feel the pinch of hard times, especially those of the rural schools in which there was but little provision for expenditure on more than the bare necessities. In school budgets of cities with populations of more than 100,000, the effect of the all-pervading financial stringency is seen chiefly in the reduction in the current year by nearly forty per cent in provision for capital outlay, but in most of the States outside the New England group and California, far more drastic curtailments have taken place in rural school budgets. These have involved such measures as the adoption of a shorter term, elimination of some of the school services and even the closing of schools. In one State, 26 schools were closed for want of funds for their maintenance; in another the closing of schools in 25 counties is expected to throw five thousand teachers out of employment and the average salary paid to elementary teachers was reduced by twelve per cent without counting reductions entailed by shortening the school term; some counties have dismissed one out of every three teachers.