

THE title of professor emeritus of physiology in the University has been conferred on Prof. Winifred C. Cullis on her retirement from the Sophia Jex-Blake chair of physiology at the London (R.F.H.) School of Medicine for Women.

Miss Esther M. Killick has been appointed to succeed Prof. Cullis. She has been since 1939 lecturer in industrial physiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

#### University of Poznan

ACCORDING to Science Service, the former Polish University of Poznan, which has now become the University of Posen, reopened this summer under German direction and for German students. The city of Poznan is in the western part of Poland, which has been set aside for permanent and total German occupation; Posen is the German spelling of its name. Its university is one of the newest in Europe, having been founded in 1919. Before the outbreak of present hostilities, it had a student body of something more than five thousand.

#### A New British Scientific Journal

IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES propose to publish a new quarterly journal of science, and it is hoped that the first number will appear during the autumn of this year. The journal will be translated into at least three foreign languages and will circulate in all parts of the civilized world. Though published by Imperial Chemical Industries, it will in no sense be an advertising medium, but, by laying principal emphasis upon British contributions to science, will form part of the national war effort and as such has the approval of His Majesty's Government. Many distinguished men of science have already expressed their willingness to contribute to its pages, and the chief article of the inaugural number will be by the Astronomer Royal, Dr. H. Spencer Jones. Such a journal, especially in its translated forms, will undoubtedly contribute largely to the national war effort and we wish it every success.

#### First American High School of Science

THE first "graduating exercises" of the New York High School of Science were held on June 26, with the commencement address delivered by Dr. Irving Langmuir. Diplomas were presented to the pioneer class of 130 boys. Every one of the graduates has signified his intention of pursuing further studies in science, leading to careers in research, engineering and medicine. The new high school was organized in 1938, with curriculum and faculty built around the idea of making science the central theme in education. Not only were science courses made the pivotal subject studied, but also such subjects as English, foreign languages, the social sciences, etc. were presented with primary reference to their relation to the natural sciences.

New York was combed for boys with special interest in, and aptitude for, science. Out of five thousand applicants, a student body of two thousand

was selected. A rigorous entrance examination was held. The new school was opened in a building of the conventional school type, so that many changes had to be made, especially in the installation of additional laboratories, to adapt it to its new purpose. In addition, there is a visual instruction lecture room, a large library, an English workshop, a voice-recording studio, four mechanical drafting-rooms, a graphic arts shop, a music room, a gymnasium and a swimming-pool.

#### John Innes Horticultural Institution

THE report of the Director of the John Innes Horticultural Institution for the year 1940 has just been issued. The War has affected all the departments, the reduction in personnel by war service and the replacement of research work by the growing of vegetables and drug crops and seed production have dislocated some of the activities. Nevertheless, the results obtained from experiments on incompatibility, parthenocarpy, production of polyploidy in plums, cherries and pears, heterosis, polygenetics and linkage, provide useful and important data. The cytological department has found that cold treatment, colchicine and starving the nucleus of nucleic acid are excellent methods for analysing the behaviour of chromosomes during division. The preparation of a list of chromosome numbers of more than a thousand tropical species will be of great value to future workers. The identification of several plant pigments has been made by the Biochemistry Department. It has been found that both the ivory and yellow forms of *Antirrhinum majus* contain apigenin, and that the yellow pigment probably is chalkone. The yellow pigment in *Papaver radicum* is gossypetin.

A useful innovation is the publication of pamphlets—John Innes Leaflets—which explain in simple terms the lessons learnt from the experiments on composting, soil sterilization, incompatibility, sterility and time of flowering in fruit trees. Already ten thousand of the leaflets have been sold. These pamphlets, together with more than fifty scientific papers published during 1940, indicate that very creditable work has been done under adverse conditions.

#### Malaria in India

IN a paper in the July issue of the *Asiatic Review*, Sir Alfred Chatterton states that the organization employed at the present time in anti-malarial work in India, where many millions of cases occur every year, are the Malaria Institute of India, the Indian branch of the Ross Institute, the malarial sections maintained by some of the provincial health departments, the medical departments of certain railways and a few voluntary associations, such as the Assam Medical Research Society and the Central Co-operative Anti-Malarial Society of Bengal. The Malaria Institute of India is the main centre for research and for the training of medical officers from all parts of India in anti-malarial work. By offering advice to Provincial Governments it plays an important part in co-ordinating work throughout the country. The