

## NEWS and VIEWS

## Chair of Social Institutions, University of London

As announced in *Nature* of August 13, p. 206, Mr. T. H. Marshall has been appointed to the newly instituted University chair of social institutions tenable at the London School of Economics. This chair has a double function. Within the general field of sociology the professor will be responsible for promoting the study of modern social structure, which includes both analysis of the functions of social institutions and investigation into the character and composition of social groups. At the same time, Mr. Marshall succeeds Mr. C. M. Lloyd as head of the Social Science Department. This Department has grown steadily in size and range under Mr. Lloyd, and has been working to capacity throughout the War to meet the demand for trained social workers. But the development and expansion of the social services is likely to be even greater after the War, and universities will be under pressure to take more students and to train them more rapidly. In such circumstances great care will be needed to ensure that quality is not sacrificed to quantity, and to prevent any deviation from the twofold aim of raising the academic status of the Social Science Department within the University and raising the professional status of the trained social worker in the world outside. An important step in this direction can be made by integrating the work of the Social Science Department more closely with that of the other departments of the School. The dual character of the new chair should make this easier than it has been in the past. Mr. Marshall is at present reader in sociology in the School.

## Dr. James Philp

DR. JAMES PHILP has been appointed director of research for the South African Wattle Growers' Union, Pietermaritzburg. He is also acting in an advisory capacity to the Forestry Division of the South African Government, with which he was previously engaged as its first forest geneticist. Dr. Philp was on the staff of the John Innes Horticultural Institution, Merton, until 1934, and during the succeeding eight years was in charge of the cereal division of the plant breeding section of the Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture.

## Medicine in Turkey

THE July issue of the *Asiatic Review* contains an interesting article on the history of medicine in Turkey by Dr. H. Avri Aksel, chief surgeon to the Haseki Hospital, Istanbul, and a member of the Turkish Medical Mission which recently visited Great Britain. He points out that Turkish medicine, which has a history of six hundred years, is a continuation of the medicine of the Selcuk Turks who for centuries ruled in Anatolia and left a great many traces of their civilization. In the middle of the fourteenth century, the rapid expansion of the Turkish Empire and particularly the respect paid by the Sultans and their viziers to science and scientific men was the cause of Turkey being flooded by a great many men of science from Persia, Egypt, Irak and India. The number of hospitals increased and rose to fifty after the conquest of Istanbul. The medicine of the early days was very elementary, being rather a system of master and apprentice rather than a science taught in the schools, and knowledge was gained by practical experience.

The sixteenth century was the most brilliant age. Science and art reached great heights. Medicine was taught to students in well-organized courses, and for the first time lessons on anatomy were given. At the end of the seventeenth century, Turkish medicine gradually moved from the East and turned towards the West. Turkish medical men who went to Europe with the armies learnt European languages, translated important medical works into Turkish and introduced new methods. The eighteenth century was very important owing to the practice of inoculation against small-pox having begun in Turkey before it did in Europe. In the nineteenth century a big advance in surgery and medicine took place in Turkey. All the new methods employed in European medical colleges were applied. Anatomy for the first time was taught on the human body and a large library was established. There are now about two hundred hospitals in Turkey, innumerable maternity and child welfare centres, and a great many dispensaries and hospitals for infectious diseases and tuberculosis. There are altogether four thousand medical practitioners in private practice and in the service of the State.

## Carnegie United Kingdom Trust

THE thirtieth annual report of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust for the year 1943 (The Trust, Dunfermline) records a year of quiet progress and consolidation, the total grant expenditure showing, for the first time during the War, a decrease, from £69,000 to £62,000. This was due to the transfer to the Council for the Encouragement of Music and the Arts of financial responsibility for large orchestras and opera, the diminution or withdrawal of many of the salvage grants made early in the War, as well as of certain maintenance grants renewed on a diminishing scale, and the improved financial position of beneficiaries who have been offered grants on a deficiency basis. Grants for the equipment of youth clubs increased from £5,695 in 1942 to £9,178 in 1943; but conditions in the book trade have compelled the termination of the limited club library policy operated since 1940 for the benefit of new clubs. A preliminary report on an inquiry into conditions of unemployed young men in Liverpool, Glasgow and Cardiff was published in November under the title "Disinherited Youth", and a report on the Trust's bursary scheme for training youth leaders was also published during the year and circulated chiefly among central and local education authorities and voluntary organizations concerned with the welfare of young people. Grants were continued during 1943 in aid of the administration of the Land Settlement Association, the Museums Association, the National Council of Social Service, and the Rural Development Council of Northern Ireland as well as towards the maintenance of the three central libraries.

## Origins of Garden Vegetables

VILMORIN's production of biennial, red-rooted carrots from annual white-rooted wild plants, and Buckmaster's improvement of the wild parsnip, are two outstanding examples of vegetable introductions during the last century. These, and other interesting historical sketches of vegetable introduction, are detailed in a paper by W. F. Giles (*J. Roy. Hort. Soc.*, 69, Pts. 5 and 6, May and June 1944). Peas apparently originated in the East; the Greeks grew the