

## NEWS and VIEWS

## New Linacre Professor at Oxford :

Prof. A. C. Hardy, F.R.S.

PROF. A. C. HARDY, whose recent appointment as Linacre professor of zoology and comparative anatomy at Oxford has been announced, is especially distinguished for his work in the sphere of oceanography. He is a leading authority on marine plankton, and throughout his researches has stressed the ecological aspect. Prof. Hardy started his career as a member of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Research Staff at Lowestoft in 1921, working on the natural history of the herring in relation to the plankton. In 1924 he joined the research staff of the *Discovery* as chief zoologist under the late Dr. Stanley Kemp. He went on the Antarctic voyage of 1925-27, and published, with the late Dr. E. R. Gunther, important results on the ecology of plankton animals in southern waters. These included studies of animal and plant interrelations (developing his hypothesis of animal exclusion), 'patchiness' of plankton, correlations of whale and plankton distribution, vertical migration and the combined effect of this with varying current systems at different depths.

In 1928 Prof. Hardy became the first professor of zoology and oceanography at the University College of Hull, where he developed on a large scale the use of his continuous plankton recorder, which he had originated while with the *Discovery*. He also demonstrated herring-plankton distribution correlations with his smaller plankton indicator, which has now become a commercial instrument. In 1942, Prof. Hardy was appointed regius professor of natural history in the University of Aberdeen. In recent years he has widened his interests to include the air, undertaking research on the aerial plankton, for which he has devised gear for catching insects in the upper air from kites and aircraft. Prof. Hardy is thus well fitted to help and enlarge the scope of the well-known ecological researches already being carried out at Oxford.

## British Cotton Industry Research Association Fellowships

THE Council of the British Cotton Industry Research Association has decided to make an annual award of a limited number of research fellowships with the object of training young men in research methods in pure science, and particularly those branches of prime interest to the Association. The Association conducts research into the utilization of cotton, rayon, silk and synthetic fibres, and examples of scientific fields of present interest to the Association are: carbohydrate and protein chemistry; fundamental studies of high polymers; photochemistry; fundamental physical studies relating to properties of matter or electronics; theory of instrumentation; mathematics; studies on the colloidal state. The fellowships will be open to graduates of British nationality and will be tenable at any British university. Their value will depend on circumstances, but will not in any case be less than £200 per annum. The Association will be guided in its choice of the location of fellows chiefly by the type of research conducted by the professor under whose direction the candidate elects to work. Application for election to a fellowship should therefore be made through the professor and should be accompanied by a statement

of the problem to be studied. It will be normal for the Association to wish to interview candidates, but the recommendation of the professor will be an essential and will carry great weight in the selection. Applications should be forwarded to the Director, British Cotton Industry Research Association, Shirley Institute, Didsbury, Manchester, not later than two months before the commencement of the work.

The object of the fellowships being to train young graduates in fundamental research methods, they will not be awarded for specific problems in connexion with industry. Further, the results of researches carried out with the assistance of a fellowship will be published from time to time in the scientific journals at the discretion of the professor directing the work, and if deemed by him worthy of such action. The only condition attaching to publication will be that suitable acknowledgment shall be made by authors of the receipt of a fellowship. Without in any way implying direction of or interference with the research, the Association would wish to feel free through its director of research to discuss progress with fellowship holders from time to time, and fellows would be given opportunities to visit the Association's laboratories, and thus become acquainted with the problems of the textile industries. Save in exceptional circumstances, the Association will not make more than two consecutive annual grants to the same person.

## College of Aeronautics

THE following have been appointed to be the Board of Governors of the College of Aeronautics for postgraduate instruction in aeronautical science and engineering, which, as announced in the House of Commons in October last, is being created in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee presided over by Sir Roy Fedden, the report of which was issued last year: Air Chief Marshal Sir Edgar Ludlow-Hewitt (*chairman*), Dr. W. Abbott, Mr. H. Burroughes, Sir Roy Fedden, Mr. J. Ferguson, Sir Harold Hartley, Sir William Hildred, Sir Melvill Jones, Dr. E. B. Moullin, Mr. J. D. North, Sir Frederick Handley Page, Mr. E. F. Relf, Dr. H. Roxbee-Cox, The Lord Selkirk, Air Marshal Sir Ralph Sorley, Sir William Stanier, Rear-Admiral T. H. Troubridge and Mr. W. E. F. Ward. Invitations are being extended to the Governments of the Dominions and India which may wish to be associated with the College to appoint representatives on the Board of Governors. Preliminary steps are now being taken with the view of opening the College some time in the course of next year in temporary accommodation to be provided at Cranfield, pending the provision later of permanent premises.

## Sensory Devices for the Blind Committee

THE Council of St. Dunstan's has set up a committee to be known as the Sensory Devices for the Blind Committee, and the following have agreed to serve: Prof. E. D. Adrian, professor of physiology, University of Cambridge (*chairman*); Dr. Clifford Paterson, director of the Research Laboratories, General Electric Co., Ltd., Wembley; Mr. Thomas Smith, superintendent of the Light Department, National Physical Laboratory; Flight-Lieut. E. Barton; Dr. B. H. C. Matthews, head of the R.A.F. Physiology Laboratory, Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough; Mr. H. L. Kirke, head of the Engineering Research Department, B.B.C.; and Sir Ian Fraser. The Committee has had two preliminary