

London, where we carried out a series of researches on ovarian extracts. Later he spent some time with Prof. J. (afterwards Sir Jack) Drummond in the Department of Biochemistry, and with Dr. F. H. A. Marshall in the School of Agriculture, Cambridge. During this period he made the observation that the oestrous rabbit could be caused to ovulate by the administration of anterior pituitary extracts. In 1934

he was awarded a Beit Fellowship to work with Prof. L. T. Hogben at the London School of Economics and made valuable contributions to the study of *Xenopus laevis* as a laboratory animal and to its use for pregnancy diagnosis. During the Second World War he was concerned with civil defence and operational research, and afterwards with archaeological investigations.

A. S. PARKES

NEWS and VIEWS

Sir Edward Bullard, F.R.S.

SIR EDWARD BULLARD'S decision to resign from the directorship of the National Physical Laboratory and to accept a research fellowship at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, may have surprised those unfamiliar with his earlier career. Ever since 1934, when he became University demonstrator in the Department of Geodesy and Geophysics at Cambridge, his interests have centred around the earth sciences. Apart from the War years, he remained at Cambridge until 1948, during which time he not only made important contributions to these subjects himself but also stimulated others to study geophysics. As professor of physics at Toronto (1948-49) he built up a school which now trains nearly a quarter of all the geophysicists in North America. It is natural, therefore, that, after five years at the National Physical Laboratory, Bullard should wish to go back to Cambridge to devote himself to geophysics. His return will be welcomed by all those interested in the development of the earth sciences in Britain. The numbers of geophysicists trained each year in Great Britain is only about one-twentieth of the number in the United States and is inadequate to meet the rapidly growing needs throughout the Commonwealth. Bullard's return to Cambridge may well lead to an increase in teaching and research, and so help to raise both the quantity and quality of British geophysicists.

Geology at Cambridge :

Prof. W. B. R. King, O.B.E., F.R.S.

PROF. W. B. R. King retires from the Woodwardian chair of geology at Cambridge at the end of this academic session. As a graduate of Jesus College, a Fellow of Magdalene, a member of the Sedgwick Museum's teaching staff in the inter-war years, and professor since 1943, he has had a long association with Cambridge geology; but he has also held other appointments which have given him a great width of experience. In chronological order may be mentioned his period as a member of the Geological Survey, his service as an army geologist in France during the First World War, his tenure of the chair at University College, London, and his distinguished services for the army during and after the Second World War. At present he is completing his second year as president of the Geological Society of London. Prof. King's research work has had the variety which his career might suggest. It has ranged from the stratigraphy of the Lower Palaeozoics of Central Wales and Northern England to that of the Pleistocene of the Thames and East Anglia, and from the geomorphology of his native north-west Yorkshire to the hydrology of the Chalk. In recent years, working in close collaboration with the Admiralty and the geophysicists, he has become the recognized authority

on the geology of the English Channel. He retires full of vigour and with the leisure to increase his reputation as a research geologist.

Dr. O. M. B. Bulman, F.R.S.

DR. O. M. B. BULMAN, who will succeed Prof. King, is one of the best known of the students of Prof. W. W. Watts at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London. He proceeded afterwards to Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, to study for his Ph.D. degree, and, after a short break, returned to Cambridge as a member of the Sedgwick Museum. When Dr. Henry Woods retired, he became reader in palaeozoology, and it is from this position that he has been elected. Although Dr. Bulman's election breaks a long sequence of stratigraphers in the Woodwardian chair, he is no stranger to stratigraphical research, while the special side of palaeontology which he has made so much his own is the most-valued of tools in the stratigraphers' hands. It is, however, as a pure palaeontologist, and in particular as a student of the graptolites, that Dr. Bulman has established his world-wide reputation. He stands now as the rightful wearer of the mantle which Lapworth first assumed.

Meldola Medal, 1954

THE Meldola Medal is the gift of the Society of Maccabaeans and, on the recommendation of the Council of the Royal Institute of Chemistry, is awarded each year to a British chemist less than thirty years of age on the strength of his or her published work. This year it has been awarded to Dr. J. S. Rowlinson, lecturer in chemistry in the University of Manchester. Dr. Rowlinson is a graduate of the University of Oxford, where he took his doctorate for research on some of the physical properties of organic vapours, particularly the dispersion of ultrasonic waves in gases. On going to Manchester in 1951 he extended his work on liquids to regular solutions and also studied the surprisingly high solubility of solids in compressed gases, which was shown to be due to forces in the gas-phase between single molecules of the solid and clusters of molecules of the gas. Dr. Rowlinson has recently been developing a perturbation treatment of the effect of molecular shape on the bulk properties of fluids, and is also doing experimental work on the properties of liquids and compressed gases, using highly polar substances, fluorine compounds and iodine solutions.

Iron and Steel Institute

THE following awards have been made by the Iron and Steel Institute: *Bessemer Medal* (1955), to Prof. John Chipman, head of the Department of Metallurgy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in recognition of his distinguished contributions to the knowledge