

off the northern New Guinea coast. In this relatively isolated community she made a social study with special reference to the life of women and children and to the effects upon the local culture of contact with the culture of white people. She found this research attractive and published interesting material from it. She undertook a further shorter period of research in Nauru in 1935, at the invitation of the Administrator, again primarily to study culture change. When war came she volunteered her services and became a lieutenant-colonel in the Army Women's Services, attached to the Army Directorate of Research. Later she undertook work in Army education, and

after the close of the War specialized particularly in the training of education officers for the New Guinea Service, in a post which she held at the Australian School of Pacific Administration. Shortly before she died, her services to the cause of native education in New Guinea were recognized by the Government of the Commonwealth in naming a New Guinea girls' school after her.

Camilla Wedgwood was a cultured woman of striking appearance and many interests, vividly concerned with human problems. She had many friends, who will mourn her early death.

RAYMOND FIRTH

NEWS and VIEWS

Prof. S. J. Davies

PROF. S. J. DAVIES has retired from the chair of mechanical engineering in King's College, London, and has been succeeded by Prof. L. J. Kastner, of the University College of Swansea (see *Nature*, 161, 1004; 1948). Prof. Davies was appointed to the chair at King's College in 1937. He was one of the distinguished band of engineers who came originally from H.M. Dockyard, Portsmouth, where he gained a Whitworth Exhibition. During the First World War he was engaged on the inspection of aircraft engines and later was deputy works manager of the Clyde Engineering Co., Ltd. During 1920-26, he was lecturer in mechanical engineering in Armstrong (now King's) College, Newcastle upon Tyne. He then went to King's College, London, as reader, and in 1937 was appointed professor in succession to Prof. Gilbert Cook; and now, after eighteen years as professor, he has taken up his new appointment as dean of the Royal Military College of Science at Shrivenham (*Nature*, 174, 727; 1954). Prof. Davies is widely known for his researches on oil engines. He has twice been awarded the Herbert Akroyd Stuart Prize of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, and has also received prizes from the Institution of Automobile Engineers and the Institute of Marine Engineers. In 1951 he was elected a Fellow of King's College, London.

Parasitology at Imperial College, London:

Prof. B. G. Peters

DR. B. G. PETERS, head of the Nematology Department of Rothamsted Experimental Station, has been appointed the first professor of parasitology at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London. From Bristol Grammar School he went to the University, where he graduated with first-class honours in zoology in 1925, and received his M.Sc. in 1927. During 1925-28 he was on the staff of the Institute of Agricultural Parasitology, St. Albans, first as a scholar of the Ministry of Agriculture and later as Grocers' Company research scholar. He obtained his Ph.D. of the University of London in 1928. When the Imperial Bureau of Agricultural Parasitology was started in 1929, he was its first deputy director and remained so until 1932. From then until 1936 he was demonstrator, later lecturer, in helminthology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and became a recognized teacher of the University in 1935. He returned to the Institute of Agricultural Parasitology in 1936

and, except for two years in Bomber Command Operational Research (1943-45), remained in that Department until, in 1947, it became the Nematology Department of Rothamsted. He succeeded Dr. T. Goodey as head of this Department in 1952. His early research dealt with the taxonomy and bionomics of the vinegar eelworm. Later he turned to the use of statistical methods in helminthological research, and his contributions in this subject have been fundamental in placing experimental helminthology on a sound basis. Since 1948 he has been studying the potato-root eelworm, *Heterodera rostochiensis*, and developing methods for laboratory assays and field-trials of nematocides.

Haskins Laboratories, Inc. : Dr. F. S. Cooper

DR. FRANKLIN S. COOPER has been elected president and director of research of Haskins Laboratories, Inc., of New York, to succeed Dr. Caryl P. Haskins, who has been appointed president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington as from January 1, 1956 (*Nature*, 174, 1172; 1954). Dr. Cooper was born in Robinson, Illinois, in 1908 and graduated from the University of Illinois. He received his Ph.D. degree in 1936 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He was with the Research Laboratory of the General Electric Company until he joined Haskins Laboratories in 1939, where he has been associate director of research. He was senior liaison officer of the Office of Scientific Research and Development during the Second World War, in charge of the exchange of scientific information with the Allies. He has served as consultant to the Secretary of Defense and to the Atomic Energy Commission of the United Nations. He is a member of various scientific and professional societies and of advisory committees of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and New York University, and is adjunct professor of acoustic phonetics at Columbia University. Haskins Laboratories is a non-profit scientific and educational foundation. Its effort has been in scientific research and research training in selected borderline fields.

Conference on the Effects of Nuclear Weapons

A CONFERENCE of scientists is to be held during August 3-5, under the auspices of the World Association of Parliamentarians for World Government, to discuss the nature and extent of the danger to mankind involved in experiments with nuclear weapons and their possible use in warfare. The meeting will take place in the County Hall, London.