

NEWS and VIEWS

International Meteorological Organization Prize:
Mr. E. Gold, C.B., F.R.S.

MR. E. GOLD, former deputy director of the Meteorological Office, has been awarded the International Meteorological Organization Prize for 1958 by the Executive Committee of the World Meteorological Organization, in recognition of his furtherance of the science of the atmosphere, his memorable contributions to the technology of weather forecasting, and his long and distinguished service to international collaboration in meteorology. The presentation was made by the president of the World Meteorological Organization, M. André Viaut, at the Royal Society's rooms on June 30.

Mr. Gold has been a leader in international meteorological work for many years, notably as president of the Synoptic Weather Commission of the International Meteorological Organization during 1919-47 and of the Meteorological Sub-Commission of the International Commission for Aeronautical Navigation during 1919-46. He also represented the Meteorological Office on three other Commissions of the International Meteorological Organization. The Synoptic Weather Commission, responsible for international uniformity in observing practice and for constructing the codes used for the international exchange of reports and forecasts, met on ten occasions and passed some 400 resolutions under Mr. Gold's presidency. This was a period of great increase in both the depth and breadth of meteorological practice as it was improved to use new knowledge of the atmosphere and to meet the requirements of users, notably aviators. In the more purely scientific field, Mr. Gold is well known for his pioneer investigation into the radiative equilibrium of the stratosphere, his work on the relation between barometric gradient and wind force, and his invention of the barometer correction slide and the visibility meter which bear his name.

The Prize consists of a gold medal bearing on one side the badge of the World Meteorological Organization and on the other the inscription: "*Societas Gentium Meteorologica. Pro singulari erga scientiam meteorologicam merito*", a diploma, and a sum of money. It is paid for from part of the interest on the balance of the funds of the International Meteorological Organization on the replacement of that organization by the World Meteorological Organization in 1950. The award is made annually by the Executive Committee from names proposed by member countries, and it is laid down that in the selection of the recipient both scientific eminence and the record of work in the field of international meteorological organizations are to be considered.

Mechanical Engineering at Liverpool:

Prof. W. J. Kearton

PROF. W. J. KEARTON, who is retiring from the Harrison chair of mechanical engineering in the University of Liverpool, served his apprenticeship in the Naval Construction Works of Vickers, Sons and Maxim at Barrow-in-Furness and was awarded in 1913 a Vickers scholarship to the University of Liverpool. After completing his studies at that University, he returned to Vickers, but in 1919 was appointed lecturer in mechanical engineering at Liverpool. He was promoted to a senior lectureship

in 1937, a position which he occupied until 1947, when he succeeded Prof. G. E. Scholes as Harrison professor. While with Vickers, Kearton formed an attachment to heavy mechanical engineering which has remained one of his chief interests and to which he has made considerable contributions. His papers have been mostly concerned with steam-turbine design and he was at one time closely associated with the development of the mercury vapour-steam cycle. His books on steam turbines and on turbo-blowers and compressors are highly esteemed both by industrialists and by teachers of engineering, and his book on turbo-blowers has appeared in a German edition. During his long and distinguished career at Liverpool, Kearton never sought the limelight, but his qualities as an engineer and as a teacher have won the respect of colleagues and students alike. His students, in particular, have often paid tribute to the sympathetic and kindly help and guidance which he freely gave on so many occasions. He was chairman of the North-Western Branch of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers during 1948-50, and also served on the Council of the Institution during that period.

Prof. J. H. Horlock

DR. J. H. HORLOCK, who has been appointed to succeed Prof. Kearton, was a scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge, during 1946-49 and took first-class honours in the Mechanical Sciences Tripos in 1949. He then joined the staff of Rolls Royce, where he spent two years on aero-engine design and development. In 1952 he returned to Cambridge to read for a Ph.D. degree, and joined the staff of the Engineering Department as a University demonstrator, being promoted to University lecturer in 1956. During 1954-57 he was a Research Fellow of St. John's College, and in 1956 went to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for a year as a visiting assistant professor in the Mechanical Engineering Department. Dr. Horlock's research work has been connected with the fluid mechanics of turbo-machinery and he has specialized on the theory of flow in compressors and turbines, making a number of contributions to the theory which have been published in the Aeronautical Research Council Reports and Memoranda series, and Current Papers. He published some experiments and theory on the secondary flow in pipe bends in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society* and he has also published papers on properties of steam and on the Field cycle. Dr. Horlock is at present engaged on a book on the fluid mechanics of axial flow compressors, which will be published shortly.

The Royal Society: Research Fellowships

THE Committee representing the Royal Society and the University of Sheffield has appointed Mr. K. Dalziel as Sorby Research Fellow from October 1, to work in the Biochemistry Department of the University of Sheffield on biological kinetics. The Committee representing the Royal Society and the Armourers and Brasiers' Company has appointed Dr. T. E. Faber, of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, as Armourers and Brasiers' Company Research Fellow from October 1, to work at the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, on the electronic properties of liquid metals. Under the terms of the scheme to commemorate the late Lord Rutherford of Nelson, the Council of the Royal Society has appointed Dr. R. C.