

1926, in succession to Prof. A. Wolfer, he was appointed director of the Swiss Federal Observatory and at the same time professor of astronomy in the Institute and in the University of Zurich; both directorship and professorship he occupied until, for reasons of health, he retired in 1945.

Besides lecturing, Brunner carried on the traditional work of the Swiss Federal Observatory, namely, the observation of sunspots. In thirty numbers of the *Astronomische Mitteilungen* and in two volumes of the *Publikationen der Eidgen. Sternwarte* he published the yearly reports on solar activity, which contain above all the relative sunspot

numbers as a continuation of the series reaching back to the year 1749, but also articles on the development of sunspot groups and on the prominence statistics. In 1928 the International Astronomical Union handed over to him the publication of the *Quarterly Bulletin on Solar Activity*. During the years 1938-45 he was a member of the executive committee of the International Astronomical Union.

Brunner wrote several popular books, among them "Die Welt der Sterne" and "Pioniere der Weltallforschung". On his retirement in 1945 he was elected an Associate of the Royal Astronomical Society of London.

M. WALDMEIER

NEWS and VIEWS

Forestry Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization :

M. Leloup

M. MARCEL LELOUP, director of the Forestry Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations since its creation twelve years ago, is retiring. M. Leloup was a veteran of the First World War and a recipient of the Légion d'Honneur after losing an arm during the battle of Verdun. Having graduated from the famous École Polytechnique, he began his forestry career with the Colonial service of the French Department of Waters and Forests in French Equatorial Africa. In 1932 he returned to Paris to the general direction of the Department of Waters and Forests. In 1936 he was assigned to the Présidence du Conseil and charged with several special missions concerning agricultural and administrative matters. It was in this capacity that he collaborated in the establishment of the Statute of Public Function and was nominated to the highest French administrative body, the Council of State. After the Second World War, M. Leloup became director-general of the Department of Waters and Forests and a Councillor of State. Shortly afterwards he was a member of the French delegation to the Quebec conference of 1945, at which the Food and Agriculture Organization was founded. In May 1946 he became the first director of its Forestry Division. The wide organizational work which he accomplished in this capacity gave him an exceptional knowledge of the problems and possibilities of forests in the world, and he was active in the formation of the Regional Forestry Commission for Europe (1947), for Latin America (1948), for Asia and the Far East (1949) and for the Near East (1953).

E. Glesinger

MR. EGON GLESINGER, formerly deputy director, became director of the Division of Forestry and Forest Products, the new title of the Forestry Division, on January 1. Mr. Glesinger was born in 1907 and was educated in Austria and Czechoslovakia. He graduated in commercial science at Geneva in 1927, obtained a doctorate of law at Prague in 1929 and a doctorate in political science at Geneva in 1932. He also studied at the Institute for International Studies at Geneva, and his thesis on European forests was afterwards published in book form. During 1933-38, Mr. Glesinger was director of the International Timber Committee, an organ of the League of Nations situated first in

Vienna and later in Brussels. After the Second World War, he served on the Interim Commission which preceded the formal establishment of the Food and Agriculture Organization, and has been an official of the Organization since its foundation. Besides his post as deputy director of the Forestry Commission, he is at present director of the Timber Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.

Canadian National Aeronautical Establishment

THE creation of a new Division of the National Research Council of Canada, to be known as the National Aeronautical Establishment, has recently been announced. The formation of the National Aeronautical Establishment was initially authorized in 1951, when it consisted of the aeronautical research facilities of the Division of Mechanical Engineering in the National Research Council, but the heavy and increasing demands on the Establishment have rendered it administratively expedient to separate it from the present Division of Mechanical Engineering, and embody it in a separate Division. The resources of the new Division will consist of the Flight Research Hangar and laboratories at Uplands Airport, the new 5-ft. supersonic wind-tunnel now being constructed at Uplands Airport, and the Aerodynamics and Structures Laboratories in the Montreal Road Laboratories of the National Research Council. The new Establishment will work on defence problems in aeronautical science, and will also be responsible for meeting the aerodynamic and structural research needs of civil aviation and of the aircraft industry.

Mr. F. R. Thurston

MR. FRANK R. THURSTON, head of the Structures Laboratory of the Division of Mechanical Engineering, who has been appointed acting director of the National Aeronautical Establishment, was educated in the United Kingdom, graduating from the University of London. He went to the National Research Council in 1947 from the National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, where he worked on supersonic aerodynamics and on the structural design of aircraft. In the National Research Council he has been responsible for the structural proving of prototype Canadian-built aircraft, and for a wide range of research on structural fatigue, towers and shell structures, and aircraft hydraulic equipment. Representing Canada, Mr. Thurston is chairman of the