so profoundly. His colleagues benefited from his wide reading, and in past years he was also a frequent contributor to the columns of *Nature*.

Lawson played a prominent part in the formation of the Non-Professorial Staff Association of the University and was one of its first representatives on the Senate when this recognition was accorded. He retired in 1955, but his interest in physics remained unabated. His unexpected death will be a shock to his old students, who had a high regard for him, and to his many friends. He married in 1922 and leaves a widow and daughter. J. R. CLARKE

NEWS and VIEWS

Inorganic and Structural Chemistry at Leeds : Prof. H. M. N. H. Irving

DR. H. M. N. H. IRVING has been appointed to the chair of inorganic and structural chemistry in the University of Leeds, in succession to Prof. E. G. Cox (see *Nature*, 185, 144 ; 1960). Dr. Irving was born in Oxford in 1905 and educated at St. Bees School and Queen's College, Oxford, where he was a pupil of F. D. Chattaway. He took a 'first' in chemistry in 1928, a D.Phil. in 1930 and was awarded the degree of D.Sc. in 1958. He became a demonstrator in Queen's College laboratory, but when this closed down Prof. Soddy appointed him as a demonstrator in the Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory of the University. Although his early training was in the field of organic chemistry, he rapidly acquired a mastery of inorganic chemistry, and skilfully used his knowledge of organic synthesis, and familiarity with a wide range of organic substances, in an attack on various analytical problems and particularly in the application of stereochemical principles to their solution. Later he exploited solvent extraction and radiochemical methods to good effect. In these fields he has built up an international reputation. During the War he was engaged on government research problems and took an active part in local Civil Defence. He was a lecturer at St. Edmund Hall during 1935–38, and has been an official Fellow from 1938 and vice-principal since 1951. He has played an active part in the Chemical Society, Royal Institute of Chemistry and the Society for Analytical Chemistry, and has served on numerous official committees. He is the author of nearly a hundred papers on scientific subjects, and in addition to many interests outside his ordinary work he holds the licentiate of the Royal Academy of Music.

Psychological Medicine in Edinburgh: Prof. G. M. Carstairs

DR. GEORGE MORRISON CARSTAIRS, director of the Medical Research Council Unit for Research on the Epidemiology of Psychiatric Illness, Tavistock Square, London, has been appointed to the chair of psychological medicine in the University of Edinburgh in succession to the late Prof. Alexander Kennedy. Dr. Carstairs was born in India and educated at George Watson's College and the University of Edinburgh. At the University he read arts as well as medicine and was a medallist in Fine Art. He was also a well-known athlete. He served as a medical officer in the Royal Air Force in Europe and the Far East. During the War, Dr. Carstairs became interested in social anthropology, particularly in studies of the influence of different cultural environments in personality development. After the War, Dr. Carstairs held various senior appointments at mental hospitals in Edinburgh and Oxford, and also studied social anthropology as an external student of the Institute of Social Anthropology. For the next four years he held research fellowships which first took him to New York as a Commonwealth Fund Fellow, where he studied social anthropology under Dr. Margaret Mead during 1948 and 1949 in preparation for two years of field studies in Rajputana, where he carried out research while living in three primitive village communities. During part of this time he held a Rockefeller Grant and a fellowship from the Henderson Trust and worked as a graduate student of Cambridge under the direction of Prof. Meyer Fortes. His researches in Rajputana are published in his book, "The Twice Born". He has also published widely in psychiatry and in the psychiatric aspects of social anthropology.

Lister Medal of the Royal College of Surgeons : Prof. W. G. Penfield, O M., C.M.G., F.R.S.

PROF. WILDER GRAVES PENFIELD, director of the Montreal Neurological Institute, has been awarded the Lister Medal of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, in recognition of his service to the advancement of medical and biological knowledge, especially in the fields of neurology, surgical neurology, and psychology ; and equally as humane surgical healer and as scientific research worker. He will deliver the Lister Memorial Lecture in London on April 5, 1961, under the auspices of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. This is the thirteenth occasion of the award, which is made by a committee representative of the Royal Society, the Royal College of Surgeons of England, the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, the University of Edinburgh and the University of Glasgow.

Code of Practice against Radiation Hazards

A CODE of practice issued by the Imperial College of Science and Technology, University of London, describes the rules applicable to the use of equipment producing X-rays, to particle accelerators, and to the use of radioactive isotopes, either sealed or unsealed (Third edition, revised. Pp. v+35. London : Imperial College of Science and Technology, 1960). The code supersedes a previous one of December 1958, and deals, in the main, with administrative procedure and control ; a second part consists of a number of appendixes giving detailed information and advice on practice. The purpose of the code is set out under the following headings : (1) the protection of the worker's health ; the hazard includes direct radiation and the accumulation of traces of radioactive material in the body ; (2) the avoidance of contamination of the laboratory ; (3) to ensure the safe disposal of waste material and effluent. The code also describes the method of control, the names of referees and the health physicist, the kind of work to be registered and the procedure for registration. Conditions to be observed before work is begun are also described.