

CORRESPONDENCE

UNION INTERNATIONALE DE CHIMIE

SIR,—With reference to the programme of the meeting of the Union Internationale de Chimie to be held at Liège in September, I beg to inform you that the following have been appointed delegates of the Federal Council for Chemistry:—Sir William J. Pope, K.B.E. (President), Prof. H. E. Armstrong, A. Chaston Chapman, Esq., Prof. F. G. Donnan, Prof. J. C. Drummond, Prof. C. S. Gibson, Prof. T. M. Lowry, Emile S. Mond, Esq., Prof. R. Robinson, Prof. J. F. Thorpe.

In addition, the following have accepted the invitation of the Federal Council for Chemistry to take part in the discussion on Carbohydrate Chemistry:—Dr. C. J. J. Fox, F. D. Miles, Esq., Dr. G. F. Smith, Dr. E. L. Hirst, Prof. A. R. Ling, Dr. R. H. Pickard.

The following have also been appointed delegates of the constituent organisations:—

Chemical Society: Prof. J. F. Thorpe (President), Prof. F. G. Donnan, Prof. C. S. Gibson, Mr. Emile S. Mond, and Sir William J. Pope.

Faraday Society: Prof. T. M. Lowry.

Institute of Chemistry: Prof. C. S. Gibson.

(Note.—All the above are also representatives of the Federal Council for Chemistry.)

Society of Chemical Industry: Dr. L. H. Lampitt.

International Society of Leather Trades Chemists: Mr. U. J. Thuau, Prof. L. Meunier, Prof. V. Kunelka, and probably Dr. A. Gansser.

Society of Public Analysts: Dr. J. T. Dunn (President).

I am, Sir, etc.,

S. E. CARR,
Assistant Secretary

Federal Council for Chemistry,
Burlington House,
Piccadilly, W.1

PERSONAL AND OTHER ITEMS

His Royal Highness the Duke of York was elected an Honorary Member of the Royal Institution at the General Meeting held on July 7, Sir Robert Robertson, Treasurer and Vice-President, being in the chair.

Dr. F. H. Carr is, we are sorry to learn, unable to attend the meeting at Birmingham. He has long worked up to the limit of his powers, and is now taking a well-earned rest in Norway, from which we hope he will return as vigorous as ever.

Prof. G. T. Morgan is in the list of those regular attendants at the Society's meeting who cannot be present this year. He is fully occupied in preparing for the meeting of the British Association at Bristol, and as President of the Chemical Section he finds much to attend to.

Prof. N. M. Comber is on his way to Russia and Asia Minor. When he returns to his Agriculture at Leeds he will, no doubt, bring back many new facts and much information about the state of agriculture and the developments of chemical industries in countries which are little known here.

Dr. E. F. Armstrong, F.R.S., Hon. Foreign Secretary of the Society of Chemical Industry, became Chairman

of the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers on July 10.

Sir Harry McGowan, president of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., and Lady McGowan gave a party to some 350 friends at Claridge's on Thursday, July 10, on the occasion of the twenty-first birthday of their second son, Mr. "Billy" McGowan.

Prof. A. Lapworth, F.R.S., has been appointed by the University of Manchester as its representative at the celebration of the jubilee of Mason College.

Dr. A. C. Bottomley has been appointed as chemist in the department of cancer research, University of Manchester.

Sir Auckland Geddes has resigned his seat on the board of Amalgamated Metal Corporation, and the Hon. R. M. P. Preston, D.S.O., has been elected to fill the vacancy.

University News

Sunderland Technical College has been affiliated to the University of Durham in the Faculty of Applied Science. This arrangement will make it possible for students of the college to present themselves for examination in engineering and electrical engineering and to proceed to the degree of B.Sc.

On July 9 Prince Arthur of Connaught presented to University College, London, a portrait of Sir Gregory Foster, the former Provost and now Vice-Chancellor of the University, painted by Sir William Orpen, R.A. At the same time a cheque and an album containing the signatures of the subscribers was handed to Sir Gregory Foster. In making the presentation Prince Arthur said it was one of Sir Gregory Foster's characteristics that he attracted to himself the loyal friendship of students, friendship which was reflected in the album of subscribers in which almost every portion of Europe and the Empire had its representatives.

Chemical Society's Library

The library of the Chemical Society will be closed for stocktaking from Monday, August 4, until Saturday, August 16, inclusive, and will close each evening at 5 o'clock from August 18 to September 13.

The Biochemical Society

Dr. H. W. Dudley has resigned the Joint Editorship of the Journal and Dr. R. Robison the Joint Honorary Secretaryship of the Society. Dr. C. R. Harington has been appointed Joint Editor of the Journal in succession to Dr. Dudley, and has thereupon resigned the Joint Honorary Secretaryship. The Committee has appointed Prof. A. C. Chibnall and Prof. H. Raistrick Joint Honorary Secretaries. All correspondence relating to the meetings of the Society should be addressed to Prof. H. Raistrick, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, Gower Street, W.C.1. Correspondence relating to *all other business* should be addressed to Prof. A. C. Chibnall, Imperial College of Science and Technology, South Kensington, S.W.7.

The Position of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd.

Last week Lord Melchett made the following statement to representatives of the press concerning the position of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd.:—"I can confirm the statements already made by officials

of the company in my absence that Imperial Chemical Industries must, like all others, be affected to some extent by world economic conditions, though, in fact, it is less affected than most other industries. Technical progress that has been made in its departments is extremely satisfying. The position of the company, financial and otherwise, is extremely strong, and I have the utmost confidence in the future of the company. There is every reason to hope that we have reached the lowest commodity prices and that trade will soon revive. All these things seem to point to an improvement of values, and no company will benefit more quickly than ours from an increase in the consumptive capacity of its customers. The company's position is absolutely sound. It has no liabilities to the banks or to anybody else apart from ordinary trading liabilities."

I.C.I. Scheme for the Employment of Public Schoolboys

This scheme, which is frankly experimental in character, owes its inception to a general desire to attract the services of intelligent public schoolboys to the chemical industry. Its working is as follows:—In the first case a boy is nominated by his headmaster for interview by the selection committee. All the schools, over a hundred strong, whose names appear in the Public School Year Book are eligible. The committee, the chairman of which is the Hon. Henry Mond, M.P., consists of several of the technical and other directors of the company, together with the headmaster of one of the great public schools sitting in rotation, and a few of the senior officials of the I.C.I. Candidates are all asked a set series of questions, and the committee endeavours to form an opinion by means of a simple system of marking as to the potential abilities of the candidates. The numbers selected are naturally such as lie well within the probable requirements of the company. Selection involves the following additional promise that, if the candidate obtains a first or second-class honours degree in a recognised British University and subsequently undertakes one year's research, the company will guarantee him employment.

Minister of Health Visits Castleford Chemical Works

On July 12, Mr. Arthur Greenwood, Minister of Health, visited the chemical works of Messrs. Hickson & Partners, Ltd., Castleford, where the recent explosion occurred, and made personal investigations of the damage. Mr. Greenwood also met representatives of the local authorities to discuss the question of accommodating the homeless families. Mr. Greenwood expressed sympathy and promised that everything possible would be done for them.

British Industries Fair, Birmingham

The Birmingham Section of the British Industries Fair, organised and controlled by the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, under the ægis of the Board of Trade and of the Birmingham City Council, will be held at Castle Bromwich, Birmingham, from February 16 to 27, 1931. Last year, the occasion of the Eleventh Fair, almost 1000 firms participated and occupied 220,000 sq. ft. of space. Plans have been made to add 65,000 sq. ft. of letting space, if required. Application for space at the 1931 Fair should be made on the necessary form, which must be returned to the General Manager, British

Industries Fair, 95, New Street, Birmingham, not later than October 31, 1930.

Royal Society of Edinburgh

At a meeting of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, held on July 7, Sir Arthur S. Eddington, F.R.S., Sir William B. Hardy, F.R.S., and Prof. Robert Robinson, F.R.S., were elected Honorary Fellows.

Leathersellers' College Extension

A new wing is being built on to the Leathersellers' Technical College, Bermondsey, for the purpose of increasing the accommodation available. This, when completed, will consist of two floors. The ground floor will consist of a students' cloakroom and dressing room. The first floor will provide a messroom with a seating capacity for 40 persons, and a supplementary lecture room. The Governors of the College have had in mind for some considerable time the provision of a messroom which will allow of students attending the college being provided with lunches, for which there are very few facilities in Bermondsey. It is proposed to provide lunches at a nominal charge. The messroom will also be open for evening students for teas and light refreshments, thus enabling students to come straight from their work, if necessary change in the cloakroom, and obtain tea in the messroom, and then read or study in the library or engage in recreative pursuits until the commencement of the classes.

Considerable re-arrangement of the existing buildings is also being made to give facilities for social life, and in this connexion a large recreation room will be provided for the use of both day and evening students during the time when no classes are being held. It is anticipated that the reconstruction of the building, which will cost approximately £2000, will be completed before the opening of next session on September 22. It is purposed to have the official opening of the new wing on October 7, which will be the twenty-first anniversary of the opening of the college.

Opening of the Marie Curie Hospital

The official opening of the Marie Curie Hospital, Fitzjohn's Avenue, London, was performed by Mr. Baldwin on July 10. The hospital is a centre for the treatment by radium of women suffering from cancer and allied diseases. Radium to the value of £12,000 has been loaned to the hospital authorities.

Sheffield and South America

The Secretary of the Department of Overseas Trade has announced that, acting on the recommendation of the Overseas Trade Development Council and with the active assistance of H.M. Government, Mr. A. K. Wilson, the Master Cutler of Sheffield, will sail on August 1 to investigate, on behalf of the Sheffield industries, the market conditions and trade possibilities in the principal markets of South America. Mr. Wilson will be accompanied by Mr. C. R. Hodgson, president of the Sheffield Junior Chamber of Commerce. This is the first occasion on which a Master Cutler has officially visited foreign markets during his term of office.

Government and Prices

The Federation of British Industries has appointed a committee which will furnish to the Government views

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