Western Europe, where his reputation as a veterinary scientist and administrator stands high; and it is to be hoped that use will continue to be made of his outstanding gifts in the international field of veterinary science.

Mr. J. N. Ritchie

Mr. J. N. Ritchie, deputy chief veterinary officer, is to succeed Sir Thomas Dalling. Born in Turiff, Aberdeenshire, in 1904, Mr. Ritchie received his early education at Turiff Secondary School. He then studied at the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College and the University of Edinburgh, obtaining the diplomas of M.R.C.V.S. in 1925 and D.V.S.M. in 1926, and graduating B.Sc. in veterinary science in the University of Edinburgh in 1927. After six months as a clinical assistant in the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, he entered the veterinary service of the City of Edinburgh as assistant veterinary inspector. During 1929–35 he was veterinary officer to Midlothian County Council, and during 1935–38 he held a special appointment as senior veterinary officer in the Department of Agriculture for Scotland to administer a scheme of attestation to combat tuberculosis in dairy herds in Scotland. The success of this scheme in Scotland was largely due to the pioneer work stimulated by Mr. Ritchie, and served as a guide when a similar scheme was launched in England and Wales. At the time of the incorporation of the local authority veterinary services within the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture in 1937, Mr. Ritchie joined the State service and was posted to Perth as superintending inspector, where he remained until 1940. After three years at the head office of the Animal Health Division, he was sent to the United States to study all aspects of veterinary research and the control of animal diseases in that country. When, in 1946, it was decided that there should be a greater degree of devolution of Government administration of Scottish affairs from London, Mr. Ritchie was transferred to Edinburgh as deputy chief veterinary officer for Scotland and veterinary adviser to the Secretary of State for Scotland, and has continued in this appointment up to the present time. Apart from Mr. Ritchie's wide administrative experience and knowledge of disease control, he has played an important part in the development of the comparative test for tuberculosis, by means of which in the past few years considerable advance has been made towards freeing the herds of Great Britain from this major scourge.

Mr. D. S. Barbour

Mr. D. S. Barbour, chief superintending veterinary officer, Animal Health Division, Ministry of Agriculture, has been appointed deputy chief veterinary officer and will succeed Mr. J. N. Ritchie in Edinburgh as adviser to the Secretary of State for Scotland. He was born in Colmonell, Ayrshire, in 1899 and received his professional training at the Glasgow Veterinary College, from which he qualified M.R.C.V.S. in 1924. After three years in general veterinary practice in Essex he was appointed in 1927 assistant veterinary officer to the County of Ayr. On moving from Ayrshire in 1934 he became veterinary officer for the County of Devon, and on the incorporation of Local Authority Veterinary Services within the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture in 1937 he received the rank of divisional veterinary officer; he was promoted superintending inspector in 1944 while serving at the head office, and in 1948 became chief superintending veterinary officer.

Mathematics at University College, Aberystwyth: Prof. G. J. Kynch

Dr. G. J. Kynch, whose appointment as professor of applied mathematics at the University College, Aberystwyth, has been announced recently, is a graduate of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, where he obtained first-class honours in mathematics in 1936 and the Ph.D. in 1939. He remained at the Imperial College until 1941, and during that time was mainly interested in the theory of molecular structures, a field in which he collaborated closely with Dr. W. G. Penney. After a short time as a schoolmaster, he joined the staff of the University of Birmingham in 1942. Until the end of the War he was connected with the atomic energy project, and made contributions to the theory of blast waves, the equation of state for air at extremely high temperatures, and the theory of diffusion of gas mixtures through capillaries. Since then his chief interest has been the theory of nuclear forces, but discussions with members of the applied science departments at Birmingham have also led to some work on the theory of sedimentation and other problems of a more practical nature. As secretary of the committee of the non-professorial staff, as vice-president of the Birmingham branch of the Association of University Teachers, and in other capacities, he has taken a very active part in the life of the University of Birmingham, and his imminent departure will leave a noticeable gap.

Philips' Diamond Jubilee

Sixty years ago, in May 1891, the Philips' Lamp Works were established at Eindhoven by Dr. G. L. F. Philips, a graduate engineer of Delft. For the golden jubilee, in 1941, no special celebrations were planned because of the enemy occupation of the Netherlands; but, on the anniversary, the factory workers and afterwards almost the entire population of Eindhoven, quite unexpectedly and spontaneously, ceased work, set out in procession and entered into boisterous merrymaking which was brought abruptly to an end only by the threat of armed intervention by the occupation authorities. Fortunately, the diamond jubilee occurred in more favourable times, and to celebrate the event the editors of the *Philips Technical Review* issued a special jubilee edition (**13**, No. 1–2; July–August, 1951). The history of the Philips concern is to be written separately and will appear shortly in book form. The contents of the jubilee edition of the *Review* are therefore confined to an illustrated description and appreciation, by Dr. W. de Groot, of some aspects of the scientific research work carried out, mainly in the physical research laboratory, at the Philips' works during the past sixty years. A most interesting, and remarkably wide, range of important research projects are being pursued in the physical laboratories, and Dr. Groot's account of these, and of the older researches, is well worth study by most physicists and electrical engineers.

G. L. F. Philips himself was the first research worker, and until 1913, when he decided to engage a physicist, the firm employed mostly mechanical and electrical engineers and chemists engaged on the production of filaments for incandescent lamps. With the advent of the gas-filled lamp the need for physicists arose, and on January 2, 1914, Dr. (later Prof.) G. Holst joined the firm. Under his direction, and with the able assistance of Dr. E. Oosterhuis, a