

employed in Ministry of Supply research establishments during the summer vacation; this has led to a much wider appreciation of the excellent facilities and conditions of employment in the Scientific Civil Service. Sir Harry retires with the good wishes of a very wide circle of friends that he may now have more time to pursue his wide interests and his hobbies, which include oriental ceramics (on which he is writing a book), music, antique furniture and gardening.

Dr. O. H. Wansbrough-Jones, C.B., O.B.E.

DR. WANSBROUGH-JONES, who has been appointed chief scientist in the Ministry of Supply in succession to Sir Harry Garner, has been since 1951 principal director of scientific research (defence) in the Ministry of Supply. He was educated at Gresham's School, Holt, and Trinity Hall, Cambridge, of which College he was a Fellow and Senior Tutor at the outbreak of the Second World War. He had earlier been a research student of the Goldsmiths and Salters Companies and a Ramsay Memorial Fellow, and he had studied in Berlin under Prof. F. Haber. Dr. Wansbrough-Jones was a demonstrator in the Department of Colloid Science when he left Cambridge for service in the Army. After serving in many advisory and technical posts, mainly in connexion with chemical warfare, he retired from the Army with the rank of brigadier in 1946, his last appointment being that of director of special weapons and vehicles at the War Office. He was then appointed scientific adviser to the Army Council, a post which his military experience and scientific knowledge enabled him to hold with distinction and marked success. In 1951 he was moved from the War Office to the Ministry of Supply at a time of heavy increase in the activities of the Ministry, and he has held up to the present an important executive post there. This recent experience coupled with his previous work as a scientific adviser have specially fitted him for the post of chief scientist in the Ministry, where his energy, drive and power of application will find full scope.

Dr. W. Cawood, C.B.E.

DR. W. CAWOOD takes over on February 23 from Dr. O. H. Wansbrough-Jones (chief scientist designate) the post of principal director of scientific research (defence) in the Ministry of Supply. After graduating in 1929 at the University of Leeds, Dr. Cawood read for his Ph.D. under Prof. R. Whytlaw-Gray, obtaining this degree in 1931 and at the same time winning the Cohen Prize. He then worked in the Chemical Department of the University until 1938, publishing a large number of papers with H. S. Patterson and R. Whytlaw-Gray on the coagulation and other physical properties of aerosols. He also worked with H. S. Patterson on the stoichiometrical determination of the atomic weights of carbon, xenon, nitrogen and fluorine. This work was the first to predict the existence of the carbon-13 isotope. During this period he was appointed a Ramsay Memorial Fellow (1931-33), and also Moseley Scholar of the Royal Society (1933-38). Dr. Cawood joined the Air Ministry in 1938, and during the Second World War worked on air armament, chemical warfare, bomb-sights and fire control. In 1947 he became deputy director of the Royal Aircraft Establishment, and since then he has made a substantial contribution to the Ministry of Supply programmes on guided weapons, conventional air armament and rocket propulsion, for which work he was awarded the

C.B.E. this year. Dr. Cawood's many friends will wish him every success in his new appointment.

Volta River Aluminium Scheme

THE White Paper on the Volta River Aluminium Scheme (Cmd. 8702) reported the agreement of the Gold Coast Government, the United Kingdom Government and the aluminium producers to set up a Preparatory Commission to follow up the work already done. The Gold Coast Government, with the concurrence of the United Kingdom Government, has now appointed Commander R. G. A. Jackson as special commissioner in charge of the Preparatory Commission. The cost of the Commission will in the first instance be met by the Gold Coast Government, but half the cost will be reimbursed by the United Kingdom Government. It is expected that the work of the Commission will take eighteen months to two years. Commander Jackson was responsible for establishing the Ministry of National Development in Australia in 1950. He was attached to the Pakistan Government early in 1952 for consultation on its development plans, and in the latter part of 1952, at the request of the Indian Minister of Finance, advised the Indian Government and Planning Commission on the implementation of the Indian Five-Year Plan and, in particular, the three major hydro-electric and irrigation schemes.

British Chemical Abstracts

IN a written answer in reply to a question from Sir Wavell Wakefield in the House of Commons on February 4, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Works, as representing the Lord President of the Council, stated that he understood that the Chemical Council would shortly issue an appeal for funds to enable *British Chemical Abstracts* to continue publication during 1953. He added that the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research has already provided £5,000 to enable the Bureau to continue to operate while the appeal is being made and, provided a satisfactory response is forthcoming from industry, the Government is ready to make a further substantial contribution this year.

Careers in Agricultural Research in Great Britain

A USEFUL pamphlet entitled "Careers in Agricultural Research—Training Grants, Studentships and Fellowships awarded by the Agricultural Research Council, 1953" (pp. 14) has recently been issued by the Agricultural Research Council. There are openings for research workers in many of the twenty-six agricultural research institutes financed by the State. In addition, certain appointments in universities and other research institutions are financed by the Council; many of these are temporary in character, but are particularly attractive to the young worker who wishes to gain experience under the personal guidance of a distinguished man of science. The pamphlet also gives useful information about the scientific staffs of the Council and of the State-aided agricultural research institutes, and about the advisory services. This year the Council is offering for the first time two veterinary clinical fellowships to provide opportunities for suitably qualified veterinary clinicians and pathologists of Ph.D. standing to continue research for two or three years. The fellowships will be renewable annually up to a maximum of three years and will carry a stipend of £850 a year. In addition, the Council is continuing to offer a limited number of junior agricultural