

1920-23 he was on the editorial staff of the *Radio Review* and the *Wireless World*, to the second of which journals he was a frequent contributor. During this period he was an active and enthusiastic member of the Wireless Society of London (later, the Radio Society of Great Britain); and he was responsible for organizing the British amateurs who in 1921 co-operated in the tests conducted by the American Radio Relay League for establishing radio communication between the United States and Britain. Mr. Coursey was also an active experimenter in the early development of wireless telephony, and was the author of several books on this and allied subjects. He became chief engineer of the Dubilier Condenser

Co., Ltd., in 1923, a position which he held until 1931, when he was appointed technical director of the Company; he retained that position with distinction until his retirement in 1957, when he was appointed technical consultant in addition to retaining his directorship.

Mr. Coursey was the originator of many important developments and held numerous patents. His extensive knowledge and experience have been a valuable contribution to the industries with which he was connected. He also took a prominent part in and made valuable contributions to the deliberations of the electrical and telecommunications industries both on British and international committees.

## NEWS and VIEWS

### Theoretical Physics at St. Andrews :

Prof. R. B. Dingle

DR. ROBERT BALSON DINGLE, reader in theoretical physics in the University of Western Australia, has been appointed as the first occupant of the new chair of theoretical physics in St. Salvator's College of the University of St. Andrews. After a notable undergraduate career as Bournemouth Borough Scholar and major scholar at St. John's College, Cambridge, during which he held the Wright Prize twice and also the Hughes and Hockin Prizes, and at the end of which in 1946 he confused his Tripos examiners by, in effect, dismissing their questions and setting and answering his own, he found a corner in the Royal Society Mond Laboratory and began his research career, shortly thereafter being appointed to a fellowship at his College. Almost immediately, he began to publish, and a steady stream of valuable papers has continued since, uninterrupted by a series of moves of increasing geographical amplitude, first to Bristol, then Delft, then Ottawa, and then Netherlands in Western Australia.

Dr. Dingle's publications have covered three main fields and a few small ones. First, chronologically, came a series of elegant papers clarifying the hydrodynamics of liquid helium II, and in particular, second sound. This was followed by a series on collective electron effects in metals, in which diamagnetic or cyclotron resonance was predicted. This series also contained several important contributions to the understanding of the complicated oscillatory magnetic phenomena in metals known as the de Haas-van Alphen effect, and the removal of the apparent discrepancy between observation and theory of optical reflectivity in metals by an extension and correction of the Reuter-Sondheimer theory. The most recent series of papers is more mathematical and is concerned with the evaluation of integrals used in mathematical physics. In addition to these three main streams, he has also made useful contributions on semi-conductors and on quantum and statistical mechanics.

### Pharmacology in London :

Prof. G. V. R. Born

DR. G. V. R. BORN, recently appointed to the Vandervell chair of pharmacology at the Institute of Basic Medical Sciences in the University of London, took his M.B. and Ch.B. at Edinburgh in 1943 and his D.Phil.(Oxon) in 1951. After his return from service as army pathologist in the Far East, he took up

research in the rapidly developing new field of biochemical pharmacology. While on the staff of the Medical Research Council's Toxicology Research Unit he became interested in metabolic inhibitors, and, on returning to the Nuffield Institute for Medical Research at Oxford in 1953, he studied the actions of these inhibitors on smooth muscle. His main field of work has been on the pharmacologically active amines, and this led him to study the blood platelets by biochemical and pharmacological methods. A most notable contribution was the discovery of large amounts of adenosine triphosphate in platelets. The role of this substance in the uptake and storage of 5-hydroxytryptamine by platelets and its fate during clotting are now being explored. Dr. Born has also taken an active part in the teaching at Oxford, both in the Departments of Pharmacology and Pathology, and as a medical tutor at St. Peter's Hall. He has travelled widely and is well known to his scientific colleagues on both sides of the Atlantic.

### College of Advanced Technology, Birmingham :

Dr. T. Lupton

DR. T. LUPTON has been appointed head of the Department of Industrial Administration of the College of Advanced Technology, Birmingham, as from April 1. At present senior lecturer in industrial sociology in the University of Manchester, Dr. Lupton began his career as an apprentice marine engineer, and later became an engineering draughtsman. He afterwards gained a diploma in economics and political science at Ruskin College, Oxford, proceeded to an honours degree in economics at Oriel College, Oxford, and was awarded the degree of Ph.D. at Manchester in 1959. Dr. Lupton has carried out a number of investigations on the relationship between occupation and social status, and recently the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research granted him £29,000 for a five-year research project on "Social Factors affecting Workshop Behaviour"; he will be continuing this work at Birmingham with the aid of Research Fellows and assistants.

### National Institute of Agricultural Botany :

Mr. G. W. G. Briggs

MR. G. W. G. BRIGGS has been appointed assistant director of the National Institute of Agricultural Botany. Since 1948 he has been head of the Seed Production Branch of the Institute, where he was responsible for the development of field approval and