

University News :**Birmingham**

PROFESSOR R. B. HUNTER, at present professor of materia medica in the University of St. Andrews, has been appointed vice-chancellor and principal of the university.

Bradford

MR D. P. HOWSON, at present senior lecturer in the Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, University of Birmingham, has been appointed to the additional chair of electrical engineering, and Dr J. B. Helliwell, at present reader in gas dynamics in the University of Strathclyde, has been appointed to the chair of mathematics.

Cambridge

DR H. LEHMANN, university biochemist to the Cambridge United Hospitals, has been appointed to the chair of clinical biochemistry.

Leeds

A NEW Division of Virology, under the headship of Dr Jaroslaw Czekalowski and within the Department of Bacteriology, has been created in the university.

London

THE following appointments have been made: Dr R. F. L. Logan, at present reader in social medicine in the University of Manchester, to the chair of organization of medical care at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; Professor W. R. Niblett, at present dean of the Institute of Education, to the newly established chair of higher education tenable at the institute; Dr. A. J. Rutter, reader in ecology in Imperial College, to the chair of botany tenable at that college. The title of professor of chemistry has been conferred on Dr C. A. Vernon, in respect of his post at University College.

Sussex

PROFESSOR J. C. WEST, at present dean of the School of Applied Sciences, has been appointed as pro-vice-chancellor of the university for a period of two years from August 1; Professor T. B. Bottomore, at present head of the Department of Political Science, Sociology and Anthropology in the Simon Fraser University, British Columbia, has been appointed to the chair of sociology, and Mr. A. Kirk, at present director of the Computer Laboratory in the University of Liverpool, has been appointed director of the Computing Centre.

Appointments

THE following appointments have been made by the Medical Research Council to its three advisory research boards: *Biological Research Board*, Professor A. S. V. Burgen of the Department of Pharmacology, University of Cambridge; Professor K. Burton of the Department of Biochemistry, University of Newcastle upon Tyne; Professor P. M. B. Walker of the Department of Zoology, University of Edinburgh. Professor J. L. Gowans of the Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, Oxford, already a member of the board, will succeed Professor W. D. M. Paton as chairman. *Clinical Research Board*, Professor A. W. Kay, regius professor of surgery in the University of Glasgow. *Tropical Medicine Research Board*, Professor W. Melville Arnott of the Department of Medicine, University of Birmingham; Dr D. J. Lewis of the British Museum (Natural History).

PROFESSOR H. R. HEWER, professor of zoology in Imperial College, has been appointed chairman of the new Farm Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, which has been set up to advise the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Scottish Office on matters involving the welfare of farm animals kept under intensive husbandry systems.

MR J. A. H. PAFFETT, at present holder of the chair of naval architecture at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, has been appointed superintendent of the Ship Division of the Ministry of Technology's National Physical Laboratory. He is succeeding Mr A. Silverleaf, who is now deputy director (C) at the National Physical Laboratory.

Announcements

THE *Royal Society Leverhulme Visiting Professorships* have been awarded as follows: Professor S. Devons, professor of physics and chairman of the Department of Physics at Columbia University, to visit the University of Andhra, Waltair; Professor D. Whitteridge, professor of physiology and head of the Department of Physiology at the University of Edinburgh, to visit the Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute, University of Delhi; Professor W. Williams, professor of plant science and head of the Department of Plant Science in the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, to visit the Agricultural College of Prague, the Faculty of Natural Science of the Charles University and the Institute of Experimental Botany of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. The *Royal Society Visiting Professorships* have been awarded to Professor F. C. Champion, professor of physics at King's College in the University of London, to visit the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, and Professor N. Tinbergen, professor of animal behaviour at the University of Oxford, to visit the University of East Africa.

DR S. H. SHAW, adviser to the Ministry of Overseas Development and in charge of the Overseas Division of the Institute of Geological Sciences, has been elected president of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy for the session 1968-69.

THE Institution of Civil Engineers has awarded the *Telford Gold Medal* jointly to J. K. Anderson, J. A. K. Hamilton, W. Henderson, J. S. McNeil, Sir Gilbert Roberts and H. Shirley-Smith for their paper, "The Forth Road Bridge". The *James Watt Medal* has been awarded to A. R. Wilkinson; and the *George Stephenson Medal* to P. A. Scott.

THE Colworth Medal, which has been donated by the Unilever Research Laboratory, is awarded annually by the Biochemical Society to the most promising young British biochemist. Nominations are invited for the award of this medal for the year 1967, and further information can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, The Biochemical Society, 7 Warwick Court, London, WC1.

CORRESPONDENCE**Projects for Schools**

SIR,—Nigel Hawkes reports (*Nature*, 215, 122; 1967) that a boy at a certain British school carried out on mice experiments which, so far as a reader can judge, ought not to be done without a Home Office licence and Certificate A. Whether little or much discomfort was caused by the changes of temperature mentioned by Mr Hawkes, the matter is serious because it could be the thin end of the wedge. In America children are encouraged to repeat even severe experiments on animals, and British publishers have, to my knowledge, refused the British rights of at least three American books telling amateurs how to amuse themselves in this way. British scientists have a highly responsible tradition in such matters but there is strong American pressure on European education, and vigilance seems to be called for.

Yours faithfully,
C. W. HUME

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Pall Mall, S.W.1.