

Institute of Physics in order to remove from some of these appointments the suggestion of blind-alley employment.

At the Association's annual dinner, the question of industrial changes and the need for adaptability was deftly sketched by Dr. R. E. Slade (Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd.) who responded to the toast of "Education and Industry". Since world markets are changing, he said, industry must keep pace with the changes. On the north-east coast, industry has one of the finest positions in a free-trade world, but since the free-trade world no longer exists, industry is compelled to adjust itself. At the Imperial Chemical Industries works at Billingham they set out to send nitrogenous fertilisers all over the world. The plant was completed in 1929. But the world now requires only a portion of these fertilisers, and the firm had to turn its attention to other products for home and export purposes. The factory is now working hard on other things, and is being extended. Dr. Slade insisted that changes in industry can be achieved only by full confidence in technical and research staffs. Only the association of commercial minds with scientific and technical possibilities will lead to success. Workers on Tees-side, he declared, are wonderfully adaptable, and this is due to technical training.

A resolution passed during the Conference urged the necessity of grace periods up to one year in order that technical teachers could undertake research or gain further industrial experience. Other resolutions pressed for an extension of part-time day classes which would be attended by students during the normal working hours of industry, and for closer co-operation between the Board of Education and the Ministry of Labour in connexion with juvenile instruction centres.

University and Educational Intelligence

CAMBRIDGE.—Dr. O. M. B. Bulman, of Sidney Sussex College, has been appointed University lecturer in geology. M. Black, of Trinity College, has been appointed University demonstrator in geology, Dr. G. N. Myers, of Sidney Sussex College, University demonstrator in pharmacology and Dr. H. A. Krebs University demonstrator in biochemistry.

An election to the Isaac Newton studentships will be held early in the Michaelmas Term 1934. These studentships are for the furtherance of advanced study and research in astronomy (especially gravitational astronomy) and physical optics. Candidates are invited to send in their applications to the Vice-Chancellor between October 9 and October 15.

LIVERPOOL.—Dr. Henry Cohen, lecturer in medicine in the University and honorary physician to Liverpool Royal Infirmary, has been appointed to the chair of medicine in the University in succession to Prof. John Hay, who retires at the end of the present session.

PROF. L. M. MILNE-THOMSON, assistant professor of mathematics at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, has been appointed professor as from September 30 next.

AN International University Conference has been arranged by the Association of University Teachers to be held at Oxford on June 29–July 2. This Conference will be the first attempt to form an organ of

direct co-operation between universities of all countries. Among the subjects to be discussed at the Conference are: university organisation, vocational instruction, interchange of teachers, opportunities for research by foreign students, academic freedom. Further information can be obtained from Prof. R. C. McLean, University College, Cardiff.

THE first Register of the London School of Economics and Political Science (Houghton Street, Aldwych. 3s. 6d.) which has just been published contains, in addition to short biographies of former students and a list of lecturers since 1895, an interesting introduction contributed by Sir William Beveridge, the director of the School, describing its growth. At first the School did not prepare students specifically for examinations. In 1895 there was no teaching University of London, no internal degree, no university professoriate and no faculty of economics. There was an examination authority and there were individual colleges such as University, King's or Bedford, but these had no organic relation to each other or to the examining authority. The teaching University as it has grown since 1900 out of the London colleges is a new thing altogether. Since the War, there has been a rapid growth in the number of regular students of normal university type attending the School, and this has been accompanied by a decline in those listed as occasional. The number of regular students is now about 1,300, that of occasional students about 1,100, while the regular teaching staff numbers 89.

THE report of the president of Columbia University, New York, Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, for 1933 includes a discussion of some fundamental questions relating to the organisation and development of universities in the United States. Dr. Butler admits the confusion which results from the lack of an official definition of a university in the United States and of authority for its creation and recognition. "Nothing is easier than for a college in this country to call itself a university, even though it has not the first characteristic of university organisation, method or ideal". There is no such thing as a private university, he says. Some may be supported by taxes and others not, but all are public institutions. The American college covers the field which on the Continent is occupied by the upper years of the *lycée* or *gymnasium* and the first year of the university. Hence there are but 11 universities in England, 4 in Scotland, 1 in Wales, 5 in Belgium and 8 in Holland, 17 in France and 23 in Germany, 3 in Austria, 4 in Hungary, 25 in Italy and 11 in Spain. But in the United States there are 263 universities, colleges and technological institutions approved by the Association of American Universities. Of these, 36 are institutions having a more or less complete university organisation. The *World Almanac* lists 579 universities and colleges in the United States. The tendency in the United States appears to be to regard the graduate student only as doing 'university' work. "The university student", says Dr. Butler, "has a quite different outlook and a quite different method of approach to his field of intellectual interest." The teaching staff at Columbia in 1932–33 was 3,064 (comparing with 3,255 for the previous session) and 5,609 degrees, certificates and diplomas were granted, the total number of resident students being 30,588, of whom 13,144 were graduate and professional students.