

in Technical Education" prepared by the Association in collaboration with the Associations of principals and teachers in technical institutions. He reproduced figures from various reports which showed the growth of unemployment in relation to increasing mechanisation. He indicated that there is yet no limit of work which mankind must yet perform: "Apart from more immediate tasks . . . we have the problem of making places like the Sahara into gardens, and of making Australia less like a huge plate with a scanty population clinging to stretches of the seaboard that represents only the rim."

However that may be, Councillor Robinson insisted that we should face some of the devastating social implications of our industrial development: ". . . that an increasing number of the jobs open to boys have no future and hold out no prospect of employment was amply demonstrated by statistics which appear in Jewkes and Winterbottom's 'Juvenile Employment'." One table therefrom showed that the cotton industry is becoming a blind-alley industry, taking in juvenile labour at the same time as it is pushing it out a year or so later. It would be difficult to deny Councillor Robinson's comment: "No greater disillusionment for the normal boy or girl is possible than to find out that there is no part to play or that their chief value is their cheapness." He dealt also with the problem of leisure which is being set by our age. Here he suggested technologists might oust the devil who finds things for idle hands to do. Technical institutions must cater for the type which will want to express itself in problems of "the attraction of power applied to new use, to new experiments and inventions, to new transformations and manipulations of matter".

Mr. A. D. K. Owen (Secretary, Civic Division, Political and Economic Planning) in a paper on "Entrance into Industry" touched similar questions, but from a different angle. He repeated Councillor Robinson's point: "boys and girls fresh from school obtain jobs only to lose them again in a year or so when they claim higher wages". Moreover, many of the jobs are unsuitable and harmful. After-care and welfare work are very valuable; but they touch only a small proportion of young workers. Social provision falters at a vital phase in development. We must improve the quality of young workers. "Others may seem to prosper on cheap and low-grade labour. We can only hope to prosper with workers of the highest quality".

Mr. Owen insisted that the future well-being of Great Britain depends upon a considerable increase in the efficient output of goods and services. We have lost heavily in overseas markets through tariff and currency policies. "We need much more scientific and technical research into the raw materials, processes and products of industry. . . . We need to plan and guide our economic development on humane and scientific lines. . . . We need to improve the quality of our industrial and commercial personnel." With these points in mind, Mr. Owen believes that we shall have to concentrate more and more on finer and more complex products of high quality rather than on bulk products which our Eastern competitors can produce at extremely cheap rates with semi-automatic machinery and low-paid labour. A review of our educational methods is therefore essential, and Mr. Owen urged the raising of the age of full-time school attendance to fifteen years without exemptions, compulsory half-time attendance at day continuation schools between fifteen years and eighteen years, and

the extension of more specialised junior technical and similar schools within the limits imposed by estimates of industries' absorbing capacity. It would follow that industries should be organised to make possible a far-sighted recruiting policy. Each industry should be able to make a broad statement of its labour requirements in the years immediately ahead.

Educational Topics and Events

CAMBRIDGE.—Mr. W. V. D. Hodge, lecturer in mathematics, and fellow of Pembroke College, has been appointed to succeed Prof. H. F. Baker as Lowndean professor of astronomy and geometry. Prof. Baker will retire at the end of the present academical year.

The Sheepshanks Exhibition, value about £39, for proficiency in astronomy, has been awarded to Max Krook, research student of Gonville and Caius College.

At Pembroke College, Dr. W. G. Penney has been elected into the Stokes studentship. Dr. Penney was educated at the Imperial College of Science, and obtained first class honours in mathematics. After graduation he held a Commonwealth Fund Fellowship at the University of Wisconsin. In 1933 he was awarded a Senior 1851 Exhibition; he entered Trinity College as a research student and graduated as Ph.D. in 1935.

LONDON.—Mr. A. C. G. Egerton, since 1921 reader in thermodynamics in the University of Oxford, has been appointed to the University chair of chemical technology (Imperial College—Royal College of Science).

Mr. W. B. L. Trotter has been appointed as from October 1, 1935, to the University chair of surgery tenable at University College Hospital Medical School. Since 1913 he has been surgeon at University College Hospital.

Prof. William Bulloch has been appointed Heath Clark lecturer for the year 1936.

MR. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has announced that he is prepared to seek the necessary Parliamentary authority for increasing from £1,830,000 to £2,100,000 the annual Government grant-in-aid to the universities of Great Britain for each year of the next five-year period. He will also propose a special additional increase of £150,000 for the first year. This actually means giving back to the University Grants Committee the reserve of £150,000 set aside out of the 1930-31 grant allocation which was surrendered to the national exchequer during the financial crisis.

THE National Institute of Industrial Psychology has arranged an Easter week-end study school to be held at Exeter College, Oxford, on April 9-13. The subject of study will be "Problems of Work and Leisure". Among the speakers will be Dr. A. T. P. Williams, dean of Christ Church, Oxford; Dr. E. K. Le Fleming, chairman of Council of the British Medical Association; E. J. Patterson, head of the Department of Extra-Mural Studies, University College, Exeter; Captain C. R. Coote; and Prof. J. H. Jones, professor of economics in the University of Leeds. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, National Institute of Industrial Psychology, Aldwych House, London, W.C.2.