

Aeronautical Engineering at Southampton:

Mr. E. J. Richards

THE appointment of Mr. E. J. Richards to the newly established chair of aeronautical engineering in University College, Southampton, marks a development of unusual interest. He goes to a department which has already achieved good simple material equipment for teaching and investigation. It has been devised and made with the simplicity which is a necessary consequence of the small funds which have been available. An example of this development is the 6 in. \times 2½ in. supersonic air tunnel, using as its driving fluid steam from a boiler which was available. The cost and time of construction of the unit was, therefore, much smaller than would have been involved in the conventional plan of using compressed air as the driving fluid. The tunnel works satisfactorily, and gives a Mach Number of 1.4 for periods of one minute at intervals of six minutes.

Prof. Richards was educated at University College, Aberystwyth, and later at St. John's College, Cambridge. After some two years research work on aircraft structures with the Bristol Aeroplane Co., he transferred to the National Physical Laboratory in 1939. From 1945 until the present time Prof. Richards has been with Messrs. Vickers-Armstrongs at Weybridge, first as chief aerodynamicist and later as assistant chief designer. He has served on several of the committees of the Aeronautical Research Council and has made special visits to the United States to study the development of wind tunnels and other experimental technique. He has this year been awarded the George Taylor Gold Medal of the Royal Aeronautical Society for the best paper of the year. Prof. Richards's wide knowledge of aeronautical science and his experience of applying it to practical design form an excellent foundation upon which future aeronautical engineering education at Southampton will be based. His experience of the personal qualities which are desirable in engineers to be employed on research and technical development of aircraft will also give great advantage to his future college work.

Veterinary Science at Brisbane: Prof. T. K. Ewer

DR. T. K. EWER has been appointed to the chair of animal husbandry in the Veterinary Faculty of the University of Queensland and will arrive in Brisbane in August. Dr. Ewer graduated in veterinary science from the University of Sydney in 1938. After graduation he spent nine years in New Zealand teaching and doing experimental work in animal husbandry at Lincoln Agricultural College, Christchurch. During the past two and a half years he has been investigating the metabolism of phosphorus and vitamin D in sheep in the Department of Animal Pathology, Cambridge, for which work he was awarded the degree of Ph.D. in 1949.

The Veterinary Faculty of the University of Queensland was first established in 1936; but teaching ceased in 1942. In 1946 teaching was resumed for the three preclinical years, and Prof. Ewer's appointment is the first move to re-establish the full five-year course. This chair is of special significance in being the first in animal husbandry in Australia, and its creation suggests the main direction in which the Queensland Veterinary School may be expected to develop. It is of interest to note that veterinary schools in South America are said to have recently re-organised their courses to give greater emphasis to animal production than to medicine. The require-

ments of the livestock industries in South America and Queensland obviously have much in common, so it is not surprising to see the same trends in veterinary education developing independently in these widely separated countries.

University of Nottingham: First Congregation

ON July 11, the University of Nottingham held its first congregation for the conferment of degrees. At the beginning of an impressive ceremony the chancellor, Lord Trent, delivered an address to the graduands. After pointing out the significance of the occasion, he went on to discuss the need and the opportunities for university graduates to engage in business, not only on the scientific and technical branches, but also on the administrative side. There were no honorary degrees, but a few official degrees were conferred, including that of M.A. upon Prof. Janko Lavrin, head of the department of Slavonic languages, for his books on Russian literature, and that of M.Sc. on Mrs. Nora McDermott, of the Faculty of Agriculture, for her work on potato trials. Of the 260 other degrees, the most noteworthy was the award of a D.Sc. to Dr. F. L. Rose, a former student of the University (then University College) and now of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., who was the leader of the research team which, during the War, produced 'Paludrine', the well-known anti-malarial drug.

The Tensor Club of Great Britain

THE Tensor Club of Great Britain has been formed with the intention of putting engineers interested in tensor analysis into touch with one another, and, at the invitation of the organisers, Gabriel Kron has become patron. The Club has the following four specific objects that later may be extended: to enable each member to keep his fellow members informed of any work he is doing or proposing to do of interest to the Club; to ensure that the attention of all members is directed to any publication of interest to the Club that comes to the notice of any one of them; to provide a channel for the exchange of ideas and information, and to give individual help and advice when requested; and to promote the extended and increasing use of the techniques developed by matrix and tensor methods. The Club's activities—in the early stages, at least—will necessarily be confined to furthering its objects by correspondence. Membership is open to all those who are actively interested in determinants, dyadics, matrices or tensors, and their application to engineering, wherever they may reside. There is no entrance fee; members pay an annual subscription of one guinea, and associate members half a guinea. Prospective members and others who are interested should write to either of the Club's organisers, S. Austen Stigant, 7 Courtlands Avenue, Hayes, Kent, and W. J. Gibbs, 53 Hillmorton Road, Rugby.

Impact

UNESCO has just issued the first of a new bulletin of abstracts concerned with the international and social implications of science. The bulletin, *Impact*, will be published quarterly. The first issue contains an introductory statement on how science impinges on society and a bibliography giving details of the more important publications in English which have already appeared. Future issues will contain abstracts from the publications of other countries dealing with the effects of science on society. The first issue also