As might be expected from his comprehensive early training, Finch's researches have ranged over many fields. Under Bone's influence he first turned towards the efficient use of coal and its by-products, safety in mines and catalytic combustion, and these interests were reflected in his early researches on the ignition and combustion of gases. His recognition of the vital part played by surface structure in heterogeneous catalysis led him to the study of surfaces by electron diffraction, a technique with which his name is internationally associated, and which he has applied to the examination of a wide range of chemical and physical problems. This work was recognized by his election to the Francqui chair in the University of Brussels during 1937–38 and, in conjunction with his important fundamental work on the electrical ignition of gases, by the award of the Hughes Medal of the Royal Society in 1944. In his new sphere Prof. Finch will find ample opportunity to pursue his many interests in the field of applied chemistry to the advantage of Indian economy.

Institute of Welding: New President and Vice-President

At the annual general meeting of the Institute of Welding, held at the Institution of Civil Engineers on July 22, Mr. A. Robert Jenkins and Mr. H. B. Fergusson were installed as president and vice-president, respectively, for the year 1952–53. Mr. Jenkins is a graduate in mechanical engineering of the University of Sheffield, and after his apprenticeship entered in 1931 his family business of Robert Jenkins and Co., Ltd., of Rotherham. He is now deputy managing director of the firm and also, since 1946, works director, in which position he is responsible for the whole of the production and technical side of a works now producing about a thousand tons of fabricated products a month. Mr. Jenkins has travelled widely, visiting factories in Sweden, Germany and the United States, and was a member of the Specialist Productivity Team on Welding which visited the United States in 1950. Mr. Fergusson was educated as a mining engineer in Freiberg, Germany, and later had a distinguished career in railway construction and other engineering projects in Canada, Spain, South America and Russia, where during the First World War he was in charge of 750 Canadian railway-men building the Murmansk Railway. For the past fifteen years he has been a director of G. A. Harvey and Co. (London), Ltd.

University College of the West Indies: New Principal

Dr. W. W. Grave, registrary of the University of Cambridge since 1943, has been appointed principal of the University College of the West Indies in succession to Sir Thomas Taylor, who has been elected principal of the University College of the South-West of England, Exeter. He is expected to take up his new duties in 1953. Dr. Grave was educated at King Edward VII School, King's Lynn, and at Emmanuel College, Cambridge. He took his B.A. degree in 1924, after being placed in the first class in both parts of the Modern and Medieval Languages Tripos. He was elected Fellow of Emmanuel College in 1926, and was a tutor of the College during 1936–40. In 1936 he was appointed University lecturer in Spanish, and during 1940–43 was a temporary administrative officer in the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

British Standards Institution: New Appointments

At the annual general meeting of the British Standards Institution, held at 24 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, on July 23, it was announced that Mr. John Ryan had been elected chairman by the General Council in succession to Sir Roger Duncalfe, who has completed his three-year term of office. At the meeting Viscount Waverley was re-elected president of the Institution for the third year, and Sir Roger Duncalfe vice-president. Sir Roger, who has been chairman of the Institution during three years of most rapid growth, is widely known in industry as the chairman of British Glues and Chemicals, Ltd. He is also a past chairman and past president, and now a vice-president, of the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers, and a vice-president of the Federation of British Industries. Previously in the Institution he had been chairman of the Adhesives Industry Standards Committee and of the Finance Committee. Mr. J. Ryan is vice-chairman of the Metal Box Co., Ltd., and has for many years played a leading part in the standardization policies implemented through the British Standards Institution by the packaging industry. He was appointed chairman of the Packaging Standards Committee on its formation in 1941 and was intimately concerned with the development of the war-time Packaging Code, which resulted not only in great economies during the Second World War but has also been of much importance to British industry in peace-time, particularly in the export field. Since 1948 he has been chairman of the Institution's Finance Committee. Widely known as an expert in company finance and administration, Mr. Ryan is a member of council and a Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society and holds senior offices in many trade organizations and the British Institute of Management.

University Degrees in Nutrition and Household Science

Courses for the two new degrees of B.Sc. (Nutrition) and B.Sc. (Household Science) will start at King's College of Household and Social Science (University of London) in October 1953. These degrees will replace the present degree of B.Sc. (Household and Social Science). The B.Sc. (Nutrition) degree is designed to make available for the first time in Britain an integrated course in this relatively new science. The course will include a study of food production, taking into account such factors as climate, soil, pests and diseases; food processing and preparation; food chemistry; food consumption and its economic and social deficiency. It will be a valuable preparation for those who intend to go in for nutritional research, to become dietitians, or to take up advisory and research posts with international or national organizations, with local authorities and other bodies which are increasingly undertaking work on the problems of nutrition. The course for the degree of B.Sc. (Household Science) will comprise work in the practical and scientific aspects of the preparation of food, the chemistry of food-stuffs, the principles of institutional management and house planning, and other subjects which come under the general title of household science, with a background of chemistry, physiology and other allied sciences. It is designed to meet the same sort of requirements as the present course for the degree of B.Sc. (Household and Social Science) and will be specially suitable