

metals by X-ray diffraction, but it was apparent that his theoretical ability was his greater gift, and he made several important fundamental contributions to the theory of the diffraction of X-rays by crystals; his work on diffraction by imperfect crystals is likely to remain standard for a long time. He was quick to realize the importance of apparently trivial observations, and a chance remark by one of his colleagues at Cambridge set him thinking along a new line—the distribution of intensity in the different orders of diffraction from a single crystal. Unable to proceed far with this subject during the war years, he took it up seriously upon his appointment as senior lecturer at Cardiff, and, with several of his colleagues, he published a series of papers which have revolutionized ideas about the determination of space groups. The methods described have already proved extremely useful in many crystal-structure determinations. Prof. Wilson has also shown himself to be an extremely able administrator, his work on editing "Structure Reports" and producing data for the "A.S.T.M. Index" alone putting the world of X-ray diffractionists greatly in his debt.

#### Pharmacology and Therapeutics at Sheffield:

Dr. G. M. Wilson

PROF. E. J. WAYNE is resigning at the end of this month from his post as professor of pharmacology and therapeutics in the University of Sheffield, in order to take up the chair in the practice of medicine in the University of Glasgow, and will be succeeded by Dr. G. M. Wilson, at present lecturer in therapeutics in the University of Sheffield. Dr. Wilson was educated at the Edinburgh Academy and the University of Edinburgh, qualifying as a medical practitioner in 1940. During 1941–46 he served in the Medical Branch of the Royal Air Force, becoming officer in charge of the Medical Division of No. 5 R.A.F. General Hospital, Cairo, and medical specialist to the R.A.F. Middle East Command Medical Board. After demobilization, he was appointed an assistant to the Medical Unit of St. Mary's Hospital, London. He went to the University of Sheffield in 1950 as lecturer in therapeutics and a year later was appointed senior lecturer in therapeutics and a consultant physician to the United Sheffield Hospitals. He spent the academic year 1952–53 at Harvard University on an Eli Lilly travelling fellowship in medicine of the Medical Research Council. Since the War, Dr. Wilson has carried out a series of studies of some disorders of the peripheral circulation, and he has recently been studying the part played by the endocrine system in the development of metabolic and cardiovascular disturbances.

#### Statistics in the University of Aberdeen

THE University of Aberdeen is creating the new post of reader in statistics as from October 1, 1954. Dr. D. J. Finney, lecturer in the design and analysis of scientific experiments in the University of Oxford, will be the first holder of this readership. Dr. Finney will be in charge of teaching and research in this Department of Statistics, in which new developments, including the provision of increased statistical services for other University departments, are under consideration. The Agricultural Research Council is simultaneously establishing a new Unit, the Unit of Statistics, within the University of Aberdeen. Dr. Finney will be the director of this Unit, and in this capacity will collaborate with Agricultural Research Council institutes in Scotland and assist in the design

and analysis of their experiments. Dr. Finney's advice will also be available to other institutes and organizations concerned with agricultural research in Scotland. In addition, the Unit of Statistics will be responsible for carrying out specific investigations on behalf of the Council. The University Department of Statistics and the Agricultural Research Council's Unit will be housed in Marischal College, Aberdeen.

#### Royal Geographical Society: Awards for 1954

H.M. THE QUEEN has approved the award by the Royal Geographical Society of the following Royal Medals: *Founder's Medal*, to Brigadier Sir John Hunt, leader of the British Mount Everest Expedition; *Patron's Medal*, to Dr. N. A. Mackintosh, deputy director of the National Institute of Oceanography, for research and exploration in the Southern Ocean since 1924, with special reference to his voyages in the *Discovery II* during 1929–31 and 1933–35. The Council has made the following awards: *Murchison Grant*, to G. R. Crone, librarian and map curator of the Royal Geographical Society, for contributions to the history of cartography and to the history of geography; *Back Grant*, to Commander G. S. Ritchie, of the Hydrographic Department of the Admiralty, for his contribution to oceanographical exploration as commanding officer of H.M.S. *Challenger* during 1950–51; *Cuthbert Peek Grant*, to Dr. T. E. Armstrong, of the Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, for studies in the history and economic development of the Arctic, with special reference to the northern sea route; *Gill Memorial*, to Dr. W. G. V. Balchin, lecturer in geography, King's College, London, for contributions to geomorphological and geographical research; and *Mrs. Patrick Ness Award*, to C. W. M. Swithinbank, Pembroke College, Oxford, formerly a member of the Norwegian-British-Swedish Antarctic Expedition, 1949–52, for research in antarctic glaciology.

#### British Welding Journal

WITH the co-operation of the Institute of Welding and of the British Welding Research Association, a new monthly periodical, the *British Welding Journal*, has been started, and the first part has just been published (2 Buckingham Palace Gardens, London, S.W.1. Members, free; non-members, 10s.). As Dr. J. H. Paterson, a past president of the Institute of Welding, remarks, "when it is considered that the first practical applications of the welding of metals on any considerable scale are not much more than sixty years old, it is remarkable how rapidly this process has attained its present proportions". All aspects of the subject are undergoing intensive scientific and technical investigation, and it is to provide a unified avenue of publication for such work that the new *Journal* is primarily intended. This combination of the proceedings of the Institute of Welding, in the main practical in character, and the scientific reports of the Welding Research Association, together with reviews of current literature, should, in the words of Sir William Larke, "make available to the technologist the results of research, so that they can be translated into practice; and bring to the knowledge of the research worker the difficulties which arise in their practical application". Among the papers contained in this first issue are the following: a most interesting historical account dealing with the development of