

skilful exploitation of new theoretical concepts (such as isotopic spin); he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1956. More recently, after a year's stay in the United States, he turned to the exploration of the strange particles which abound near particle accelerators of the highest energy. To his new appointment he brings a lively and versatile mind, a wide knowledge of physics, a gift for clear and vivid presentation and a subtle sense of humour.

#### Chemical Engineering at Birmingham :

Prof. S. R. M. Ellis

DR. S. R. M. ELLIS, who has been appointed to the second chair in the Chemical Engineering Department of the University of Birmingham, had a wide industrial experience before becoming interested in university teaching. He is forty-four years of age and was born in New Zealand and studied in Auckland University, where he graduated and obtained the degree of master of science. He had extensive experience in the fuel industry in New Zealand before coming to Britain in 1937. Initially he was connected with the Low-Temperature Carbonization Oil Refinery at Bolsover, as chemical engineer on both the operating and design sides. He then became a senior chemical engineer to a chemical plant manufacturer, designing and fabricating complete chemical plants for the chemical industry. He joined the Chemical Engineering Department at the University of Birmingham in 1947, was appointed senior lecturer in 1949 and reader in 1955. He has been closely associated with the Institution of Chemical Engineers, Midlands Branch, as honorary secretary and has served on a number of educational committees. He has played a very active part in the teaching work of the University and in research activities, centred largely on distillation work, including vapour-liquid equilibria over a range of pressures and determinations and method of operation of various forms of distillation plate columns.

#### Grants for Learned Journals : Dr. F. V. Morley

THE joint committee of the Royal Society and the Nuffield Foundation which administers grants made available by that Foundation to assist learned scientific journals has appointed Dr. F. V. Morley as liaison officer. The committee, presided over by Sir Edward Salisbury, has already made a number of grants to aid journals which are concerned in primary subjects of research. Dr. Morley's father, Frank Morley, was a Cambridge mathematician who (following a distinguished pattern which had been set before his time by J. J. Sylvester) became head of the mathematical department of the Johns Hopkins University, and from an early age the son was familiar with and interested in the problems attendant on the production and distribution of the *American Journal of Mathematics*. Writing, publishing, journalism, and respect for all branches of research were much in the blood of the Morley family of Baltimore. The eldest son, Christopher Morley, was a publisher before he became well known as a writer; the second son, Felix, became editor of *The Washington Post*, and after that president of Haverford College; the third son is the present appointee of Sir Edward Salisbury's committee.

All three of the Morley brothers were Rhodes Scholars at New College, Oxford. F. V. Morley

took his D.Phil. at Oxford in mathematics, but instead of returning to teach in the United States he married and settled in England. He was on the staff of *The Times*, but left to become London manager for the Century Company of New York, and afterwards, in 1929, was one of the founding directors of Faber and Faber. He shared a room with Mr. T. S. Eliot and, as he says, shared in the headaches of publishing *The Criterion*. In 1939 he was invited to New York to become a director, and afterwards vice-president, of Harcourt, Brace and Co. In 1947 Mr. Morley (for outside academic circles he has never used his academic title) returned to London. In 1949 he became a director of Eyre and Spottiswoode (Publishers), Ltd., and of E. and F. N. Spon, Ltd. Dr. Morley retired from publishing a year ago, but it will be seen that he has had a wide and varied experience which the committee hopes may prove of practical value to those concerned with the production and distribution of learned and specialized journals. Perhaps the best possible assistance that can be rendered to the journals resides in increase of circulation, if that can be managed without any interference with editorial policy or any lowering of standards. Every promising effort to promote subscriptions for British journals, especially overseas, will certainly be welcomed. Inquiries may be addressed to Dr. F. V. Morley, Nuffield Lodge, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1.

#### Brazilian Society for the Progress of Science

THE annual meeting of the Brazilian Society for the Progress of Science was held this year during July 8-13, for the first time in Rio de Janeiro. The president for this ninth meeting was Prof. Fritz Feigl, director of the Microchemical Laboratory of the Brazilian Department of Mineral Production. The inaugural session, which was attended by the Minister of Education, opened with the reading of a goodwill telegram to the Society from the British Association. During the following days, some 294 papers (contributed by 362 scientists) were presented in the various sections, and there were also nineteen sectional discussions. About two-thirds of the papers were presented in the biological or medical sciences. Of the remaining subjects, education, chemistry and physics were well represented. Evening lectures included talks by Prof. Walter Cruz on "The Social Importance of Science", by Sr. Oscar Niemeyer on the project for the construction of the new capital of Brazil, and by Mr. F. M. Beatty, the acting representative of the British Council in Brazil, on "The British Association". There were eighteen symposia and discussion meetings, including a discussion on the functions of Brazilian scientific institutions. The next annual meeting is planned to take place in São Paulo in July 1958.

#### Association of Island Marine Laboratories

THE remarkable growth of interest in marine biology in the tropical western Atlantic was made apparent by a conference held during April 1957 at the marine laboratory of the University of Puerto Rico at Maguey, with financial support from the U.S. Office of Naval Research. The conference was attended by representatives from the Marine Biological Station and the Government Aquarium at Bermuda, the Lerner Marine Laboratory at