

**Organic Chemistry at Birmingham :****Prof. J. C. Tatlow**

As part of the large expansion programme of the Department of Chemistry at the University of Birmingham, a new chair of organic chemistry has been created. Dr. J. C. Tatlow, at present reader in organic chemistry in the Department, has been appointed to be the first holder of the chair. Dr. Tatlow entered the University of Birmingham in 1940 to read chemistry with county major, State and Rugeley Grammar School scholarships. He was Burstall Prize-man in 1941 and Frankland Prize-man in 1943, when he gained his B.Sc. with first-class honours. He obtained the Brotherton Research Scholarship and was appointed to the staff of the Department of Chemistry in 1944 as leader of a research group engaged on fluorine and uranium chemistry. In 1946, after gaining his Ph.D., he was appointed scientific officer in the Ministry of Supply at the Chalk River Atomic Energy Establishment in Ontario. He returned to Birmingham in 1948, first as an Imperial Chemical Industries Fellow and later as lecturer in chemistry. Since that time he has led a large team engaged in the chemistry of organic compounds and is joint or senior author of some seventy original papers in that field. He was awarded his D.Sc. in 1954 and his Fellowship of the Royal Institute of Chemistry in 1955. He has for many years been a member of the Midlands Section of the Royal Institute and a local representative of the Chemical Society. He was appointed a member of the Council of the Chemical Society in 1957. He is playing a prominent part in organizing the First International Congress on Fluorine Chemistry to be held in Birmingham in July next. He was appointed senior lecturer in chemistry at Birmingham in 1956 and reader in organic chemistry in 1957. He has had wide teaching and organizing experience and is a member of the Pure Science Board of Examiners. He has played a major part with Prof. M. Stacey and Prof. J. C. Robb in the design and planning of the new chemistry buildings at Birmingham.

**Engineering Production at Birmingham :****Prof. N. A. Dudley**

Dr. N. A. DUDLEY, recently reader in engineering production and head of the Department of Engineering Production in the University of Birmingham, has been appointed to the chair in that subject at Birmingham. Dr. Dudley was born in 1916 and educated at King's Norton Grammar School and Birmingham Central Technical College. Before his appointment in 1945 as lecturer in production engineering and management at Burton-on-Trent Technical College, he was a production engineer in industry. In 1947, he became a member of the staff of Birmingham Central Technical College, and during 1948-52 he was senior lecturer in the Department of Engineering Production at Wolverhampton and Staffordshire Technical College. He was then appointed lecturer in engineering production in the University of Birmingham and in 1956 was made reader and head of the Department of Engineering Production and also head of the Institute for Engineering Production.

**Nuclear Science and Technology at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich :****Prof. J. Edwards**

MR. J. EDWARDS, senior principal scientific officer and head of the Naval Section at the Atomic Energy

Research Establishment, Harwell, has been seconded from the Royal Naval Scientific Service, and appointed to the new chair of nuclear science and technology, recently established at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich. During his four years at Harwell, Mr. Edwards was responsible for the extensive programme of experimental work which has been carried out by the Atomic Energy Research Establishment and the naval scientists there and he has, therefore, a wide experience of reactor systems cooled and moderated with ordinary water, and the general problems involved in the small reactor plants likely to be suitable for mobile purposes. He has twice visited the United States in connexion with these developments and last year delivered a lecture on the prospect of nuclear propulsion to the Engineering Section of the British Association in Glasgow. He was also one of the Admiralty delegates to the recent Geneva Conference on the Peaceful Applications of Nuclear Energy. Prof. Edwards served his engineering apprenticeship in Chatham Dockyard and obtained a Whitworth Scholarship to the City and Guilds College of the University of London, where he took an honours degree in engineering. He has since served in a variety of Admiralty research establishments including the Torpedo Experimental Establishment, the Admiralty Engineering Laboratory, where he was concerned with detailed stress and vibration investigations and gas turbine analyses, and the Department of Engineering and Materials Research in charge of studies and experimental work on advanced propulsion systems. In 1953 he was appointed to the staff of the Commander-in-Chief, Home Fleet, as scientific advisor concerned with operational research problems, serving in this capacity for some fifteen months in both H.M.S. *Vanguard* and H.M.S. *Tyne*. He has also been concerned with tripartite negotiations leading to standardization in the shock and vibration field.

**Research Laboratory, British Museum :****Dr. H. J. Plenderleith, C.B.E**

DR. H. J. PLENDERLEITH has retired from the keepership of the Research Laboratory of the British Museum, Bloomsbury, to become the first director of the International Centre for the Study of the Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Property, in Rome. After distinguished service in the First World War, he joined the British Museum Laboratory under the late Dr. Alexander Scott, succeeding him in course of time as head of the Department. The Laboratory now has an international reputation, and its advice is sought over an extremely wide range of objects and their care. When the Honorary Scientific Advisory Committee of the National Gallery was formed in 1935, Dr. Plenderleith was one of its original members and was chairman during 1944-58. In 1936 he succeeded the late Prof. A. P. Laurie at the Royal Academy, retiring from the chair of chemistry there last year. During 1950-58 he served the International Institute for the Conservation of Museum Objects as its first honorary treasurer, and is now a vice-president. The author of numerous publications and lectures, Dr. Plenderleith has collected the results of more than thirty years work in his book, "The Conservation of Antiquities and Works of Art", published in 1956. There are few countries which Dr. Plenderleith has not visited, and he was a member of the van Meegeren Commission in 1947. He is now chairman of the Museums