

Deputy Director of the National Physical Laboratory : Dr. G. Macfarlane

DR. GEORGE MACFARLANE, a deputy chief scientific officer at the Royal Radar Establishment, Malvern, has been appointed deputy director of the National Physical Laboratory. He succeeds Dr. Edward Lee, who has occupied the post since March 1958 (see *Nature*, 181, 600; 1958), and who now becomes director of the Stations and Industry Divisions at the headquarters of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

Dr. Macfarlane, who is forty-three, graduated with first-class honours in electrical engineering at the University of Glasgow in 1937, and went on to do two years postgraduate research at Dresden, where he gained the Dr. Ing. degree in 1939. He joined the Telecommunications Research Establishment (now incorporated in the Royal Radar Establishment) in 1939. Throughout the war years he concentrated on mathematical problems in radar and microwave physics. In 1945, he became head of the Mathematical Group, and a year later took charge of the Theoretical Physics Division. Since 1953 he has been carrying out individual research in the Physics Department of the Establishment.

European Organization for Nuclear Research, Cern

IN the fourteenth session of the Cern Council which was held in Geneva on December 2 it was proposed that international co-operation should be developed in the field of high-energy accelerators such as those constructed at the European Centre for Nuclear Research in Geneva. The contributions of the Member States have undergone some modification as a result of the accession of Austria to Cern and of changes in the national incomes.

Country	1960-62 (%)	1957-59 (%)
Austria	1.93	—
Belgium	4.15	4.89
Denmark	1.99	2.23
France	21.22	22.26
German Federal Republic	19.52	18.27
Greece	1.17	1.08
Italy	10.09	10.61
Netherlands	3.85	3.78
Norway	1.61	1.72
Sweden	4.23	4.85
Switzerland	3.29	3.48
United Kingdom	25.00	25.00
Yugoslavia	1.95	1.83
	100	100

The Council approved contributions from the thirteen member States totalling 65,000,000 Swiss francs for 1960. This compares with a budget of 55,000,000 Swiss francs for 1959. Of the 1960 expenditure, 38,500,000 Swiss francs are earmarked for capital expenses, of which 15,000,000 Swiss francs are for new buildings and general site facilities, and 18,000,000 Swiss francs for auxiliary experimental equipment. The remaining 26,500,000 Swiss francs will cover general staff and operating expenditure.

The following appointments were announced: F. de Rose (France) and Prof. W. Heisenberg (Germany) and J. Willems (Belgium) were re-elected respectively president and vice-presidents of the Council. J. H. Bannier (Netherlands) was re-elected chairman of the Finance Committee. Prof. F. Perrin (France) takes the place of Prof. H. Alfvén (Sweden) on the Scientific Policy Committee.

Reactor Project at Halden

THE second fuel charge for the Organization for European Economic Co-operation Boiling Heavy Water Reactor Project at Halden, Norway, has been ordered by the Norwegian Institutt for Atomenergi from A.B. Atomenergi of Sweden. The order is worth approximately 500,000 dollars. The Halden reactor, which is one of the two experimental reactors in the current programme of the Organization's European Nuclear Energy Agency, has been in operation at zero power since last June using a fuel charge of natural uranium metal. With this charge, to which it is intended to add a certain number of slightly enriched uranium 'spikes', a maximum power of approximately 5 MW. is expected. The second fuel charge will consist of approximately 1,500 kgm. of 1.5 per cent enriched uranium oxide, made up into 100 7-element assemblies of zircalloy-clad rods. This charge is expected to enable powers up to 20 MW. to be obtained. Delivery of the second charge will be in March 1961, and will include eight extra fuel assemblies, without uranium, for experimental use in the reactor core.

Mental Health Problems in Old Age

A NEW report issued by the World Health Organization (Technical Report Series, No. 171. Geneva: W.H.O.; London: H.M. Stationery Office. 3s. 6d.) deals with some of the psychological and social problems posed by the ageing of populations. It is the work of a small expert committee which met in Geneva last year to consider the broad psychiatric implications of present population trends. In its report, the committee stresses particularly the need for integrated mental health services for the aged which would provide guidance as well as medical care. Emphasis is also placed on the need for fundamental research on the psychological assets and disabilities of older people. Although this report deals principally with the strictly psychiatric aspects of old age, it deserves careful study by all concerned with the biology of ageing and the care and management of the elderly.

Friends of the Lake District

THE annual report of the Friends of the Lake District reviews the work of the association since it was founded twenty-five years ago. So long ago as 1936 an agreement was reached with the Forestry Commission not to acquire for afforestation any land within the central 300 square miles of the Lake District. In 1937 the first proposals for making the Lake District into a national park were put forward, while, in 1937, the association persuaded the Westmorland and District Electricity Co. to modify its plans about overhead electricity lines and to put them underground. By 1938 membership of the society had reached 2,700. In the same year, a road policy for the Lake District was produced, the society supporting a case against the making-up as motor roads of the remoter mountain passes and urging restraint against the up-grading of Lake District roads generally. At about this time measures were first taken to protect the rarer birds which nest in the high fells. This work has continued over the years with beneficial effects. The society has also taken vigorous action to prevent the silting and discoloration of Ullswater by effluent from the Glenridding lead mine. Other matters in this interesting