

ingham. In this post he will be responsible primarily for the undergraduate work of the Department. Prof. Allanson entered the Department of Electro-technology in the University of Manchester in 1938, taking his B.Sc. in 1942 and his M.Sc. in 1944. Although he had worked at the University on wave-guides, he took for a year a post with Callenders Cables, Ltd., concerned with power cables and the cross-channel petrol pipe-line, and then went to Ultra Electric, Ltd., for two years to work on general electronics, including radio receivers. In 1947 he was appointed head of the Electrical Laboratory at the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Co., Ltd., and was concerned once more with cables. In 1949 he was appointed lecturer in electrical engineering in the University of Birmingham, becoming senior lecturer in 1957. He is a man of very wide interests, embracing philosophy and biology as well as engineering; and, indeed, his strongest research interests lie in the field of nervous systems and particularly the mechanisms of hearing, and he has made some original contributions to this in co-operation with colleagues in the Department of Physiology. He has a strong natural interest in electrical net-work theory, and has published a number of papers on this topic, being particularly concerned with net-work synthesis. But his strongest enthusiasm is probably for teaching and students, and he has experimented in a number of ways to find better methods of teaching and to improve staff-student understanding and co-operation. He is also very interested in university administration. His appointment will give much satisfaction to his colleagues.

The Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh :

Dr. Douglas A. Allan, C.B.E.

ON September 15, Dr. Douglas A. Allan retires from the directorship of the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh, the destinies of which he has controlled for nearly seventeen years. After graduating at Edinburgh he became assistant to the professor of geology in Edinburgh and afterwards was appointed lecturer in geology in Armstrong College (now King's College, University of Durham), Newcastle upon Tyne. Work on Lower Carboniferous geology in Fife earned him a Ph.D., and later on Lower Old Red Sandstone tectonics along the Highland Border a D.Sc. In 1929 he was appointed director of Liverpool City Museums. In 1945 he became director of the Royal Scottish Museum, and returned to his native Edinburgh to complete his active professional career. Under him, the Museum has played a much more prominent part both nationally and internationally, for he has served on the Joint Committee of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust for twenty-five years, advising on the allocation and utilization of development grants, was chairman of the British National Committee of the International Council of Museums (Unesco) for seven years, and this year is president of the editorial board of *Museum* (Unesco). In 1952 he was director of the first Unesco seminar on "Museums and Education", held in New York. Under his directorship, the Royal Scottish Museum has been modernized in display techniques, has rendered wide service to research in many fields, and has embarked on schemes of periodical exhibitions of educational and cultural value. His early exploring adventures are reflected in his four years tenure of the presidency of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society and his official museum tours in North America, Asia and Central Africa.

Mr. Ian Robertson Finlay

MR. IAN FINLAY, who succeeds Dr. D. A. Allan, was born in New Zealand but educated in Edinburgh, graduating M.A. with honours in the history of art. He joined the staff of the Museum in 1932 and was successively assistant keeper and, since 1955, keeper of the Department of Art and Ethnography. He is particularly interested in display methods in all types of museums and will bring his undoubted talents to the front at an important time in the history of the Museum, which has practically completed its major overhaul since the Second World War. Mr. Finlay is secretary of the Royal Fine Arts Commission for Scotland, a Freeman of the City of London and a Member of Livery of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths, London. He has a strong interest in contemporary Scottish crafts and is a leading authority on Scottish gold and silver, having written several books and broadcast on numerous occasions. Last year he was awarded a Leadership grant by the United States Government to enable him to visit museums and galleries in North America.

Mr. Cyril Aldred

MR. CYRIL ALDRED succeeds Mr. Finlay as keeper of the Department of Art and Ethnography of the Royal Scottish Museum. Born in London, he was educated at Sloan's School and entered later on a course of study in the History of Art at King's College, London, and the Courtauld Institute, graduating as a B.A. in 1936. He was appointed assistant keeper in the Department of Art and Ethnography in the Royal Scottish Museum in June 1937, and has served that Department with distinction ever since, except for one lengthy break with the Royal Air Force during the Second World War, and two years as associate curator in the Egyptian Department in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. From an early stage he has taken a very strong interest in Egyptology and the life and arts of ancient Egypt, a field in which he now has an established reputation, and in which he has published a considerable amount of work, both on the monograph and the popular level. A competent practitioner himself in gold and silver craftwork, he is particularly well qualified to judge standards and methods in the works in his care, and brings a new attitude to the study of the ancient Egyptians to that more commonly brought by the philologists. He has already made a notable impact on museum techniques by his staging of exhibitions, both temporary and permanent, and in the latter, in Edinburgh, introduced the novel idea of employing contemporary writings to explain and illuminate his ancient Egyptian exhibits—rather than the 'hind-sight' view of a twentieth-century savant.

Veterinary Anatomy at Liverpool :

Prof. A. S. King

DR. A. S. KING, senior lecturer in veterinary anatomy in the University of Bristol, has been appointed professor of veterinary anatomy in the University of Liverpool. He is thirty-nine years of age, and was educated at Felsted School, Essex, and the Royal Veterinary College, London, where he obtained the degree of B.Sc.(Vet.Sci.) in 1946 and the degree of Ph.D. in 1956. During July 1945–December 1950 he held teaching appointments at the Royal Veterinary College, London. In January 1951 he was appointed lecturer in veterinary anatomy