

among other things, of *Science in the Cause of Man*—and as recognition for the achievements of the *Scientific American*, which now has a circulation of more than 325,000. The magazine has also published ten paperback books and some 3,500,000 reprints of articles for science teachers.

#### Mechanics of Fluids at Manchester:

Dr. N. H. Johannesen

DR. NIELS HOLM JOHANNESSEN has been appointed to the chair of the mechanics of fluids, vacated by the resignation of Prof. P. R. Owen (see *Nature*, 195, 755; 1962), with effect from June 1. Dr. Johannesen was born in Denmark and became a British citizen by naturalization in 1958. He was educated at the Technical University of Denmark, Copenhagen, by which he was awarded the degree of M.Sc. in 1945 and that of Dr.Techn. in 1951, his main subject of study being mechanical engineering. He also studied at the University of Copenhagen. From 1945 until 1950 he was a Research Fellow in the Mechanical Engineering Laboratory, Technical University of Denmark, and spent short periods in Manchester under Prof. Goldstein. In 1950 he went to Manchester as a British Council Scholar; he was appointed assistant lecturer in the Department of Mechanics of Fluids in 1951 and promoted lecturer in 1952 and senior lecturer in 1955. He has been a reader in the Department since 1962. Dr. Johannesen's research work in the past has been mainly on supersonic flow, both in wind tunnels and in supersonic jets. More recently, he has studied high-temperature effects in high-speed flow of gases. His present work is concerned with flow with relaxation effects. He is the author of a number of published papers and of tables for use in calculations on high-temperature fluid flow.

#### Director of Industrial Gas Research:

Dr. W. A. Simmonds

DR. W. A. SIMMONDS has been appointed director of industrial research by the Gas Council. This is a new appointment which the Council has made in view of the increasing importance and complexity of industrial applications of gas. The whole of the Council's industrial gas research programme will, in future, be concentrated at its Midlands Research Station at Solihull, where Dr. Simmonds has hitherto been in charge of the industrial gas research group. Dr. Simmonds, who is forty-six, was for several years with the former Gas Research Board, as head of a team working on gas utilization. He transferred to the staff of the Council's Midlands Research Station on its opening. He was educated at University College, London, obtaining honours in physics in 1939.

#### Immigrant Scientists in the United States

FOLLOWING an earlier study, *Immigration of Professional Workers to the United States*, published in 1958, the National Science Foundation has now issued more recent and detailed information regarding scientists and engineers in a report, *Scientific Manpower from Abroad* (NSF 62-64. Pp. iii+25. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1962. 25 cents). When used without qualification, the term 'scientist' includes engineers but excludes social scientists, and no attempt has been made to assess the contributions of foreign-born and foreign-trained technicians, mechanics and workers in other non-professional categories. Although it is impossible to form a precise estimate of the total number of immigrant scientists, it is considered unlikely that they constitute more than 10 per cent of American scientific manpower, but the 109 foreign-born and foreign-trained scientists who are members of the National Academy of Sciences represent 17.3 per cent of the membership of 631. Furthermore, of the 40 United States Nobel Prizewinners in physics and chemistry, 15 are of foreign origin or later emigrated to the United States. During 1949-61,

44,430 scientists and engineers were admitted to the United States as immigrants, 33,466 being engineers, the numbers rising from 1,234 in 1949 to a peak of 5,823 in 1957, since when it has declined steadily to 3,922 in 1961. Expressed as a percentage of the number of United States graduates in engineering and science, the figures are 1.3, 8.1 and 4.2 per cent, respectively. Most of the immigrant scientists settle down quickly and make valuable contributions to American science and to the general good of the Republic. Social and cultural maladjustment is slight and there is no evidence that native American scientists have been disadvantaged by their presence. It seems reasonable to assume that the American scientific community can continue to absorb foreign scientists at about their present rate of entry for some time to come.

#### Scientists in the Civil Service

THE ninety-sixth annual report of the Civil Service Commissioners for the year 1962, which comments more particularly on recruitment to the 'clerical class', notes no major changes in recruitment policy or methods, but more candidates were examined and declared successful than in previous years, and a modest addition to the Commission's staff was necessary (Pp. v+28. London: H.M.S.O., 1963. 3s. 6d. net). The manpower requirements of the Service were largely met over a wide range of posts and some deficiencies in staffing were made good. In the scientific officer grades a larger proportion of vacancies was filled than in previous years and in some branches of science staffing needs have been fully met. Organic chemists and most kinds of biologists are now required only to replace normal wastage, but a few specialized biological posts remain difficult to fill. All posts for geologists in the Geological Survey and Museum were filled: these now attract first-class candidates, and competition has become very keen. The improvement in the number of patent examiners recruited in 1961 was maintained, but wastage was exceptionally severe and recruitment must continue at the same level for the next two years to bring the Patent Office staff up to full complement. The competitions for professional posts at more senior levels, chiefly for the inspectorates, and for architects, quantity surveyors and planning officers now appear to be receiving more attention outside the Service and most of the vacancies were filled. There was also a significant increase in applications from outside the Service, particularly in the mechanical and electrical engineering field, for established professional and technical engineering appointments, but recruitment of young graduates of high quality to train as engineering cadets remained disappointing, though recruitment of scientific assistants improved during the year, though geographically patchy. The 'executive class' maintained its growing popularity among the universities, and there was no difficulty in meeting departmental requirements.

#### Safety Testing of Drugs

FOLLOWING the recommendations in the recent report of a joint sub-committee under the chairmanship of Lord Cohen of Birkenhead, and the Government's acceptance of these recommendations on April 4, a new Committee on Safety of Drugs has been formed. Sir Derrick Dunlop, emeritus professor of therapeutics and clinical medicine, University of Edinburgh, has been appointed chairman of the Committee. The following members of the Committee and chairmen of its three sub-committees have also been appointed: Prof. A. C. Frazer, professor of medical biochemistry and pharmacology, University of Birmingham (Sub-committee on Toxicity Testing); Prof. R. B. Hunter, professor of materia medica and therapeutics, University of St. Andrews (Sub-committee on Clinical Trials and Therapeutic Efficacy); Prof. L. J. Witts, Nuffield professor of clinical medicine, University