

process and the development of refractory oxides as tool materials. He is a British member of the International Institution for Production Research (C.I.R.P.) and is a United Kingdom member of the C.I.R.P./O.E.C.D., Co-operative Research Programme in Machining, for which he is chairman of the Statistics Sub-Group and secretary of the Surface Finish Sub-Group. In addition to research papers and *Reports of the Machine Tool Laboratory, Imperial College*, Mr. Brewer has published the following books: *The Numerical Control of Machine Tools* (1958), and *Manufacturing Properties of Materials* (1963). At Imperial College Mr. Brewer has been responsible for teaching and research of manufacturing processes. The chair in engineering production at Bradford has been established with the aim of applying mechanical engineering to production, as distinct from industrial or management aspects of production which are studied at the Institute's Management Centre. Mr. Brewer's responsibilities will include developing teaching and research in this field.

Polymer Chemistry in McGill University, Montreal:
Prof. L. E. St. Pierre

DR. LEON E. ST. PIERRE, manager of the Polymer and Interface Studies Section, General Electric Research Laboratory, Schenectady, New York, has been appointed the first professor of polymer chemistry in McGill University, Montreal, which is situated in the Otto Maas Chemistry Building, a new laboratory on the campus at the corner of Sherbrooke and University Streets. The new laboratory will pursue fundamental research on the chemistry of polymers and expand opportunities for graduate students to train themselves in this specialized field. Industries based on polymers, notably in textiles, plastics and elastomers, will thus have an increased pool of already specialized talent from which to recruit staff, in addition to the benefit of additional knowledge of the chemical processes and mechanisms of polymerization. Dr. St. Pierre is a native of Edmonton and was educated at the University of Alberta, where he graduated *magna cum laude*, and the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana, where he earned his Ph.D. degree in 1954. Since that time he has conducted research on various aspects of polymer chemistry at the General Electric Research Laboratory, and he has published numerous scientific articles in professional journals.

The new laboratory occupies almost all of the fourth floor of the two blocks forming the east wing of the Otto Maas Chemistry Building, and in addition to normal service and equipment, it will have its own constant-temperature and instrument rooms. Although organized as a separate, discrete unit, it will be situated close to those specialized laboratories of particular use in polymer chemistry: radiochemistry, mass spectrometers, ultracentrifuge and electrophoresis laboratories. Nuclear magnetic resonance, ultra-violet and infra-red equipment are also situated nearby. The new chemistry building, although not yet formally opened, was occupied by the end of June, and all parts, including the polymer laboratory, are expected to be working when classes commence in September. Twenty industries and associations, with an interest in polymer chemistry, have contributed to the capital costs and some operating expenses of the new Laboratory. In addition to its new research facilities, the Department of Chemistry, under Dr. C. B. Purves, chairman, has existing research laboratories of inorganic, physical and organic chemistry, radiochemistry and pulp and paper chemistry, the last-mentioned being also an integral part of the Pulp and Paper Research Institute of Canada.

Organic Chemistry in the University of Reading:
Prof. D. Bryce-Smith

DR. D. BRYCE-SMITH has been appointed to the newly established chair of organic chemistry in the University

of Reading. He was at Bancroft's School, Essex and afterwards studied at the South-west Essex Technical College, the Sir John Cass Technical Institute and the West Ham Municipal College. In 1945 he became a research assistant with Powell Duffryn Research, Ltd., and from 1946 until 1948 was a research chemist for Dufaycolour, Ltd. For the following three years he carried out research for a Ph.D. at Bedford College, University of London. From 1951 until 1955 he held an Imperial Chemical Industries postdoctoral research fellowship at King's College, London, and in the latter year was appointed assistant lecturer at the same College. He took up his post as lecturer in the University of Reading in 1956, being promoted reader in 1963. He was awarded a D.Sc. of the University of London in 1960. Dr. Bryce-Smith's main research interests are in the development of new synthetic methods in organic chemistry and in the study of reaction mechanisms; his principal fields of work have been the photochemistry of organic compounds and organometallic compounds. Other topics of his work falling outside these two main fields include catalytic reactions of acetylenes on noble metals, the chemistry of tropylium salts, syntheses of carboxylic acid anhydrides and *p*-quinones, and the reactions of silver benzoate-halogen complexes with aromatic compounds.

Physical and Inorganic Chemistry in the Chelsea College of Science and Technology: Prof. H. J. V. Tyrrell

DR. H. J. V. TYRRELL has been appointed to the chair of physical and inorganic chemistry at the Chelsea College of Science and Technology. Dr. Tyrrell was educated at Newport (Monmouthshire) High School, and at Jesus College, Oxford, which he entered in 1938 as a Welsh Foundation Scholar in chemistry. After graduating in 1942 with honours in chemistry, he held several industrial appointments before going to the University of Sheffield as assistant lecturer in chemistry in 1947. His appointment coincided with the beginning of the post-war expansion of the Department, and he has had long experience of the problems associated with such developments. During his period in industry, Dr. Tyrrell had been concerned mainly with the electrochemical production of metal powders, and with corrosion problems, and it was experience in the latter field which led him to begin an investigation of electrolytic thermocouples at Sheffield. This led, in turn, to a general interest in non-isothermal systems, and in the thermodynamics of irreversible processes, reflected in his monograph on "Diffusion and Heat Flow in Liquids", published in 1961. He has also been interested in the thermodynamics of complex equilibria in solution and in spectroscopic topics. In 1963 he was awarded the degree of D.Sc. by the University of Oxford, and has recently become reader in physical chemistry in the University of Sheffield. For many years he has been closely associated with the work of the Chemical Society, first as local representative for Sheffield and then as a member of the Publications Committee. Dr. Tyrrell's experience in industry and in the academic field will be valuable in his new appointment to a College which is strongly orientated towards technology and which will undergo many changes during the next few years.

The Overseas Development Institute

THE annual report for the year April 1964-March 1965 of the Overseas Development Institute records the firm establishment of the Institute as a centre dealing with most aspects of aid and development (Pp. 24. London: The Overseas Development Institute, Ltd., 1965). A large two-day conference on the economic and social development work of the United Nations was sponsored by the Institute. It is recorded that the library has collected about 2,500 books and pamphlets and receives more than 100 periodicals regularly. The basis of all the work of