

had increased by 608 between October 16, 1964, and October 1, 1966; and Mr. D. Jay that the staff of the Board of Trade had increased by 10,045 since October 16, 1964. This figure included about 1,800 transferred from the Ministry of Transport dealing with shipping and related matters, and 8,613 from the Ministry of Aviation, of whom 2,160 were seconded to the British Airports Authority. It also includes about 800 transferred from the Diplomatic Service, the Department of Economic Affairs, the Ministry of Technology and the British Museum. On October 21, Mr. R. Marsh stated that the staff of the Ministry of Power had increased by 33 since October 16, 1964, and there might be a further increase in the period to October 15, 1967. Also in a written answer on October 25, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. J. Callaghan, gave the number of non-industrial civil servants, excluding the Post Office, as 434,800 at July 1, 1966, of whom 14,864 were in the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; 24,716 in that of Aviation; 4,697 in Education and Science; 5,816 in Health; 1,618 in Power; 4,574 in Technology; 9,618 in Board of Trade; and 7,193 in Transport.

#### University News:

London

PROF. H. G. EGGLESTON, professor of mathematics at Bedford College, has been appointed to the chair of pure mathematics and head of the Department of Mathematics at Royal Holloway College.

#### Appointments

MR. J. A. HAMILTON, a scientific civil servant who last year became director, Anglo-French combat/trainer aircraft projects, has been appointed to the new senior post of Director General, Concord. This position has been created by the Ministry of Aviation to strengthen the Government's management team involved with the Anglo-French supersonic airliner. Mr. Hamilton will direct and co-ordinate the execution of all the technical, financial and administrative tasks on the Concord project that fall within the Ministry's responsibility.

PROF. P. W. BRAIN, Regius professor of botany in the University of Glasgow, and Mr. R. H. Law, under-secretary in the Scottish Home and Health Department, have been appointed members of the Agricultural Research Council, to fill vacancies which have arisen through the retirement of Dr. R. E. Glover and Mr. W. H. Senior.

PROF. NORMAN F. RAMSEY of Harvard University has been appointed President of the Universities Research Association, Inc., the non-profit consortium of American universities which has offered its services to the United States Government as a manager of the 200 GeV proton accelerator when—and if—that machine is ever built. As yet no decision has been made on the site to be used for the accelerator, and none is expected until after the coming elections to the U.S. Congress at the beginning of November.

DR. A. A. STRASSENBURG, professor of physics at State University of New York at Stony Brook, has been appointed director of the Education and Manpower Division of the American Institute of Physics, in succession to Dr. W. C. Kelly, who has joined the National Academy of Sciences.

#### Announcements

At the Annual Statutory Meeting of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, held on Monday, October 24, 1966, the following officers and Council were elected to serve for the 184th session: *President*, Prof. J. N. Davidson; *Vice-*

*presidents*, Prof. J. Allen, Dr. G. H. Mitchell, Prof. C. H. Waddington, Lord Balerno of Currie, Prof. N. Feather and Prof. I. N. Sneddon; *General Secretary*, Prof. A. E. Ritchie; *Secretaries to Ordinary Meetings*, Dr. A. F. Brown and Sir William Weipers; *Treasurer*, Dr. J. R. Peddie; *Curator of Library and Museum*, Dr. R. Schlapp; *Ordinary Members of Council*, Dr. N. Campbell, Prof. J. R. Raeburn, Prof. J. D. Robertson, Prof. P. W. Brain, Dr. H. E. Butler, Sir David Lowe, Dr. D. G. Sopwith, Prof. E. M. Patterson, Prof. P. D. Ritchie, Prof. R. S. Silver, Prof. G. R. Tristram and Prof. H. W. Wilson.

THE British Council has prepared a summary of the opportunities which now exist for exchanges with the Soviet Union and countries in eastern Europe in the fields of science, technology and agriculture. The rules which have been agreed between the various governments usually entail that the sending side should pay the fares and the receiving side should be responsible for maintenance. Copies of the document may be obtained from the Science Department of the British Council, Albion House, 59 New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1.

THE National Academy of Sciences of the United States has published a report on the hazards of the bulk water transportation of industrial chemicals (available from the printing and publishing office of the National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D.C. 20418, at \$1.50). The report deals with 157 chemicals in four chief classes considered to be hazards on account of fire risk, risk to health, possibility of water pollution, and reactivity. It has been drawn up by a panel under Dr. Robert F. Barker of the United States Atomic Energy Commission, and for each chemical and each potential hazard a number is used to designate as accurately as possible their degree of hazard.

Two Unilever European Fellowships of the Biochemical Society, each of £1,500 per annum, will be awarded for the academic year 1967-68, one for research in biochemistry in a laboratory in continental Europe by British citizens resident in Great Britain, and one for work in Britain by European nationals. Applicants should hold a Ph.D. degree or equivalent qualifications. The fellowships are tenable for one year in the first instance and are available for work in any laboratory or institute in Britain or continental Europe, including Unilever Research Laboratories. Further information can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, The Biochemical Society, 20 Park Crescent, London, W.1.

A DISCUSSION on "Limitations on the Operating Temperature of Electrical Equipment imposed by Insulation" is to be held by the Joint Professorial Group on the Properties and Testing of Materials (Solids and Liquids) at the Institution of Electrical Engineers, on November 18, at 5.30 p.m. Further information can be obtained from the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, Victoria Embankment, London, W.C.2.

A 45 MeV linear accelerator was inaugurated at the University of Toronto on September 29. The machine has a maximum beam current of 2.5 amp (with a short pulse of  $10^{-8}$  sec duration). It is being used by nuclear physicists.

THE title of the *Journal of Electroanalytical Chemistry* is to be changed to the *Journal of Electroanalytical Chemistry and Interfacial Electrochemistry* as from January 1967. It is hoped that the slightly extended scope now envisaged will be welcomed as providing an outlet for scientists working in fields where electroanalytical chemistry overlaps with colloid chemistry, fundamental electrochemistry, etc.

ERRATUM. The possum *Burramys* described in *Nature*, 212, 225 (1966), was captured not by Mr. R. M. Warneke but by Dr. K. Shortman, of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, Melbourne.