

**Professor Dennis Swann**, head of the Department of Social Sciences and Economics in the **Loughborough University of Technology**, has been appointed dean of the School of Human and Environmental Studies. He succeeds **Professor M. Seaman**, head of the Department of Industrial Engineering and Management.

### Appointments

**Professor N. Kurti**, Oxford, has been appointed chairman of the committee of management of the **Science of Science Foundation**. He succeeds **Dr J. B. Adams** who has been recently appointed director-general of the 300 GeV project at CERN in Switzerland. New members of the committee of management are **Dr B. Bard**, NRDC, **Dr S. Jones**, British Railways Board, and **Mr Eric Lubbock**.

**Sir Robert Cockburn** has been appointed chairman of the council of the **National Computing Centre** on the retirement of Mr J. M. A. Smith.

**Dr G. Budowski** has been appointed director general of the **International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN)**; **Mr F. G. Nicholls** has been appointed deputy director.

**Dr A. Kotait** has been appointed chief executive officer of the **International Civil Aviation Organization**. He succeeds **Mr B. T. Twigt**.

### Miscellaneous

**Dr F. Western**, scientific adviser to the director of radiation protection standards, and **K. C. Brooks**, manager of the 200 BeV Accelerator Facility Office at Batavia, Illinois, have received the distinguished service award from the **US Atomic Energy Commission**.

**Dr Benedict Cassen**, professor of biophysics at University of California, Los Angeles, has received the distinguished scientist award from the **Society of Nuclear Medicine**. He received the award for his contributions to modern techniques of scanning internal organs.

The Tissue Culture Association has published data for investigators using chemically defined media developed for tissue culture (*In Vitro* 6, part 2, 1970). The association is now studying standards for quality control of synthetic media. Anyone wishing to offer suggestions should get in touch with **Dr M. K. Patterson, jun.**, Tissue Culture Association Inc., Committee on Chemically-Defined Media, The Noble Foundation Inc., Biomedical Division, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73401.

**ERRATUM.** In the book review *Microscopical Technique* (*Nature*, 227, 98; 1970) the third line of the last paragraph should read: "nitrite for examination in the field-ion microscope while".

**ERRATUM.** In the report of the meeting of the Society for the Study of Fertility (*Nature*, 227, 339; 1970) the penultimate sentence of the second paragraph should have read: "Dr V. Monesi (Rome) emphasized the relative inactivity of the XY complex and the absence of ribosomal synthesis in spermatocytes".

### International Meetings

September 22–24, **The Vitreous State**, Bristol (The Assistant Secretary, The Faraday Society, 6 Gray's Inn Square, London WC1).

September 23–25, **High Energy Physics**, Durham (Dr J. V. Major, Department of Physics, University of Durham, Durham).

October 1–2, **Numerical Control Programs with Technology—Problems and Prospects in the United Kingdom**, Glasgow (The Conference Organizer (BH 704.09), Birniehill Institute, East Kilbride, Glasgow, Scotland).

October 4–9, **General Assembly of the International Union of Biological Sciences**, Washington DC (Office of Information, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20418, USA).

October 12–16, **Transport and Communications**, Genoa (Istituto Internazionale delle Comunicazioni, 18 Viale Brigate Partigiane, 16129 Genoa, Italy).

November 9–13, **Sequence Control Logic Design** (course), Glasgow (The Conference Organizer, Birniehill Institute, East Kilbride, Glasgow, Scotland).

November 27–28, **Psychosomatic Disorders of Movement**, London (Dr Oscar Hill, Conference Secretary, Academic Department of Psychiatry, The Middlesex Hospital, London WIN 8AA).

December 8, **Introduction to Group Technology**, Glasgow (The Conference Organizer, Birniehill Institute, East Kilbride, Glasgow, Scotland).

December 28–31, **Upper Mantle Project**, Hyderabad (National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad 7, India).

January 13, 1971, **Electron Spectrometry**, London (The Institute of Physics and the Physical Society, 47 Belgrave Square, London SW1).

March 16–18, 1971, **Electrical Safety in Hazardous Environments**, London (Manager, Conference Department, Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, London WC2).

March 29–April 2, 1971, **Design for Production**, Glasgow (The Conference Organizer, Birniehill Institute, East Kilbride, Glasgow, Scotland).

April 4–6, 1971, **Vacuum Equipment**, Brighton (Meetings Officer, The Institute of Physics and the Physical Society, 47 Belgrave Square, London SW1).

April 15–16, 1971, **Industrial Innovation through Contract Research**, Newcastle upon Tyne (T. W. Ditchburn, Assistant Registrar, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, 6 Kensington Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU).

April 19–26, 1971, **Solvent Extraction**, The Hague (International Solvent Extraction Conference 1971, 14 Belgrave Square, London SW1).

May 3–5, 1971, **Practical Application of Fracture Mechanics to Pressure Vessel Technology**, London (Mr J. H. Cole, Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 1 Birdcage Walk, Westminster, London SW1).

### Sabbatical Itinerants

In the hope of providing some practical assistance in the good cause of mobility between laboratories, *Nature* advertises the needs for housing of families about to take up periods of sabbatical leave. To begin with, no charge will be made for advertisements like this. It is hoped that a period of experiment will show what form these advertisements could most usefully take and whether they are effective.

**Wanted:** Chemistry professor (wife and 3 children) coming to University College, London, wishes to rent 2- or 3-bedroom house or flat from mid-December 1970 till July 1971. Write to E. Gellert, Wollongong University College, Wollongong 2500, N.S.W., Australia.