

his post at the end of this year, though he will remain in the service of the Association. Dr. Davidson has already served for thirty-four years on the scientific staff of the Association. Much of this time was occupied by studies of the chemistry of cotton cellulose, and his contributions to this subject are widely recognized. At the beginning of his investigations, the modern concepts and theory of cellulose structure were only just emerging. He used the new concepts to correlate a large body of otherwise confusing experimental observations. In doing so, he helped to establish the theory; and, in seeking a theoretical explanation of certain practically important observations, he uncovered fresh facts stimulating theoretical investigations in a more general field.

Dr. J. Honeyman

DR. J. HONEYMAN, lecturer in organic chemistry at King's College, University of London, has been appointed to succeed Dr. Davidson at the Shirley Institute. Dr. Honeyman's work has also been mainly in the field of carbohydrate chemistry. He graduated from the University of St. Andrews in 1939 and obtained his Ph.D. from that University in 1944. After spending a number of years in industry, Dr. Honeyman was appointed assistant lecturer at King's College, London, in 1945, and lecturer in 1947. He has contributed many papers, chiefly concerned with carbohydrates, and in 1948 published an "Introduction to the Chemistry of the Carbohydrates", of which a revised edition was published in 1951. During 1954-55 Dr. Honeyman held the post of Hibbert Fellow at McGill University, and was visiting scientist at the Pulp and Paper Research Institute of Canada.

Royal Society : Officers and Council

At the anniversary meeting of the Royal Society held on November 30, Sir Cyril Hinshelwood was re-elected president. Sir William Penney, director of the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment, Aldermaston, was elected treasurer in succession to Sir Thomas Merton. The other officers re-elected for the ensuing year were: Physical Secretary, Sir David Brunt, chairman of the Electricity Supply Research Council of the Central Electricity Authority; Biological Secretary, Prof. G. L. Brown, Jodrell professor of physiology at University College, London; and Foreign Secretary, Dr. H. G. Thornton, head of the Department of Soil Microbiology at Rothamsted Experimental Station. Other members of the Council elected were: Prof. C. E. H. Bawn, professor of inorganic and physical chemistry, University of Liverpool; Prof. T. A. Bennet-Clark, professor of botany, University of London (King's College); Brigadier J. S. K. Boyd, lately director of the Wellcome Laboratories of Tropical Medicine; Dr. Mary L. Cartwright, mistress of Girton College and university lecturer in mathematics, Cambridge; Prof. N. Feather, professor of natural philosophy, University of Edinburgh; Sir Claude Gibb, chairman and managing director of Messrs. C. A. Parsons and Co., Ltd.; Sir Bryan Matthews, professor of physiology, University of Cambridge; Prof. J. S. Mitchell, professor of radiotherapeutics, University of Cambridge, and director, Radiotherapeutic Centre, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge; Prof. W. T. J. Morgan, deputy director of the Lister Institute and professor of biochemistry, University of London; Prof. N. F. Mott, Cavendish professor of experimental physics,

University of Cambridge; Prof. L. Rosenhead, professor of applied mathematics, University of Liverpool; Dr. B. F. J. Schonland, deputy director, Atomic Energy Research Establishment; Dr. K. M. Smith, director of the Virus Research Unit (Agricultural Research Council), Molteno Institute, University of Cambridge; Prof. M. Stacey, professor of chemistry, University of Birmingham; Dr. W. H. Thorpe, university lecturer in entomology, Cambridge; Prof. L. R. Wager, professor of geology, University of Oxford.

International Journal of Applied Radiation and Isotopes

THE new periodical, the *International Journal of Applied Radiation and Isotopes*, published by Pergamon Press (London and New York), is to provide a medium for the publication and discussion of radioactive and radiation techniques and the applications of radioactive isotopes and large fluxes of radiation in the pure and applied sciences, medicine, agriculture and industry. The subscription is £6 (17 dollars) or, for individual subscribers certifying that the journal is for their private use, £3 10s. (9.80 dollars). The list of nine editors, headed by P. C. Aebersold (Oak Ridge, U.S.A.), which includes eminent scientists from France, Holland, Great Britain, the Netherlands and the U.S.S.R., and the editorial advisory board which consists of representatives from thirteen different countries, emphasize the international character and high standard of the new periodical. Sir John Cockcroft, one of the United Kingdom representatives of the board, contributes a brief editorial to the first number of the *Journal* (pp. 144; July 1956), and W. B. Mann (U.S. National Bureau of Standards) is the author of the leading article, entitled "The Preparation and Maintenance of Standards of Radioactivity", in which he gives a historical survey of the preparation and measurement of international radium standards and explains the need for standards of other radioisotopes. A report is given of the present state of international comparison of several radioisotopes, and a policy for wider international comparison is discussed. There are nine other original articles dealing, respectively, with radioactive tracer techniques for sand and silt movements under water, particularly the use of powdered glass containing scandium-46; a radiochemical technique for determining the surface area of aluminium metal surfaces; liquid scintillators; labelled metabolic pools for studying the biochemistry of toxic action; the behaviour in the rat of plasma proteins labelled with carbon-14 and iodine-131; the production and clinical application of iodine-132; autoradiography; gamma-ray vulcanization of rubber; and an impulsion discriminator for activation analysis. The number concludes with the titles and abstracts of the papers presented to the third annual meeting of the Society of Nuclear Medicine, held during June 21-23 at Salt Lake City, Utah.

Automation Progress : New Journal

'AUTOMATION' is an ill-defined word which no one likes and everyone uses. For the past three years, however, it has been a very live topic, and, as a result, existing journals have tried to persuade their readers that they cover at least a part of automation, and new journals with automation in the title have been appearing at frequent intervals in Europe as well as North America. The latest such periodical is *Automation Progress: The Journal of Automatic*