

of Instrument Makers during 1925-26. He is the author of several books on applied optics, one of the best known to spectroscopists being his "Metal Spectroscopy". Mr. Twyman was managing director of Adam Hilger, Ltd., from its incorporation in 1902 until it amalgamated with E. R. Watts, Ltd., in 1946. He retired in 1952.

Vice-Presidents of the Royal Society

THE president of the Royal Society, Sir Cyril Hinshelwood, has appointed the following vice-presidents for the year ending November 30, 1957: Sir David Brunt, physical secretary of the Royal Society, chairman of the Electricity Supply Research Council of the Central Electricity Authority; Sir George Brown, biological secretary of the Royal Society, Jodrell professor of physiology at University College, London; Sir Claude Gibb, chairman and managing director of Messrs. C. A. Parsons and Co., Ltd.; and Sir Bryan Mathews, professor of physiology in the University of Cambridge.

Imperial Chemical Industries Research Fellowships in London

It is announced by the University of London that Imperial Chemical Industries Research Fellowships have been awarded to the following: Dr. D. A. Haydon, for research on the relation between the zeta potential and surface charge of emulsion drops, in the Chemistry Department at the Imperial College of Science and Technology; A. E. D. Heylen, for research in the field of gas discharge physics, in the Electrical Engineering Department at Queen Mary College; Dr. P. W. Higgs, for research on the theory of quantized fields, in the Physics Department of University College; Dr. W. Segal, for research on the chemistry of natural products, in the Biochemistry Department at the London School of Hygiene; G. R. Wilkinson, for research in infra-red spectroscopy, in the Physics Department at King's College; and E. G. Brown, for research into aspects of microbial metabolism related to the biogenesis and function of heterocyclic ring systems, in the Chemical Pathology Department at University College Hospital Medical School.

Delays in the Patent Office

IN replying to a point raised in the House of Lords by Lord Lucas of Chilworth at the Committee stage on December 6, when the Patents Bill received its third reading, Lord Mancroft said that consultations with industry and professional organizations before the Bill was introduced had indicated solid opposition to giving priority of examination to applicants who desired their patents quickly. This might operate most unfairly and it would be quite impracticable for the Patent Office to distinguish between the applicant who had legitimate reasons for avoiding delay and the one who had not. After going into the matter very carefully, Lord Mancroft said he was satisfied with the position as it is, for while the applicant had to wait, on average, about fifteen months for his patent after he knew the first results of the search conducted in the Patent Office, the length of this period was largely under his control. The sooner he amended his specification to satisfy any objections by the examiner, the sooner the patent was granted. There was little delay in the Patent Office in dealing with amendments to specifications.

United States Federal Support for Higher Education in Science

THE National Science Foundation has recently issued as a National Science Study, under the title of "Federal Support for Science Students in Higher Education, 1954", a survey which shows that in 1954 nearly 390,000 students, or more than one out of every six undergraduates and more than one out of every five graduates, received financial assistance from the Federal Government. Besides these 345,000 undergraduates and nearly 43,000 graduates, well over 1,000 students with doctor's degrees received Federal support for advanced study, research or training, and only 54 of these were in fields other than the sciences. While only 24 per cent of the undergraduates were studying the sciences, including the social sciences, more than 48 per cent of the graduates assisted were in the sciences; and of these, 9.3 per cent were in the biological sciences, 19.7 per cent in the physical sciences, 15.4 per cent in engineering, and 3.9 per cent in the social sciences. At the doctorate level, 88.8 per cent were in the biological sciences (including medicine), 2.6 per cent in the physical sciences, 0.5 per cent in engineering, and 4.0 per cent in the social sciences. Virtually all of the 82,400 undergraduate students in the sciences receiving Federal support were recipients of veterans' educational benefits. Federal payments to undergraduates average about 975 dollars per student; to graduates, nearly 1,200 dollars; and to those receiving postdoctorate training, more than 4,000 dollars, the total Federal expenditure at all three levels exceeding 390 million dollars.

Higher Technical Education in the British Caribbean

THE Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Alan Lennox-Boyd, has, after consultation with the British Caribbean Governments, appointed a mission on higher technical education in the British Caribbean, with the following terms of reference: "To consider proposed developments in the field of higher technical and technological education in the British Caribbean in relation to present and future needs; and, in the light of probable financial resources, to make recommendations". The members of the mission are: Mr. G. S. V. Petter (chairman), educational adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies; Dr. F. J. Harlow, nominated by the Advisory Committee on Colonial Colleges of Art, Science and Technology, who was until recently one of the Secretary of State's educational advisers; and Prof. J. A. L. Matheson, nominated by the Inter-University Council for Higher Education Overseas, who is the Beyer professor of engineering, University of Manchester. The secretary is Mr. J. E. Whitelegg, of the Colonial Office.

Spectrovision

Spectrovision, published by Unicam Instruments, Ltd., Arbury Works, Cambridge, is a new quarterly publication intended to keep its readers informed of developments in spectrophotometry and to act as a medium for the exchange of information concerning new and profitable applications of spectroscopic instruments. The contents will include original contributions from the Research Department of Unicam Instruments, Ltd., and attention will also be directed to published articles, not necessarily connected with the firm's products, of interest to spectroscopists in