worked in the Biological Chemistry Department, University of Utah, and later at the Huntington Memorial Laboratory, Massachusetts General Hospital. In 1953 he became a medical student and part-time research assistant to the Medical Unit at St. Mary's Hospital, London. In 1956 he moved to Oxford with Sir George Pickering on the latter's appointment to the regius chair of medicine. He qualified M.B., B.Chir. (Cantab.) in 1957. He was placed in charge of a group for research into humoral physiology and pathology under Sir George Pickering. This work has attracted the support of the Medical Research Council and the Rockefeller Foundation. He has published numerous papers on steroid metabolism and is particularly well known for his able use of chromatography in the analysis of steroids in general.

Science Adviser to the U.S. Secretary of State

Dr. Walter G. Whitman, formerly chairman of the Department of Chemical Engineering of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been appointed science adviser to the U.S. Department of State, in succession to Wallace R. Brode, who has resigned. Dr. Brode, who has a long record of government service with various scientific agencies, has been serving as science adviser to the Secretary of State since January 1958. A science adviser and a number of science attachés at posts abroad were first appointed in 1951. During his tenure as science adviser, Dr. Brode revitalized the entire science attaché scheme. Ten embassies abroad have been staffed with science attachés, many of whom cover a number of countries on a regional basis. These attachés facilitate scientific exchanges with the United States, and interpret American science to scientists, science writers, editors, and others who influence foreign attitudes toward the United States, and its scientific and technological achievements. Further, as a function of prime importance to the Department of State, they help other members of the embassy staffs to give proper consideration to the scientific and technical factors involved in the decisions they must make.

Dr. Whitman, the new science adviser, served with the National Advisory Commission for Aeronautics during 1940–45, was director of the Lexington Project of the Atomic Energy Commission in 1948, and also served as secretary-general for the United Nations Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy in 1955. He was chairman of the Research and Development Board of the Department of Defense during 1951–53 and was a member of the National Advisory Commission for Aeronautics during the same two years. He is on terminal leave from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

British Steel Castings Research Association : Appointments

The British Steel Castings Research Association, Sheffield, has announced the following new appointments. Mr. C. M. Stoch to be assistant director of research. Mr. Stoch, who joined the Association in 1951, has been in charge of the Plant Engineering and Industrial Health Section since 1953, and for the past two years has also been acting head of the Steelmaking Section. He was born in Poland, and, after having graduated in 1937 in metallurgy at the University of Krakow, he worked in the steelmaking department of the Baildon Steelworks, Katowice. He was called to the Forces in 1939 and took part in the fighting in Poland, rejoined the Polish Forces in France in 1940 and afterwards in Great Britain. Mr. Stoch has recently been investigating the development and improvement of dust control devices on grinding machines and fettling benches. Mr. K. Knaggs, deputy head of the Association's Steelmaking Section for the past two years, has been appointed head of this Section.

Joint British Committee for Electron Microscopy

A Joint British Committee for Electron Microscopy has been set up with the following three objects in mind : first, to co-ordinate meetings in the whole field of electron microscopy, including the design, use and application of the instruments, and of cognate subjects arranged by its constituent bodies ; secondly, to encourage the holding of joint meetings by its constituent bodies ; thirdly, to act in the collective interest of the constituent bodies by maintaining liaison with the International Federation of Electron Microscope Societies and with National Societies covering this field, and also by maintaining liaison with oversea societies concerned with electron microscopy. Dr. V. E. Cosslett, University of Cambridge, has been elected the first chairman of the Committee. The foundation members are as follows : the Anatomical Society of Great Britain and Ireland ; the Physics Group of the Textile Institute ; the Biochemical Society ; the Royal Microscopical Society ; the Chemical Society ; the Institute of Physics and the Physical Society ; the Society for Experimental Biology ; the Iron and Steel Institute ; the Society for General Microbiology ; the Linnean Society ; the Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland ; the Institute of Metals. Other societies interested in electron microscopy are welcome to adhere to this Committee. Further information can be obtained from the General Secretary, Royal Microscopical Society, Tavistock House South, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

Funds for Basic Research in the United States : 1959–60

Estimates by the National Science Foundation in "Reviews of Data on Research and Development", No. 22, put total funds for basic research in the United States in 1959–60 at 1,000 million dollars, compared with 430 million dollars in 1953–54 and 830 million dollars in 1957–58. Throughout this period funds for basic research were about 8 per cent of the total funds available for research and development. In 1957–58 expenditure on basic research by colleges and universities was 392 million dollars, an increase of 88 per cent on 1953–54, corresponding expenditure by the Federal Government being 111 million dollars (an increase of 136 per cent) and by industry 272 million dollars (80 per cent increase). The Federal Government, however, supplied 423 million dollars of the total funds for basic research and industry 249 million dollars, although these figures represent only 7 per cent of the total research and development funds from each of these sources. Of Federal funds for basic research in 1957–58, the universities and colleges received 57 per cent (compared with 61 per cent in 1953–54), industry 10 per cent (10 per cent in 1953–54), other non-profit institutions 7 per cent (5 per cent in 1953–54) and Federal Government institutions 26 per cent (24 per cent in 1953–54). Of the total 835 million dollars, 282 million dollars went to the biological and 553 million dollars to the physi-