

Higher Education in Britain

IN written answers in the House of Commons on March 16, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Education, Mr. C. Chataway, stated that the four technical training colleges in London, Bolton, Huddersfield and Wolverhampton had, this year, 1,200 students, and new teaching accommodation was expected to be completed at all the colleges by the summer of 1965. The future work of the colleges was under consideration by the Standing Sub-Committee on Teachers for Further Education of the National Advisory Council on the Training and Supply of Teachers. The Further Education Staff College opened at Coombe Lodge, Blagdon, in March 1963, had so far provided nine courses, covering a wide range of subjects dealing with further education and with its relations with industry, and attended mainly by senior teachers and administrative staff from colleges of further education. There were 24,731 full-time teachers in grant-aided establishments of further education in March 1962, and 5,490 men and 11,745 women were admitted to all courses of initial training in the specialist and technical teacher training colleges in 1961-62, 5,765 and 12,607, respectively, in 1962-63; the provisional figures for 1963-64 are 7,250 and 15,000 and there are about 7,750 day students at residential teacher training colleges. On March 18, Sir Edward Boyle stated that the report of the sub-committee set up by the National Advisory Committee on Education for Industry and Commerce, under the chairmanship of Mr. W. F. Birch, to consider the need for a new qualification in business studies in respect of courses broadly equivalent to those leading to the Diploma in Technology had been endorsed by the National Advisory Council and he had commended it to local education authorities and colleges. The report recommended the establishment of a new nationally recognized qualification in business studies for courses which, through the sandwich system, combined an advanced general education for business with practical experience. It was suggested that the qualification might take the form of a distinctive honours degree of the new Council for National Academic Awards.

Nuclear Power Projects in the United States

THE first edition of the *Fact Book on U.S. Nuclear Power Projects* (originally known as *Fact Sheets on U.S. Nuclear Power Projects*) appeared in December 1958 and gave a classification of the power reactor projects in the United States according to the various Atomic Energy Commission programmes under which they were initiated. Revised editions appeared in June 1960, April 1961 and June 1962. In the fifth edition projects are classified by reactor types, using the coolant as the difference indicator (*Fact Book on U.S. Nuclear Power Projects*, Fifth edition. Prepared by the Electric Companies Public Information Program, 230 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y., July 1963). The list includes water-cooled reactors with ten pressurized and twelve boiling-water reactors; sodium-cooled reactors with two moderated and two fast-breeder reactors; one organic-cooled reactor; two gas-cooled reactors; and details of the research and study projects of some 160 electric utilities in the United States which are actively engaged in civilian nuclear power projects. The classified data sheets are preceded by three introductory and explanatory articles dealing with the approach to nuclear power development in the United States, electric power company participation in nuclear power development, and the eight power plants being constructed or planned by utilities other than investor-owned electric companies.

Home Universities Conference, 1963

THE report of proceedings of the Home Universities Conference, 1963, includes the text of the main speeches at the two sessions dealing with universities and the

future pattern of higher education and with university expansion in the short term, respectively (*Universities and the Future Pattern of Higher Education: University Expansion in the Short Term*. Pp. 84. London: The Association of Commonwealth Universities, 1964. 5s.). The former was opened by Lord Robbins, who also replied to points raised in the subsequent discussion by Dr. J. M. Whittaker, Dr. K. W. Keohane, Dr. B. V. Bowden, Prof. W. M. Arnott, Sir Sydney Caine, Mr. S. J. Tester, Mr. H. J. Perkin, Dr. E. G. Edwards, Mr. D. R. O. Thomas and Sir Malcolm Knox. The second session was opened by Prof. C. A. Moser, who concentrated on the statistical background; he was followed by Prof. B. R. Williams, who dealt with staffing aspects, and by Mr. D. Campbell, who dealt with buildings. There were contributions by Dr. E. M. Patterson, Prof. G. C. Moodie, Mr. K. L. Stretch, Mr. U. F. J. Eyek, Mr. S. J. Tester, Prof. M. R. Gavin, Dr. R. A. Foakes, Prof. C. H. Hassall, Lord Chorley, Dr. D. M. A. Leggett, Dr. D. A. Kearney, Dr. J. A. Pope and Miss C. M. Hill, to which the speakers replied.

Commonwealth Scholars in Britain

THE fourth annual report of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom, covering the year ended September 30, 1963, records that with 183 of the 1962 Scholars taking up their awards, 472 Scholars were attending United Kingdom universities and colleges in the session 1962-63 (Pp. 50. London: H.M.S.O., 1964. 3s. net). About 15 per cent of the awards have been held by Scholars in medicine and surgery, most of whom seek a higher professional qualification, and as many such scholarships need clinical experience in a paid hospital post, it is now the Commission's practice to offer awards in medicine and surgery tenable for an aggregate number of months instead of a defined continuous period. The Commonwealth Scholarships (Amendment) Act, 1963, prevents adoption of this arrangement from restricting unduly the number of new awards. Of the 107 Scholars whose awards expired at the end of the 1961-62 session, 18 wished to defer their return home; for 1962-63, 80 out of 184 Scholars sought to defer their return, and the Commission points out that this wish is sometimes due to difficulty in securing appropriate appointments in the Scholars' home countries. In the 1963 competition, 362 nominations were submitted; recommendations were made to the Commission for the award of 273 scholarships and places were found for 252, but afterwards a further 30 candidates withdrew. It is expected that in the session 1963-64 the number of Fellows and Scholars holding awards in Britain will total 520; 512 were present in October 1963. Invitations to Commonwealth visiting fellowships tenable in the session 1963-64 were accepted by six distinguished academics. The report includes details of degrees and diplomas awarded to 139 Scholars in 1962-63, the results confirming earlier reports on the standard of these Scholars. Of the 222 Scholars accepting 1963 awards, 44 were from India, 31 from Canada, 19 from Australia and 18 from Pakistan; London with 62, Manchester, 24, Cambridge, 23, and Oxford, 22, took the most. Arts (60), science (48), technology (42), medicine (34) and social sciences (34) took almost all the Scholars.

The Cawthron Institute

THE biennial report of the Cawthron Institute, New Zealand, for 1961-63 includes the director's report, a technical report giving notes on current research, a list of publications and five special articles (Pp. 46. Nelson, New Zealand: Cawthron Institute). The articles deal with foliar spraying of minor elements on apple trees (C. R. Barnicoat); biochemical research on polyphenols and polyphenolases (J. R. L. Walker); the effect of heavy dressings of phosphate and lime on the incidence of cloud in tomato fruit, and also with fertilizer treatment and