

established chair of sociology. Dr. Banton was educated at King Edward's School, Birmingham, the University of Glasgow, and the London School of Economics. Appointed Noel Buxton research student in the Department of Social Anthropology, University of Edinburgh, in 1950, he undertook a study of African and West Indian immigration to Britain for which he was awarded a Ph.D. As Nuffield Research Fellow he then conducted an investigation of rural-urban migration and tribal life in Freetown, Sierra Leone. Dr. Banton was appointed assistant in social anthropology at Edinburgh in 1953, advancing to lecturer in 1955, to reader in 1962, and graduating D.Sc. in 1964. In 1959 he was secretary to the organizing committee for the Darwin Centennial Conference held in Edinburgh, and edited the Conference *Proceedings*. From February 1962 until January 1963 he was visiting professor of political science in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he was concerned with courses dealing with political and social development in Africa. In the 1964 Malinowski Memorial Lecture, delivered at the London School of Economics, Dr. Banton discussed the inter-relations of social anthropology and sociology, maintaining that in many situations it was more confusing than helpful to refer to them as separate subjects. In recent years he has undertaken research into British behaviour towards coloured people, and into the social characteristics of police work in Scotland and the United States. His concern to study interpersonal relations in sociological terms while drawing equally on the conclusions of social psychology and anthropology is most apparent in his recent work. Sociology teaching will start at Bristol in October 1966 and it is hoped to promote research on a broad front.

U.S.S.R.—United States Joint Desalination Scheme

A SIGNIFICANT step was taken on January 26 towards closer collaboration between the U.S.S.R., the United States and the International Atomic Energy Agency, when it was officially announced that the two countries had agreed to co-operate in the field of desalination. The agreement, which had been concluded between the two countries on November 18, 1964, and signed by Mr. A. I. Alexandrov, representing the U.S.S.R., and Mr. F. K. Hefner, representing the United States, provides for wide scientific and technical co-operation and for an exchange of scientific reports and other documents, periodic scientific meetings and visits of experts on a reciprocal basis. In order that the International Atomic Energy Agency and its members should receive benefits in full measure from this operation, it is stated in the agreement that the parties will give the Agency copies of accounts, reports and other documents which they exchange and also, in appropriate cases, invite observers to symposia and scientific meetings held by the parties.

Industrial Needs for Scientific Manpower

FIRST returns are now coming in from 11,000 employers in all sections of British industry who have been asked to participate in a survey aimed at providing adequate knowledge of the future needs of industry for scientific and technological manpower as a pre-requisite to meeting those needs. It is being carried out by the Ministry of Labour for the Committee on Manpower Resources for Science and Technology. This Committee, under the chairmanship of Sir Willis Jackson, replaces the former Committee on Scientific Manpower of the Advisory Council on Scientific Policy for whom similar surveys were carried out by the Ministry of Labour in 1956, 1959 and 1962. The latest enquiry is addressed to all establishments employing 500 workers or more and to a sample of those employing less than 500. To obtain more accurate information on the nation's technical manpower resources the range of this enquiry has been extended to cover "technicians and other technical supporting staff", as well as fully qualified scientists and technologists. The importance of this

supporting staff is being increasingly recognized and information about its supply and demand, complementary to that for professionally qualified staff, is essential. About 6,000 of the employers who have been approached are in the manufacturing industries, but service industries, including local and national Government Services, are also covered. The British Employers' Confederation, the Federation of British Industries and the National Association of British Manufacturers are giving full co-operation. Reports of the earlier surveys brought together, on a statistical basis, data on the output from the educational system, and of the utilization in employment of scientifically and technologically qualified manpower, together with forecasts three years ahead of the needs for this category of manpower. The results of the enquiry will be made available to the Committee on Manpower Resources for Science and Technology and published later this year.

Medical Research Council:

Brain Metabolism Research Unit

THE Medical Research Council has set up a Brain Metabolism Research Unit in the Department of Pharmacology, University of Edinburgh Medical School. The Unit, which will be under the honorary direction of Prof. W. L. M. Perry, aims to undertake experimental and clinical studies of the metabolic pathways of certain amino-acids and other substances in the brain and tissue fluids. The action of psychotropic drugs on these pathways will be used as a means of trying to determine whether there are metabolic defects in the various psychoses and ultimately whether such defects can be corrected.

Unit for Research on the Chemical Pathology of Mental Disorders

DR. F. A. JENNER has been appointed physician-in-charge of the Council's Unit for Research on the Chemical Pathology of Mental Disorders in the Department of Physiology, University of Birmingham Medical School, and at the Hollymoor Hospital, Birmingham, following Prof. I. E. Bush's resignation. The Unit will continue to carry out research into the development of new biochemical and other experimental methods for detecting chemical abnormalities in patients, but Dr. Jenner's appointment will lead to an increased emphasis on clinical research and a more concentrated study of physical problems associated with periodically recurring mental disorders.

Investment in Scientific and Technological Research in India

IN their paper, *Investment in Scientific and Technological Research during the Fourth Five Year Plan*, Dr. S. Husain Zahoer, A. Rahman and N. Sen discuss the quantum of investment in science and technology, particularly in the light of two investigations made by the Survey and Planning of Scientific Research Unit of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (Pp. 31. New Delhi: Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, 1964). The first examination indicated that support by State Governments had been limited to research on agriculture and animal husbandry, with a surprising neglect of research on industrial, technological and natural resources. It also showed that the support of the Central Government in several sectors was also unbalanced and the rates of growth of various sectors differed widely. The second investigation revealed an increase of 15–20 per cent per annum in scientific and technical personnel in the developed laboratories, and a more rapid increase in the younger laboratories. The cost of administration varied between 8 and 12 per cent per annum in these national laboratories, and recurrent expenditure was increasing by 12–20 per cent per annum, while capital expenditure, though varying from laboratory to laboratory, could be