

found space in our own columns. The question therefore arises in our mind, is there a large enough public for two similar journals; because, if not, we fear that both must languish, under-nourished in both material and support. On the other hand, there is ample room for a journal popularising

science, old and new. Therefore, while welcoming *Science and Culture* we take leave to hope that future issues may devote themselves more definitely to the declared policy of its promoters, and expand on lines complementary to—rather than competitive with—*Current Science*.

Nation Building and Scientific Research.*

EARLY during the Great War, in 1915, His Majesty's Government formed a Committee of the Privy Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, who were entrusted with the task of establishing a close link between science and industry. In the course of the next two years, this organisation developed into the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research under whose auspices a great number of researches of national importance are being carried out. The researches have an intimate bearing on some aspect of national life or industry. The cost of these investigations is being borne by co-operating firms in an ever-increasing measure, thereby showing that industry is appreciating the value of scientific research. The design of ship's hulls, the effect of waves on the resistance and pitching of ships, effect of wind resistances, the behaviour of rudders and the improvement of propellers—all problems connected with the national industry of shipping, are being investigated. The Building Research Station is conducting investigations on the design of steel frame buildings, on methods of increasing the resistance of concrete and mortar to chemical

attack, on heating and ventilation problems, on limes, bricks and clays and on cast concrete products—problems closely connected with the life of the nation. The Department has also interested in the development of new high temperature alloys, in discovering new outlets for low grade coals and in the problems of storage and transport of fruits, vegetables, fish and meat, which are of vital importance in securing an adequate supply of wholesome food for the nation. Interesting work seeking an answer to the question "why does one flour from one kind of wheat produce better bread and dough than another?" is being done by the Flour Millers' Research Association. The National Physical Laboratory is largely concerned with testing and standardisation of products manufactured by industrial concerns. The Leather Research Association, the Paint Research Association, the British Scientific Instrument Research Association, the Food Manufacturers' Association and other Research Associations are all co-operating with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in a programme of Nation-building activity, to the great advancement and prosperity of the nation as a whole.

* Report of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research for the year 1933-34.