

Returning to the Patent Office he secured rapid promotion to the grades of examiner (1921), senior examiner (1925) and superintending examiner (1932). During most of his service at the Patent Office he was engaged upon the examination of inventions relating to automatic telephones, of which he had a profound knowledge. He compiled the material for a book on this subject, but his health prevented its completion. He also made a deep study of the case law relating to patents, and in his later years as a hearing officer his judgment both on scientific and legal matters was trusted by all.

Hilliar's first-rate analytical power was combined with great patience, courtesy and charm of character,

which endeared him to all who knew him, and his retirement in 1937 owing to ill-health was a great loss to the Patent Office.

WE regret to announce the following deaths :

Prof. J. C. Philip, F.R.S., emeritus professor of physical chemistry in the Imperial College of Science and Technology, on August 6, aged sixty-eight.

Prof. A. J. Clark, F.R.S., professor of materia medica in the University of Edinburgh, on July 30, aged fifty-five.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Charles Chree Medal and Address

At the science meeting of the Physical Society on July 25, the Charles Chree Medal and Prize were presented to Prof. Sydney Chapman, who delivered



THE CHARLES CHREE MEDAL

an address, part of which appears on p. 153 of this issue. The circumstances of the foundation were described in the issue of NATURE of March 1, p. 261. The Medal, which is a particularly beautiful example of the medallist's art, is the work of the distinguished artist, Mrs. Mary Gillick, and the reverse design most fittingly summarizes and symbolizes the outstanding work of Chree. The Society is to be congratulated on its first award of the Medal.

Prof. Chapman's work for the advancement of the science of geomagnetism is both long and distinguished. It began so far back as 1911, when it fell to his lot, on his appointment as chief assistant at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, to design new instruments and buildings for magnetic observations. His work on the solar and lunar diurnal variation and on magnetic storms is outstanding, and his investigations of the lunar variation have involved the ordering and discussion of an immense mass of material such as would daunt the courage of all save the boldest and most clear-headed investigator. His analysis, which has been made by the aid of methods largely devised by himself, has resulted in a clear

formulation of the effect of the sun and moon on terrestrial magnetism, and in a notable increase in our knowledge of the mechanism of the effect. His work on magnetic storms, which has not yet approached a final phase, is of the first importance. The analysis, which has involved very complicated mathematical theory, has resulted in a theory of storms depending on the emission of particles from the sun.

Great Britain and the U.S.S.R.

IN reply to the cable of greetings sent by the Royal Society to the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. (see NATURE, August 2, p. 135), Dr. Otto Schmidt, vice-president of the Academy, has sent the following message : "The Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. sends its warmest greetings to the Royal Society, London. Soviet scientists express feelings of deep admiration and friendship to British colleagues who in war conditions pursue courageously their research work, obtaining world achievements in various fields of science and thus successfully opposing the aim of Fascism to destroy all culture. In the struggle for the happy future of humanity, standing hand in hand against the common foe, men of science of Great Britain and the Soviet Union will contribute with all their forces to the triumph of liberty, culture and science over Hitlerite tyranny and obscurantism."

W. H. Hudson Centenary

THE centenary of the birth of the British naturalist, W. H. Hudson, occurred on August 4. Hudson was born at Quilmes, near Buenos Aires, and lived on the pampas for thirty-three years, after which he returned to England, where for years he lived in London in poverty, to such an extent that in 1901 he was granted a civil list pension. This he relinquished, however, when belated success reached him. There is no need to relate the titles of Hudson's well-known works which achieved such outstanding popularity. His bird books are probably the best known. A bird sanctuary, with a decoration by