

to his many-sided scientific interests. He was generous in imparting his ideas to friends and collaborators, so that much which was really his appeared under another's name. Also, because of the very high standards that he demanded of himself, Mandelstam delayed, especially of late, the publication of his researches. For this reason much of his work will not be generally known until the posthumous edition of his collected works, which the Soviet Government has decreed, is published. His scientific researches earned him the Lenin prize, the Mendeléeff prize and the Stalin prize. For his general scientific and teaching work he was awarded the Order of the Red Banner and the Order of Lenin.

Mandelstam was a man of infinite kindness, possessed of great spiritual and intellectual charm that never failed to impress anyone who came into contact with him. Those who had the good fortune to know him more intimately will always cherish the memory of this scientific worker and man.

P. KAPITZA.
A. JOFFÉ.
S. VAVILOV.

WE regret to announce the following deaths :

Mr. R. W. F. Harrison, sometime assistant secretary to the Royal Society, on July 15, aged eighty-seven.

Dr. J. C. Kernot, an authority on adhesives, on July 6, aged sixty-six.

Lieut.-Colonel J. C. Lamont, C.I.E., sometime professor of anatomy at Lahore Medical College, on June 19, aged eighty.

Prof. W. Makower, O.B.E., formerly professor of science at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, on July 7, aged sixty-five.

Dr. Catherine A. Raisin, formerly head of the Department of Geology, Bedford College for Women, University of London, on July 13, aged ninety.

Colonel C. H. D. Ryder, C.B., C.I.E., formerly surveyor-general of India, on July 16, aged seventy-seven.

Dr. Alec Sand, F.R.S., physiologist to the Marine Biological Association since 1935, early in July, aged forty-three.

Mr. F. H. Todd, formerly of the Indian Forest Service, on July 9, aged seventy-one.

NEWS and VIEWS

Prof. George Hevesy, For.Mem.R.S.

PROF. GEORGE HEVESY celebrates his sixtieth birthday on August 1 in Sweden, where he is a guest of the Royal Swedish Academy of Science in Stockholm. Members of the Academy have prepared a jubilee volume to mark the occasion. Prof. Hevesy and his family escaped from Denmark to Sweden when racial persecutions in Denmark and the tide of terrorism by the German occupants reached a climax in 1944. Prof. Hevesy is well known especially for his work on isotopes, including the early use of radioactive tracer atoms in investigations on diffusion in crystals and later on numerous biochemical problems, involving among others the study of the metabolism of phosphorus in organisms. His other great field of contributions to modern science is the discovery of the element hafnium, the chemical separation of hafnium from zirconium and the study of the properties of hafnium compounds. The relationship between hafnium and zirconium led him to the problem of the rare earth elements. Later, he developed quantitative analysis by means of his X-ray technique for the study of the geochemical frequency and distribution of numerous elements.

Prof. Hevesy, a Hungarian by birth, has held professorial chairs in Denmark (Copenhagen), in Germany (Freiburg-i.-B.) and from 1934 again in Denmark, where his work has been closely associated with the famous Institute of Theoretical Physics at Copenhagen directed by Niels Bohr. In just recognition of his contributions, he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry for 1943. He has many ties with scientific men in Britain. For a period beginning in 1911, he worked in the late Lord Rutherford's laboratory when the latter was at Manchester. He frequently visited Britain to attend scientific meetings; and in 1930 he gave the Hugo Müller Lecture before the Chemical Society. A number of British research students worked at his laboratories. Hevesy's many friends in Great Britain and elsewhere will be glad to know that he and his family are well, and will wish him many years of continued successful work and of happiness.

Chair of Geography at Sheffield :

Prof. R. N. Rudmose Brown

THE retirement of Prof. R. N. Rudmose Brown from the chair of geography at the University of Sheffield at the end of this session marks the official end of nearly forty years of teaching and guiding university geography. His influence on the subject outside his university has been exercised through his being a member at one time or another of all the more important councils and committees which have to deal with geography, as well as through his books. Though he approached the subject from the point of view of a polar explorer and a naturalist, he has always insisted upon the essential unity of its physical and human aspects. His many contacts with French and other Continental geographers may have been the spur which caused him to become as notable a lecturer and writer on the human and economic aspects of his subject as the biological and physical side. His contribution to the recent advance of academic geography has therefore been based on the broadest grounds. This is reflected in his new building for his Department at Sheffield, which is second to none in Great Britain. Planned by him to serve with equal emphasis all the aspects of modern geography, it is a model which will be copied elsewhere in due course. As counsellor, examiner, writer, editor and practical explorer, Prof. Rudmose Brown has had an influence on geography which will endure. His rugged honesty of purpose and direct speech will be missed in many a council chamber, but it is quite certain that his years of retirement will often be interrupted by requests for advice from his younger colleagues, who will continue to be attracted by his wisdom and breadth of vision as well as by his long experience and commanding personality.

Squadron-Leader David L. Linton

SQUADRON-LEADER DAVID L. LINTON, who succeeds Prof. Rudmose Brown at Sheffield, is thirty-eight years old, and was well known in British geographical science before the War. He had been