Department of Physiology. In 1950 he was appointed principal scientific officer at the Agricultural Research Council Institute of Animal Physiology, at Babraham, a post which he held until his death.

His thirty-four years of research covered an unusually wide range of problems; but his greatest interest was in respiratory and cardiovascular physiology, and it was in connexion with problems in these fields that he had recently developed his thermodilution method for the measurement of blood-flow. The method is similar in principle to other indicator–dilution methods, notably the dye–dilution technique, but for certain purposes has a number of advantages over that method. Fegler himself used it successfully to determine cardiac output, renal and portal flow in the dog and sheep; other laboratories had shown considerable interest in the method and had requested his assistance in modifying it for other uses, notably as an aid to clinical investigation.

The method, while favourably received by some, was criticized by others, chiefly on theoretical grounds. Fegler met criticism by testing experimentally each point that had been raised, and extending his controls so that he could assert with confidence that the method fell within the same limits of error as other accepted methods. He also presented a reasoned analysis of the thermodilution curves which showed that perhaps his critics rather than he had strayed into error. But he took no pleasure in polemics. He examined all criticism carefully so as to be sure he had a reliable tool for the research which he had planned. Some progress in this work, a study of the normal shifts in blood-flow from different organs in relation to the metabolic demands of the body, had already been made by him. It is typical, however, that he was at the same time attempting to improve his methods, so that he could, on one hand, achieve more nearly physiological conditions of experiment, and on the other, come closer to that impossible goal of physiologists, an ideal method of measuring blood-flow.

To his colleagues, with whom he discussed these and other problems and who have in the past benefited so much from his experience and scientific knowledge, his loss is a very real one. CATHERINE O. HEBB

Mr. C. C. Mason, O.B.E.

MR. CECIL CHARLES MASON died suddenly on September 9 at the age of seventy-seven.

Mr. Mason graduated with a first in the Mathematical Tripos at Cambridge, and joined the Cambridge Instrument Co. in 1910. He was a joint managing director from that year until his retirement from executive work in 1941, and he remained on the Board until his death. Appointed O.B.E. for his work on shell fuses in the First World War, Mr. Mason was not only responsible for many other technical advances in the instrument field, but also made major contributions to the Company's growth through his wise administration and financial acumen.

Mr. Mason was respected by everyone, and his loss will be keenly felt by a host of friends.

NEWS and VIEWS

Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Winfrith Heath: Mr. D. W. Fry

IN 1956 the Atomic Energy Authority decided to build a new establishment of its Research Group. A site was chosen at Winfrith Heath in Dorset, and, after a public inquiry, the Authority was given permission to use it in 1957. Work is advancing rapidly on this new establishment, and the Authority has announced the appointment of Mr. D. W. Fry as the person responsible to the director of the Research Group for its development and the initiation of the programme.

Donald William Fry, who was born at Weymouth in 1910, was educated at Weymouth Grammar School and King's College, London. He worked in the General Electric Company's research laboratories for four years before moving to the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, in 1936. There he took part in the development of very high-frequency communication equipment for R.A.F. Fighter Command. During 1940–45 he served in the Telecommunications Research Establishment on the development of microwave radar. Fry, and several of his colleagues, joined the staff of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment in 1946. This group, working in Malvern, demonstrated the practicability of the high-current linear accelerator and the electron synchrotron. Fry was awarded the Duddell Medal of the Physical Society in 1950. He became head of the General Physics Division at Harwell in 1950. The main work of the Division has been in the high-energy accelerator and thermonuclear fields. Fry was appointed chief physicist of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment in August 1954 and promoted to be a deputy director of the Establishment in February 1958.

Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell

THE following staff changes at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, are announced by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority:

Dr. J. V. Dunworth, formerly head of the Reactor Division, has been appointed assistant director (reactor research policy). In this post he will be special adviser to the director of Harwell. He is succeeded as head of the Reactor Division by Mr. T. M. Fry, who has been a deputy head of the Reactor Division.

Dr. Peter Thonemann, head of the Controlled Thermonuclear Reaction (Fusion) Division at Harwell, has been granted study leave for one year from March 1959. He will be going to the Institute of Advanced Studies in the University of Princeton, where he will work on plasma physics. In Dr. Thonemann's absence the Harwell fusion programme will be carried forward by his deputy, Mr. R. S. Pease, under the supervision of Mr. D. W. Fry, who is deputy director of Harwell with special responsibility for this work (see also preceding note). Dr. Thonemann will be available for consultation.

Physiology at the Medical College of St. Bartholomew's Hospital: Prof. K. J. Franklin, F.R.S.

THE news of Prof. K. J. Franklin's retirement from the chair of physiology at St. Bartholomew's Hospital