

theory. He examined first the motion of, and stresses in, tubes of force and built up an analysis of the field into moving elements before his thought matured into more mathematical expression of the 'action' of an electromagnetic field, on which his later work was based. He found tools for the development of his ideas in Eddington's '*E*-number' calculus, which he reduced to order, obtaining thereby a new insight into the roots of relativity. Thus he was enabled to formulate for the first time a self-consistent classical theory of electromagnetism. At the time of his death he was engaged in the preparation for publication of further papers in which this theory is expounded.

Milner was the most lovable of men. His outstanding characteristic was his capacity for inspiring affection. He was the friend of all because he was so willing to be friendly and helpful in a rather shy and retiring way. His genuine interest in the welfare and careers of his students was recognized and appreciated by them. Together with his colleagues and many others, they had for him a very deep affection. He is survived by his wife, also a physicist from the University of Bristol, and son, who is professor of physics in the New South Wales University of Technology, Sydney. J. R. CLARKE

#### Mr. S. E. Fox

Mr. SEATON E. FOX, who was sixty-five, died in a London hospital on August 27 after a short illness. He was a graduate of the University of Cambridge and in 1932, after working for several years in the explosive and petroleum industries, he became assistant secretary and technical editor to the Technical Section of the Paper Makers' Association, and in 1944 he was appointed librarian, information officer and editor to the British Leather Manufacturers' Research Association, a post he occupied until his death.

During his fifteen years work for the Association, Mr. Fox organized its publications on a sound basis and brought them to a high technical and editorial standard. He began the abstracting system which has proved so useful to members of the British Leather Manufacturers' Research Association: his index of publications on collagen is valued not only by his colleagues and others in the leather industry but also by scientists engaged elsewhere in pure research on that subject. His work was highly respected by librarians and editors in other research associations, and his death is greatly regretted by them and by his many friends and acquaintances in the leather industry.

## NEWS and VIEWS

### The Danish Atomic Energy Commission

THE main task of the Danish Atomic Energy Commission, which was constituted on December 21, 1955, and which meets regularly once a month under the chairmanship of Prof. Niels Bohr, is the planning and construction of Risø, its research establishment, situated on a 650-acre site four miles north of Roskilde, a town of 30,000 inhabitants, and twenty miles west of Copenhagen. Through the co-operation of the United States of America and the United Kingdom the establishment will eventually have the facilities of three research reactors. DR1 (Danish reactor No. 1) is a low-energy, homogeneous reactor, particularly suitable for educational purposes and physical experiments. It was purchased in the United States in July 1956, together with DR2, which is a light-water-moderated heterogeneous tank-type research reactor with facilities for neutron exposure experiments and isotope production. DR3, purchased in the United Kingdom in June 1957, is a heavy-water-moderated high-flux reactor of the PLUTO-type as constructed for Harwell and Dounreay. Work on DR1 was completed on August 15, 1957, and DR2 and DR3 are expected to become operational during 1958 and 1959, respectively. Details of the layout of the establishment and of the components of the reactors, together with illustrations of the various ancillary buildings, are given in an attractive brochure which has recently been issued by the Commission (Risø: The Research Establishment of the Danish Atomic Energy Commission. Pp. 20. Copenhagen K: Danish Atomic Energy Commission, 1958). The staff of the Scientific and Technical Department on April 1, 1958, totalled 143, distributed among the six groups of the Department—reactor engineering, physics, chemistry, electronics, health physics and agricultural research. In addition, fifty-one people

were employed in the administrative office and the various service departments at Risø and thirty in the secretariat of the Commission at its headquarters in Copenhagen.

### Seventy-fifth Anniversary of L'École Supérieure, Paris

To commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the foundation of L'École Supérieure de Physique et Chimie Industrielle in Paris in 1882 the student association has recently issued a most attractive and interesting illustrated volume containing twenty-four articles dealing with chemical and physical topics (Association des Élèves de l'École Supérieure de Physique et Chimie Industrielles de la Ville de Paris. *Physique et Chimie. Ouvrage édité à l'Occasion du 75<sup>e</sup> Anniversaire de leur École.* Pp. 272. Paris, 1959). In the first two articles, Prof. R. Lucas, the director of L'École Supérieure, and Prof. L. de Broglie pay tribute, respectively, to the founders and to the many famous past pupils of the institution, and one of these pupils, Paul Langevin, is also the subject of a separate article by Prof. M. Tournier. The articles by the late Prof. F. Joliot on energy and its utilization, Prof. G. Destriau on the phenomena of luminescence, and Prof. J. J. Trillat on electron diffraction, will perhaps be of greatest interest to the physicist; and to the chemist, the articles describing the French chemical industry, polyamide textiles, quantum chemistry, and plastics. There are in addition articles dealing with optical methods for the study of the flow of liquids; the optics of high-frequency aerials; and the visibility of submerged objects. In the final article in the volume Prof. D. Gabor gives a detailed and clear description of his flat colour-television tube which has aroused so much interest both in Britain and overseas.