

was such that nothing was allowed to come in its way. Leaving aside the hardships of accommodation, food, etc., the main difficulty was the choice of his career. He matriculated in 1939 and joined Baroda College. The new atmosphere had a profound influence on him; the once meek and average student now began to shine as a scholar in the truest sense of the term.

His patriotism and eagerness for the uplift of the rural masses attracted him to the study of agriculture. He then went to the then only college of agriculture, claimed to be the best in South-east Asia, namely, that at Poona. Here his progress was remarkable and he secured first class with distinction in the B.Sc.(Agric.) examination in the University of Bombay in 1946.

While studying he decided to go to the United States in order to study agriculture at an advanced level. There he entered the Graduate School of the Iowa State College and the University of California at Davis. As he was much interested in horticulture, he preferred the University of California and received his M.S. degree in horticulture in 1948 and Ph.D. degree in plant genetics in 1951 working under Prof. H. P. Olmo on the genetics and cytogenetics of the grape vine. During his stay there he competed in two examinations and was awarded two fellowships of several thousand rupees in order to continue his studies. He returned to India in 1951.

He accepted a Class III post in a Government Vegetable Seed Multiplication Farm in the Kulu Valley. After serving there for a year he left and joined the Agricultural Research Institute, Sabour, Bhagalpore, in an honorary capacity to work under Dr. R. H. Richharia, the geneticist and plant breeder and director of the Institute, and he published some important papers. Later, he was appointed cytogeneticist in March 1953 by the Indian Central Jute Committee at its Jute Agricultural Research Institute, Barrackpore. From there he published several important papers on the cytogenetics of jute in several journals, which attracted world-wide attention. His papers on the grape vine were also outstanding. Later in 1956 he was appointed areca-nut specialist at Vittal. He worked there for some time and published a few papers. As the post carried more administration, he left and returned to his native home at Baroda and entered business for two years. Afterwards, he took up horticultural researches on joining the Scientists' Pool organized by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, and he was

posted to the National Botanic Gardens, Lucknow. To continue his work it was necessary to go to the Banthra Farm, a few miles from Lucknow. On March 9, while cycling to the farm, he met with a fatal accident by colliding with a speeding car. Although he received prompt and adequate medical help, he succumbed to his injuries on March 10.

R. M. DATTA

Mr. J. K. Starnecki

MR. JERZY KAZIMIERZ STARNECKI, who died on May 15, was born in Poland on August 26, 1908. He gained a diploma in engineering at the University of Warsaw and in 1935 was appointed head of the Inspection Branch of the Polish National Armament Factories, Radom. After the outbreak of hostilities in 1939 he served with distinction the Polish Armed Forces in France. In 1941 he was chosen for a special assignment as design engineer with the Research and Development Department of the Polish Army in the United Kingdom.

After the War, Mr. Starnecki spent a short time as a research engineer at Signals Research and Development Establishment; then, in 1947, he joined Pye, Ltd., where, among other projects, he played a leading part in the design of a new optical system used in the gunsight of the Conqueror tank and in the servo-controlled automatic stabilizing gear. After a successful stay of seven years with Pye, Ltd., Mr. Starnecki was appointed chief engineer and head of development of W. G. Pye and Co., Ltd., where he remained until his death. There his great foresight and sound engineering knowledge influenced the design of nearly all instruments. He was an active associate member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. He made a constant endeavour to keep abreast of latest scientific developments and several patents are to his credit. He has served on the council of the British Scientific Instrument Research Association and was a committee member of the Scientific Instrument Manufacturers' Association of Great Britain, Ltd.

Mr. Starnecki was a rather quiet little man but with a good sense of humour and a smile for everybody. In his limited amount of spare time he was a keen gardener. His sudden and untimely death came as a great shock. He will be missed by all who worked with him and remembered not only as an outstanding engineer but also for the great range of his human sympathies.

NEWS and VIEWS

International Meteorological Organization Prize for 1962 : Dr. A. Ångström

DR. ANDERS ÅNGSTRÖM from Bromma, Sweden, has been awarded the International Meteorological Organization Prize for outstanding work in meteorology and international collaboration. Dr. A. Ångström studied at the Universities of Uppsala, New York and Jena. He obtained the degrees of Master of Science and 'Filosofie Doktor' and in 1916 became assistant professor of meteorology in Uppsala. After participating in several scientific expeditions and work at Cornell University as a Fellow in physics, Dr. Ångström became State Meteorologist and later First State Meteorologist at the Swedish Meteor-

ological and Hydrological Institute in 1919. In 1940 he was appointed assistant director and chief of the Meteorological Bureau and in 1949 director of the Institute. He retired from this post in 1954. Dr. Ångström is a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Science and of the Royal Swedish Academy of Forestry and Agriculture. His contribution to international collaboration has mainly been in meteorology, particularly in the field of solar and atmospheric radiation. He has participated in various meetings of the International Meteorological Organization and the World Meteorological Organization as well as of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics. The International Meteorological Organization Prize, which consists of a gold medal, was