

energy and industrial technology, and is to some extent an inheritance from Professor Homi Bhabha, who was killed in an aeroplane crash on Mont Blanc in January 1966. Bhabha was a great man and a great scientist, described by Yehudi Menuhin as "the twentieth-century Leonardo"; but having heard him lecture on the needs of science in developing countries, I cannot believe that in this particular respect his ideas were right. Attractive as may be the switching of surplus agricultural workers into urban industries and of scientific excellence in atomic physics, nearly all the people of India will continue to depend for their civilization on biological productivity.

There is almost no mention of biology in Ashok Parthasarathi's article. But Cinderella will some day find that the shoe fits.

Yours faithfully,

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SIR,—As one who was privileged to be present at the recent opening of the new Physics Laboratory at the Chemical Defence Experimental Establishment by Mr J. Morris, Minister of Defence for Equipment, I feel that the brief note in your issue of March 29 (*Nature*, 221, 1187; 1969) does an injustice to those responsible for the design of this fine building. The perspective of the photograph, reproduced in black and white, does not show to advantage the elegant proportions of the building nor can the picture reveal the striking but pleasing contrast between the colour of the brickwork with that of the panels under the windows. Where there is a conflict between architectural and functional requirements, as in most laboratory buildings, some sacrifice of aesthetic appeal is bound to be made, but in this case the Ministry of Public Building and Works has been remarkably successful in producing a design which is far superior to the boxlike structures so often inflicted on us in the present age.

If there are detractors of research in chemical warfare who might be foolish enough to rejoice, as you suggest, at a lack of architectural distinction, then, by the same token, they would gnash their teeth in rage at the interior of the building with its attractive décor and finely equipped suites of special purpose laboratories. The taxpayer has been well served and the staff has reaped a just reward after nearly five decades of working under adverse conditions in primitive factory-type buildings. Here is a building which will delight the hearts of physicists and will provide an environment attractive to young men and women who are prepared to dedicate themselves to defence science while, at the same time, being given almost unlimited opportunities to make worthwhile contributions to aerosol physics, industrial hygiene and the like, for the benefit of mankind at large.

Yours faithfully,

H. L. GREEN

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University News

Mr R. A. G. Savigear, University of Sheffield, has been appointed to a second professorship in the Department of Geography at the **University of Reading**.

Dr T. G. Taylor, Poultry Research Centre, Edinburgh, has been appointed to the Rank chair of applied nutrition at the **University of Southampton**.

Dr J. G. Taylor, Queen Mary College, London, has been appointed to a chair of theoretical physics at the **University of Southampton**.

Dr A. H. Uhl has been named the Edward Kremers professor of pharmacy at the **University of Wisconsin**.

Dr R. C. Smith, University of Keele, has been appointed professor of mathematics of the **Open University**. **Mr D. J. Simpson**, University of Glasgow, will become librarian and director of media resources of the **Open University**.

Professor W. A. C. Stewart, vice-chancellor of the University of Keele, has been appointed chairman of the **Universities Council for Adult Education**.

Appointments

Dr Edward Chin, associate professor, Texas A and M University, Marine Laboratory, Galveston, Texas, has been appointed program director for biological oceanography, Environmental and Systematic Biology Section, Division of Biological and Medical Sciences, at the **National Science Foundation**. **Dr Philip L. Johnson**, formerly associate professor, School of Forest Resources and Institute of Ecology, University of Georgia, has been appointed program director for environmental biology in the same section at the **National Science Foundation**.

Announcements

Dr D. A. Hilding, Yale University, has been presented with the **Harris P. Mosher Award** of the Triological Society for his research on the development of the cochlea.

Dr G. E. Adams, Mount Vernon Hospital, has been awarded the **Radiation Research Society's Research Award** for 1969 in recognition of his contributions to radiation research.

Dr C. M. Williams, Harvard University, will receive the 1969 **Howard Taylor Ricketts Award** from the University of Chicago in recognition of his discovery of juvenile hormones in insects.

The **Patron's Medal** of the **Royal Geographical Society** has been awarded to **Rear-Admiral R. N. M. Panzarini**, formerly director of the Argentine Antarctic Institute, for services to Antarctic Exploration and Research. The society's **Founder's Medal** has been awarded to **Dr R. Thorsteinsson** and **Dr E. T. Tozer**, Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, Canada, in recognition of their contributions to exploration and economic development in the Canadian Arctic. The **Victoria Medal** has been awarded to **Marcel Aurousseau**, former secretary to the permanent committee on geographical names; the **Murchison Grant** to **Professor J. T. Coppock**, University of Edinburgh, for agricultural studies; the **Back Grant** to **Mr A. J. Lee**, Fisheries Laboratory, Lowestoft, for contributions to oceanography; the **Cuthbert Peek Grant** to **Dr E. C. F. Bird**, University of Melbourne, for coastal studies; the **Gill Memorial** to **Dr R. M. Prothero**, University of Liverpool, for population studies; the **Ness Award** to **Mr R. G. Clarke**, Hovercraft Commander, *Geographical Magazine* Amazonas Expedition, and the **Cherry Kearton Medal and Award** to **Alan and Joan Root**, for contributions to natural history and nature photography.

ERRATUM. In the article "Will ELDO Last?" (*Nature*, 221, 1183; 1969) it was incorrectly stated that the chairman at the first meeting of the newly created Committee of High Officials was Professor H. Bondi. In fact Professor Bondi took the chair (representing the chairman of the European Space Conference, Minister Dr G. Stoltenberg) while the Committee elected as its chairman Professor G. Puppi.