

While at Ardeer he was associated with a number of patents chiefly on stabilizers for explosives, and developed a keen interest in biochemical investigations, some of which are described (with Raistrick) in the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society*.

About ten years ago Rintoul was brought up to the headquarters of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., as a director of its research organization, from which he maintained an active and sympathetic contact with all the company's laboratories, and came into close touch with many prominent scientific men who were working directly or indirectly in the company's interests, for it was part of his duty to administer the support given by the company to widespread scientific activities. In these matters he gained the respect and affection of everyone with whom he came in contact, and as representative of his firm was well known abroad, where he attended many conferences.

Rintoul was made an O.B.E. for his work in the Great War, and assisted on many committees such as the Councils of the Chemical Society and Institute of Chemistry, the Safety in Mines Research Board, the Chemistry Research Board (D.S.I.R.), the Research Committee of the Midland Railway and the British Standards Institution. When he died he was president of the Faraday Society, in the discussions of which he took much interest.

Rintoul married twice: first Lottie Edwards, by whom he had two sons and a daughter, and secondly, two years ago, Jess Isabel Robertson.

R. ROBERTSON.

Dr. N. A. F. Moos

To those interested in terrestrial magnetism and in Indian science, the name of Dr. Nanabhai Ardesher Framji Moos is well known, and they will learn with regret from *Current Science* for June of his death on March 12 last. Born in 1859, he graduated in engineering at the Poona College of Science in 1878, and after some years of teaching there entered the University of Edinburgh, taking the B.Sc. degree with distinction in 1886. On his return to India he held a series of appointments, including that of professor of physics at the Elphinstone College, Bombay.

At that time the observatory at Colaba, Bombay, was in charge of Mr. C. Chambers; and on his death, in 1896, Moos was appointed director, soon having the responsibility of overcoming the disturbances produced in the magnetic records by electric traction in the city. He shifted the magnetic work to a new observatory at Alibag, where he was most successful in handling the architectural difficulties of a constant-temperature room.

Moos had all the faithful conscientiousness that is found in Indian officers, and to that he added much of the Parsee energy and enterprise. His training in engineering, as well as in physics, gave him considerable interest in instrumental design, so that he loved to work out new patterns in seismometers. But his outstanding feature was his devotion to the observatory. He was ever on the look-out for new apparatus, and was determined that, if he

could bring it about, the equipment of Bombay should not be inferior to that of any observatory in the world. For the financial difficulties of those in administrative charge, his sympathy was, not unnaturally, somewhat restricted; but in spite of an occasional disappointment his loyalty to his work never flagged.

Moos's great opportunity came with the plan for putting together and discussing the complete series of observations of the old Bombay Observatory; and the two volumes of "Colaba Magnetic Data, 1846-1905" are a monument of conscientious and successful labour. They form an indispensable part of the equipment of a magnetic library.

Moos had always taken a keen interest in the university life of Bombay, and after his official retirement in 1919 his active participation was kept up until the end.

G. T. W.

Mr. J. L. Hodgson

MR. JOHN L. HODGSON died on August 14 at his home near Leighton Buzzard, at the early age of fifty-five years. Born at Lincoln and receiving his technical training at Nottingham University College, he leaves a life record of very valuable work in the engineering world. On the practical side, he served with Messrs. William Walker, the Gedling Colliery, Yarrow and Co., where he was associated with the late Sir Alfred Yarrow in research work on speed ships and destroyer design. About 1910 he was appointed to the staff of George Kent Ltd., of London, and became the technical adviser on all matters connected with the metering and control of air, gas and steam. It was he who designed the first Venturi air meters, which were installed by the Victoria Falls Power Co. He was also intimately concerned with the ventilation arrangements of the Mersey Tunnel. For one of his papers dealing with the use of the orifice for the measurement of fluid he was awarded the Telford Medal by the Institution of Civil Engineers.

Throughout his life, Hodgson abhorred waste in all forms, believing that scientific discovery and invention should be used for the service of man, and not for his destruction. He was one of the founders of the Engineers' Study Group, which was formed to study how and why there is "poverty amidst plenty" in our age. His death will be a severe loss to many friends.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Dr. Alexander Anderson, formerly president of University College, Galway, on September 5, aged seventy-eight years.

Mr. E. R. Deacon, O.B.E., head of the high explosives branch of the Directorate of Explosives Research, Woolwich, on August 29, aged fifty-four years.

Lord Moynihan, emeritus professor of surgery in the University of Leeds, and president in 1926-32 of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, on September 7, aged seventy years.