distinguished, or destined to become so; Drummond was, however, the senior partner in most of these publications. I think he exerted much more influence through his inspiration of junior colleagues, and by his example of first-class work than by any actual event of discovery, in which, despite immense efforts, he was, on the whole, not over fortunate. That he played a very large part in the general development of the biochemistry of nutrition nobody can doubt; but it was more by example, by the application of first-class chemistry, by his innate appreciation that mere chemistry is not enough, and by the co-ordination of wide chemical with biological knowledge rather than by resounding discoveries that he did so.

When the War came in 1939, he was clearly indicated as the most suitable person for the responsible post of scientific adviser to the Ministry of Food, which he held until 1946, in the later years of the period being also adviser on nutrition to the Allied Post-War Requirements Bureau and S.H.A.E.F., and adviser on nutrition to the Control Commissions for Germany and Austria (British Element). He was knighted in 1944, and shortly afterwards was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. Great Britain owes to Jack Drummond and to the Minister, Lord Woolton, who gave him a pretty free hand, an incalculable debt for the fine work they did in connexion with the British rationing system, which was finely conceived, brilliantly executed, and a pattern to all nations.

Drummond was interested in food from every aspect; he was a very good judge of food and knowledgeable as to its preparation, and he brought, as often as he could, to good food, good fellowship. Very many have spent many a happy hour with him, enjoying good fare, good conversation, and good fun at one of his clubs, at some private dining club, which he always enlivened, or in his own home, where he was the perfect host. We shall all think, often and often, of those very well-spent evenings, and shall not forget.

Lady Drummond (*neé* Wilbraham) was his second wife; she was interested in history, and collaborated with him in the production, in 1939, of an entertaining book, "The Englishman's Food" (Jonathan Cape), which abounds in sound scholarship and humour.

'Jack' was full of energy and enterprise, and with a lively sense of humour, which extended to telling stories against himself. He had travelled widely, and with wide-open eyes. Hatred was foreign to his nature, though he freely expressed amused contempt for any kind of pomposity or priggishness; to some, therefore, he might have been unacceptable. Beneath the twinkling eye there was, nevertheless, a steely inflexibility of purpose, and he could be devastating towards incompetence and astringent to fools. Lecturing came easily to Drummond; he was bright, informative and had a gift for popular exposition; accordingly he gave many popular lectures to large audiences, both in Great Britain and in the United States, and these lectures were greatly enjoyed.

His connexions with the industrial aspects of biochemistry, and especially with the food industry, were close, and mutually beneficial. Few realized more clearly than he that our standard of living, together with the sweets of academic life, represent the cream skimmed from industrial endeavour, and he probably supplied more young men for industrial undertakings than any other three biochemists put together; these young men did him great credit, and they not infrequently gained distinction in both pure and applied science.

Very many young people owe to Sir Jack Drummond their start in life; he liked young people, and put on no professorial airs for their benefit. If any memorial to him is to be created, he would have liked nothing better than something which would enable capable young people to receive an encouraging start, such as he gave to so many. It would also keep alive the name, for those whose loss it was not to have known him, of a great and lovable personality.

C. Lovatt Evans

The late Sir Jack Drummond was a man of outstanding ability. He was a scientist with an international reputation as one of the leaders in developing what has been called the newer knowledge of nutrition. By applying the scientific method of approach to the administrative problems in the Ministry of Food he made a great contribution to the success during the Second World War of food policy, the outstanding feature of which was the special provision for the nutritional needs of mothers and children. The resulting big improvement in the health and physique in the rising generation in a time of acute food shortage was a remarkable achievement. As one of those who got this policy adopted, and for his work in helping to get it carried through, he rendered great service to Great Britain.

Boyd-Orr

Mr. J. R. Park

British applied science has suffered a severe loss in the untimely death of Mr. J. R. Park, a managing director of the British Oxygen Co., Ltd. Mr. Park was born in London in 1902 and was educated first at Battersea Grammar School and then at Queen Mary College, where he graduated in chemistry. After a short period on the staff of Westminster Technical College he worked as an analytical chemist in industry for a number of years in Britain, followed by a year in a French firm.

In 1929 Mr. Park joined Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., Billingham Division, where he remained until 1945. For a time he worked there as a plant manager, but soon he switched over to the research side. The production of hydrogen, the hydrogenation of coal, the ammonia synthesis and methanol synthesis were some of the fields which occupied him in the years up to the Second World War, when he had advanced to the position of ammonia research manager. He was also connected with the design of oil hydrogenation plant, and in the first year of the War was responsible for the design of various other plants.

I made his acquaintance in 1941, when Park was put in charge of the I.C.I. Billingham research team working on the British Atomic Energy Project. His quick grasp of problems, his strong scientific background and his understanding of large-scale industrial processes formed a combination that contributed greatly to the success of the enterprise.

In 1945 Park was asked to organize a research department in the British Oxygen Co. He did this with outstanding success, creating within a few years a large and flourishing research organization practically from scratch. His worth was quickly appreciated;

in 1948 he became assistant managing director, and soon was promoted to the post of managing director. It is largely due to Park that the British Oxygen Co. has been transformed from an undertaking relying mainly on foreign patents into a modern enterprise standing on its own feet in the field of research and development. Park was one of the all too small group of first-class chemical technologists who are essential for the economic future of Great Britain; his death leaves a gap which will be felt for a long time. His friends mour the passing of a personality of wide interests and great charm, and of a warm-hearted and loyal companion. F. E. SIMON

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Sir Frederic Kenyon, G.B.E., K.C.B., during 1909–30 director and principal librarian of the British Museum, on August 23, aged eighty-nine.

Dr. Albert Mansbridge, C.H., founder and first secretary of the Workers' Educational Association, on August 22, aged seventy-six.

NEWS and VIEWS

The Nature Conservancy: Captain C. Diver, C.B., C.B.E.

CAPTAIN C. Diver is retiring on December 1 from the post of director-general of the Nature Conservancy. He was appointed to his present post four years ago to implement the Government's decision to establish the Nature Conservancy. After being invalided out of the Army, in 1919 he was appointed to a clerkship in the House of Commons and remained in the service of the House for the next twenty-nine years, relinquishing his appointment as principal clerk of committees to take up his present post. Throughout the Second World War he was clerk to the Select Committee on National Expenditure. In the field of biology Capt. Diver has worked as an amateur. Very early he developed an interest in land and freshwater Mollusca and a little later in the mosses. After the First World War, he received much help and encouragement from Bateson, and collaborated with Boycott and others in experiments on the genetics of inverse symmetry in *Limnæa*. He also studied the distribution of genes in natural populations of *Cepæa*, and the behaviour and web-building of the garden spider. In 1930 he began the ecological survey of South Haven Peninsula, Studland, on the Dorset coast, and soon enlisted the help of Prof. R. D'O. Good and many others. This work, for which he received a Leverhulme grant, continued steadily for the next nine years until brought to an abrupt close by the declaration of war. He was a member of the Nature Reserves Investigation Committee set up in 1942 under the auspices of the Society for the Promotion of Nature Reserves, and he was largely responsible for the contents of its report. This report furnished the basic data for the work of the Wild Life Conservation Special Committee which was appointed in 1945 by the Ministry of Town and Country Planning to work in conjunction with the Hobhouse Committee on National Parks. He took a leading part in the work of the Special Committee, the report of which ("Conservation of Nature in England and Wales". Cmd. 7122. 1947) he drafted at the unanimous request of the Committee. It was largely informed by his ideas and policies, and the acceptance by the Government of its main conclusions brought the Nature Conservancy into being.

Mr. E. M. Nicholson, C.B.

MR. E. M. NICHOLSON, who has been appointed by the Nature Conservancy, with the approval of the Lord President of the Council, to succeed Captain Diver as director-general, is a charter member of that body. He brought to the service of the Conservancy a valuable combination of administrative experience and expert ornithological knowledge; and he assumes his new duties as one who not only was a member of the Wild Life Conservation Special Committee but has also taken an active part in the work of the Conservancy since its inception. During the War, he served in the Ministry of Shipping, later the Ministry of War Transport, where as head of the division in charge of Middle East supplies he was responsible for sending out the Kerr–Worthington scientific mission. From 1945 until May of this year he was secretary of the Office of the Lord President of the Council, and is a member of the Advisory Council on Scientific Policy. For the past few months he has been in Baluchistan as the leader of a United Nations Economic Development Survey team. Birds and ornithological affairs have been Mr. Nicholson's life-long interest, and he has published scientific papers and several books on this subject; in 1927 he organized and directed the Oxford Bird Census, in which university ornithologists, botanists and entomologists collaborated in field surveys; and in the two following years he organized the Oxford University expeditions to Greenland and to British Guiana. He has been secretary, vice-chairman and chairman of the British Trust for Ornithology and has taken a leading part in other ornithological activities.

Natural History at Edinburgh: Prof. J. Ritchie, C.B.E.

WITH the retirement of Prof. James Ritchie from the chair of natural history at the end of the current session, the University of Edinburgh will lose the services of a distinguished naturalist and inspiring teacher. In his student days he came under the influence of Sir J. Arthur Thomson at Aberdeen and proved a worthy successor to that line of all-round scientific naturalists of which Scotland is justly proud —a type all too rare in these days of specialization. A brilliant record as a student saw the award of an M.A., a B.Sc. and in 1912 a D.Sc. In 1907 he entered the Royal Scottish Museum as an assistant and in 1921 became keeper of the Natural History Department. In 1930 he was appointed regius professor of natural history in Aberdeen and transferred to the chair at Edinburgh in 1936. Among the other posts he has filled are: five periods on the council, one as secretary and two as vice-president of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, president of Section D (Zoology) of the British Association, editor of the *Scottish Naturalist*, vice-president of the Zoological Society of Scotland and membership of various bodies concerned with the conservation of wild life.