director. He was also retained as consulting chemical engineer to United Water Softeners, Ltd., London.

Mr. Newton had extensive experience in the manufacture of calcium hydrate, soda lime, etc. He practised as a consultant on industrial and domestic water supply and purification, trade wastes, air and flue gas purification and analysis.

Apart from his numerous scientific interests, Mr. Newton was also a member of Gray's Inn and brought to his position as honorary secretary of the Institution of Chemical Engineers invaluable help in all legal matters. He will be remembered by members of the Institution as a kindly and generous gentleman who did not stint himself in their service and who is sadly missed by all.

He is survived by his son, Mr. K. O. Newton; his widow, Mrs. V. Newton, only survived him by a few days.

We regret to announce the following deaths:

Prof. Johan Böhm, director of the Research Institute for Organic Synthesis in Pardubice and associate member of the Czechoslovakian Academy of Sciences, on November 27, aged fifty-seven.

Mr. W. T. Gibson, O.B.E., chief valve engineer of Standard Telephones and Cables, Ltd., and manager of their Ilminster laboratories and factory, on December 27, aged fifty-three.

NEWS and VIEWS

New Year Honours List

The list of New Year Honours conferred by H.M. the Queen contains the following names of scientific men and others associated with scientific work:

Baron: Lord Eustace Percy, rector of the Newcastle Division of the University of Durham during 1937–52;

O.M.: Prof. W. G. Penfield, professor of neurology and neuro-surgery, McGill University;

G.B.E.: Lord Brabazon of Tara, for services to civil aviation;

K.B.E.: Sir Patrick Laird, secretary, Department of Agriculture for Scotland;

Knights: Dr. Harold Roxbee Cox, chief scientist, Ministry of Fuel and Power; Dr. Arthur W. M. Ellis, consulting physician, London Hospital, and emeritus professor of medicine, University of Oxford; Prof. William G. Holford, professor of town planning, University College, London; Prof. Harold Jeffreys, Plumian professor of astronomy and natural philosophy, University of Cambridge; Dr. Peter MacCallum, a member of the Medical Board, State of Victoria, and formerly dean of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Melbourne; Dr. James F. Mountford, vice-chancellor, University of Liverpool; Dr. Arthur Landsborough Thomson, second secretary, Medical Research Council;

C.B.: J. Buckingham, director of research programmes and planning, Royal Naval Scientific Service, Admiralty; Dr. W. H. Glanville, director of the Road Research Laboratory (Department of Scientific and Industrial Research); Dr. R. Spence, chief chemist, Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell (Ministry of Supply);

C.M.G.: T. Hytten, vice-chancellor, University of Tasmania; R. C. Wakefield, director of surveys, Sudan Government;

C.B.E.: W. Cawood, deputy director, Royal Aircraft Establishment (Ministry of Supply); Prof. M. V. C. Jeffreys, professor of education, University of Birmingham; Dr. D. N. McArthur, director, Macaulay Institute for Soil Research, Aberdeen; Prof. A. Macbeath, professor of logic and metaphysics, Queen's University, Belfast; Prof. R. A. McCance, director of the Department of Experimental Medicine, Medical Research Council and University of Cambridge; J. Macdonald, director of research and education, Forestry Commission; G. S. Peren, principal of the Massey Agricultural College, New Zealand; H. J. Poole, chief superintendent, Armaments Research Establishment (Ministry of Supply); J. A. Smale, engineer-in-chief, Cable and Wireless, Ltd.; A. Turnbull, vice-chairman of the governors, Royal Technical College, Glasgow; C. J. Turner, chief engineer, Division of Atomic Energy (Production), Risley (Ministry of Supply); L. C. Tyte, deputy chief scientific officer, Fort Halstead (Ministry of Supply).

Sir Hans Sloane, Bart. (1660–1753)

Sir Hans Sloane, who died two hundred years ago, on January 11, 1753, is a striking example of a man upon whom the highest scientific honours were bestowed but who made no solid contributions to scientific knowledge. He was born at Killyleagh, County Down, Ireland, on April 16, 1660, and at the age of sixteen developed symptoms of pulmonary tuberculosis, so that for more than seventy-five years he had to lead a temperate life. He studied botany and medicine in London, Paris and Montpellier, obtained the M.D. of the University of Orange in 1683, and on his return to London lived with Thomas Sydenham, the 'English Hippocrates', who taught him practical medicine. At twenty-five he was elected to the Royal Society, and in 1687 a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians. That same year he went to the West Indies as physician to the Duke of Albemarle, governor of Jamaica, but returned within eighteen months, after the duke's death, bringing back eight hundred different species of plants, of which he published a catalogue in Latin. He soon became a fashionable doctor in Bloomsbury Square, served as physician to three successive sovereigns—Queen Anne, George I and George II—and was the first medical practitioner to receive a hereditary title in 1716. He was president of the Royal College of Physicians during 1719–35. He introduced Peruvian bark into British medicine and popularized inoculation against smallpox. His association with the Royal Society was long and distinguished. In 1693 he was appointed secretary and revived the publication of the *Philosophical Transactions*, and in 1727 he succeeded Sir Isaac Newton as president, holding office for fourteen years. His best-known work, "A Voyage to the Islands of Madera, etc." (1707) was responsible for his election to the Paris Academy of Sciences. Sir Hans Sloane is remembered in history as a great collector, whose books, manuscripts and curiosities went to form the collection which was opened to the public in 1759 as the British Museum. In 1712 he purchased the manor of Chelsea, and to this day his