Tyne, for a period of training in practical engineering, in particular on steam turbines, which were then in the early stages of development. He returned to Cambridge to take up a teaching post at the Leys School. Later he joined the staff of the Engineering Department of the University and, in 1909, was elected a Fellow of Magdalene College. Here he was director of studies in mechanical sciences and, for many years, bursar and steward, offices which he filled with enthusiasm and distinction. He was appointed to the Hopkinson lectureship in applied thermodynamics in 1930 and occupied that post until he reached the retiring age.

Peel's interests were by no means confined to the academic sphere; for example, he represented the University on the Borough Council for eleven years, was a member of the General Committee of Addenbrooke's Hospital and also served on the Finance Committee of the Evelyn Nursing Home.

His long connexion with the University and City of Cambridge was marked by never-failing courtesy and gentleness, characteristics which endeared him to all those with whom he came into contact. He is survived by his wife Elsie, *née* Penman, whom he married in 1914, and by their daughter Elizabeth.

J. Trevor Spittle

NEWS and VIEWS

Atomic Energy for Peaceful Purposes

On September 6, President Eisenhower announced that agreement had been reached between the United States and six other nations to establish an international agency which would foster the growth and spread of the new atomic technology for peaceful purposes. Atomic materials would be set aside for projects sponsored by the agency, and when arrangements were complete the United States would establish a reactor school to train representatives of friendly nations in the skills needed for their own atomic purposes. The United States was about to negotiate with the Belgian Government on the building of an atomic power reactor in that country, and discussions with Canada and with other countries that intended to build their own research reactor units would follow. President Eisenhower expressed the hope that no nation would stand aloof from such co-operation. Since then, at the General Assembly of the United Nations, Mr. Leslie Pearson, the Canadian Foreign Minister, on September 23 said that Canada believed that even without Soviet participation an international atomic agency along the lines proposed by President Eisenhower could usefully be formed, and Mr. Dulles, the American Secretary of State, affirmed the determination of the United States to implement the proposals originally made by President Eisenhower on December 8, 1953. Mr. Dulles indicated that it was now proposed to create an international agency the initial membership of which included nations from all regions of the world; to call an international conference next spring, under the auspices of the United Nations, to consider the whole subject; to open next year in the United States a reactor-training school where students from abroad might learn the working principles of atomic energy with specific reference to its peace-time uses; and to invite medical and surgical experts from abroad to participate in the work of American cancer hospitals, in which atomic energy techniques were among the most hopeful approaches to the control of this disease. No nation would be excluded from participation in this venture. On September 26, the State Department published without comment twelve notes, memoranda and aides-mémoire, exchanged in Washington and during the Berlin Conference in February between the United States and the Soviet Union, giving details of President Eisenhower's proposals of December 8, and showing how the two countries failed to reach agreement, but were still willing to continue the negotiations.

Journal of Nuclear Energy

Research work in the field of nuclear energy is now being carried out in many national establishments throughout Europe. Much of this work is of interest to nuclear physicists in general, but has perhaps tended to remain unpublished because of its specialized technical nature. The appearance of the quarterly *Journal of Nuclear Energy*, edited by J. V. Dunworth, J. Guéron and G. Randers, will therefore be welcomed not only by members of the official organizations, among whom it will circulate technical information, but also by many others with an interest in the experimental possibilities of nuclear reactors (London: Pergamon Press. Single issues 25*s.*; annual subscription, 4 issues, 90*s.*). The articles in the first number of the new *Journal* justify the claim of the publishers that it will "provide an outlet for papers dealing with the scientific, engineering, biological and economic aspects of nuclear energy". All these are represented, and at least two of the articles, those by C. A. Rennie on "Economic Power from Fast Breeder Reactors" and by J. F. Loutit on "Protection against Ionising Radiation", are of wide general interest. Although most of the papers in the first number come from Harwell, contributions from Kjeller (Norway) and Saclay (France) are included, and all are of a high scientific standard. The layout of the new *Journal* is attractive, and the printing and illustrations are of good quality; it deserves a wide circulation.

Communications and Electronics

A new British technical journal was launched in September under the title *Communications and Electronics*; it is intended to present monthly a review of the new practical applications of communications and electronic techniques, which are rapidly becoming one of the major industries in Great Britain. The purpose of this new journal is well illustrated in an introductory article in the first issue, by Sir Walter Puckey, who states that "the aim is to show other specialists what telecommunication and electronic systems can do, rather than how they work". Bearing in mind that these techniques are nowadays applied over a very wide range of industry and commerce, as well as to medicine and almost every field of research, this new publication may well fill a long-felt need. The scope is illustrated by the series of articles in the first issue. These deal on the radio side with such subjects as navigational aids in civil aviation, telecommunications at London