

His most recent interests were exciton absorption spectra and methods of applying electronic computers to the analysis of band spectra. In the latter field he worked in close collaboration with the Departments of Chemistry and of Astronomy in Berkeley.

A feature common to all Prof. Jenkins's publications is their thoroughness and completeness, both in the measurements themselves and in their theoretical evaluation; there was no room for false claims, either in his work or in his personality.

Those who knew personally 'Pan', as he was called, will have lively memories of his warm personality, his human understanding and friendliness, his sense of humour and the breadth of his interests and concerns. Many will also recall his happy home and family, that meant so much to him. He was strongly attached to California, where he had spent most of his life, and he liked the camping holidays for which that State offers so many opportunities. But he also had strong ties with the Old World and felt very much at home in England and other European countries. His presence and contributions will be sadly missed at many spectroscopic conferences.

H. G. KUHN

Prof. Tadeusz Miłobedzki

PROF. TADEUSZ MIŁOBEDZKI, formerly of the Warsaw Polytechnic, died on July 13, 1959. He led a simple, quiet life and worked successfully until old age. He was a man of great intellectual power, a skilful research worker and an excellent teacher.

Miłobedzki was born at Koło upon Warta on June 16, 1873, and graduated at the University of Warsaw in 1897. He took a special interest in organic chemistry, and was a student of Prof. Wagner, a specialist in terpenes. He also worked in Berlin, Leipzig and Graz, and obtained his Ph.D. at the Jagellonian University in Cracow in 1918.

In 1906, when the Russian authorities had allowed the opening of the Polish Technical College, Miłobedzki was appointed a lecturer in inorganic and

analytic chemistry there. In 1915 he took an active part in the organization of Polish university education. He was a co-organizer of the Warsaw Polytechnic and the first dean of its Faculty of Chemistry. In 1917 he was appointed an extraordinary professor at the Central School of Agriculture in Warsaw, where he became the first rector. In 1922 he was called to the chair of inorganic chemistry in the University of Poznań, and in 1929, after the death of Prof. J. Zawidzki, he succeeded to the chair of inorganic chemistry at the Warsaw Polytechnic.

For his outstanding work as a scientist, organizer and teacher, he was made an honorary professor of the Central School of Agriculture at Warsaw and of the Jagellonian University.

In 1922 Prof. T. Miłobedzki became an ordinary member of the Poznań Society of the Friends of Sciences, and in 1932 he was elected to the Warsaw Scientific Society. During 1937-39 he took part in the work of the Polish Committee of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry. In 1945 he became a member of the Polish Academy of Science and Arts and, on its foundation, of the Polish Academy of Science.

Prof. Miłobedzki played a prominent part in the development of the Polish Chemical Society. In 1920 he was one of its founders and in 1928 he was elected president. During 1916-17 he was the editor of *Chemik Polski* and during 1935-39 he was the editor of *Roczniki Chemii (Annales Societatis Chimicae Polonorum)*.

Prof. Miłobedzki and his pupils carried out important investigations on titration analysis. He also worked on phosphorus compounds, using not only the methods of classical inorganic chemistry but also those of physical chemistry, including the Raman spectra and absorption spectrometry. Prof. Miłobedzki also worked out a commonly applied new method for the detection of acid radicals. His books on analytical chemistry, "Szkoła analizy jakościowej" (School of Qualitative Analysis) and "Szkoła analizy ilościowej" (School of Quantitative Analysis), were much used.

WIKTOR WAWRZYCZEK

NEWS and VIEWS

National Institute of Medical Research:

Prof. P. B. Medawar, C.B.E., F.R.S.

PROF. P. B. MEDAWAR, professor of zoology at University College, London, who is to succeed Sir Charles Harington in 1962 as director of the National Institute of Medical Research at Mill Hill, brings to the post an outstanding record in medical research and an exceptionally broad background of relevant biology. A product of the Oxford Department of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy, he began research in Sir Howard Florey's department with a study of growth and movement in cell populations. When the Second World War came, he turned to nerve regeneration with Prof. J. Z. Young's group, and the problems of nerve grafting soon led him to skin grafting. Ever since, though there have been many interesting by-products of his active mind concerning human growth, wound-healing, ageing and cell transformation, he has pursued the problems of the homograft reaction, tenaciously and resourcefully. He

has immensely clarified this field, and has been the leading figure in an international movement which is contributing fundamentally to knowledge of immune mechanisms. His success in research has been due to an unusual range of gifts: skill and speed in the laboratory, a flair for the design of crucial experiments, and a powerfully analytical mind. He was elected to the Royal Society at an unusually early age in 1949, and received a Royal Medal in 1959. His work is communicated in an irresistibly brilliant style, and his powers of exposition have often been used effectively to a wider public, most recently in the Reith Lectures. Somehow he has combined his activity in creative science with a great amount of work in scientific policy-making, notably on the University Grants Committee (1955-60) and the Agricultural Research Council (since 1952). His ability to combine productive research with heavy administration assures the success of his new appointment.