His real *métier* and flair, however, appeared to lie in the communication of knowledge—writing, publicizing, lecturing, editing and publishing.

In the middle 'thirties he published his first book, *The Cathode-Ray Tube and Its Applications*, which has since gone into many editions and become a standard work.

In 1941, Parr became the first editor of *Electronic Engineering* and did much to nurture that paper through its early phases and war-time difficulties. In 1948 he joined Messrs. Chapman and Hall, Ltd., as technical director, and remained in that appointment until his death, being responsible for the very considerable output of scientific books from this well-known house.

Recently, Parr wrote and published, in collaboration with Mr. J. Godfrey, *The Technical Writer*, a work which filled a much-felt void and should long remain an authentic guide to writing standards among scientific authors.

Apart from his professional work, Geoffrey Parr's 'side' activities were legion and these helped to absorb his boundless energy and enthusiasm. One of these was his association with Dr. Grey Walter in the development of the electro-encephalograph, for which Parr helped in the design and construction of the electronics and amplifiers, the whole forming the basis of a joint paper to the Institution of Electrical Engineers, entitled "Amplifying and Recording Techniques in Electro-biology" (*J. Inst. Elec. Eng.*, **90**, 3; 1944).

He also lectured frequently to technical colleges and societies throughout the country, usually on some aspect of television. Parr interested himself in many scientific societies and helped in the practical management of several of them. Among these, and in particular, was the Television Society of which Parr had been a Fellow for nearly thirty years, and to which he devoted so much paternal care and devotion. Becoming honorary lecture secretary in 1936, honorary editor of the *Journal* in 1944 and honorary secretary in 1945, he gave unstintingly his free time and attention before, during and since the War years. In fact, he had only retired from the office of honorary secretary a fortnight before his death. He helped the Society survive the War and then grow into its present stature, and, to a large extent, he personally fostered all the important aspects of its development.

Geoffrey had a host of friends in the world of television, in technical publishing and journalism, and wherever men of science gathered; for his gaiety, informality and humanity hundreds will remember him gratefully and affectionately.

T. H. BRIDGEWATER

NEWS and VIEWS

Pure Mathematics at Aberystwyth : Prof. V. C. Morton

PROF. V. C. MORTON retires in September from the chair of pure mathematics at Aberystwyth after thirty-eight years on the staff of the University College of Wales. Educated at King Edward VII School, Sheffield, and Merton College, Oxford, of which he was a scholar, he served in the Royal Corps of Signals during 1916–19. On his return he became Junior and Senior Mathematical Scholar of the University of Oxford. He lectured for a year at Brighton Technical College and in 1923 was appointed lecturer at Aberystwyth. He became independent lecturer and head of the Pure Mathematics Department in 1926 and professor in 1933. He investigated various geometrical configurations, his best-known work being contained in a series of papers on the cubic surface. Dean of the Faculty of Arts, twice dean of that of Science and vice-principal, he has served the College and the University of Wales in many capacities, most notably as acting-principal of the College in 1957–58. A gifted teacher and a stimulating lecturer, wise in counsel and disinterested in judgment, his integrity and magnanimity are an inspiration to his students and colleagues alike.

Prof. W. B. Pennington

DR. W. B. PENNINGTON, who has been appointed to succeed Prof. Morton, is thirty-eight years of age. He had a distinguished career in Cambridge culminating, after interruptions by war service in the R.N.V.R. (1943–46) and two years at Harvard University (1950–52), in a Research Fellowship at Jesus. Since 1953 he has been reader in mathematics at Westfield College, University of London. Dr. Pennington is well known to British mathematicians, not only for his contributions to the analytical theory of numbers, but also for his devoted activities in the service of the London Mathematical Society as member of Council, vice-president and *Journal* editor. With his forward-looking attitude to mathematics and the catholic range of his interests, extending to problems of mathematical teaching and administration no less than of research, Dr. Pennington has not stood aloof from the heart-searchings prevalent among mathematicians to-day, and his new appointment will enhance his opportunities for an effective part in the great debate. With his departure to Wales, Westfield College loses an able mathematician, a delightful colleague, an opening batsman and an accomplished baritone.

Physical Chemistry in Trinity College, Dublin: Prof. D. C. Pepper

DR. DAVID CHARLES PEPPER has been appointed to the newly established chair of physical chemistry in Trinity College, Dublin. Prof. Pepper, born in 1917, was educated at Ushaw College, Durham, Bradford Technical College, from which he took the London degree of B.Sc., and Jesus College, Cambridge. Later, he was awarded the Cambridge degree of Ph.D. for work in the Department of Colloid Science in Cambridge. He was appointed assistant lecturer in Trinity College, Dublin, in 1945, and Fellow in 1951. He has been reader in physical chemistry since 1955, and has been a member of the Royal Irish Academy since 1953. Prof. Pepper's research career commenced with Sir Eric Rideal, with whom he worked on a variety of war-time topics, sponsored by the Scientific Advisory Council of the Ministry of Supply. These researches were concerned