

kind of deoxyribonucleic acid (not necessary for activity) which was of special interest because it was of comparatively low molecular weight and because it was situated outside the cell nucleus. He prepared a beautiful series of crystalline derivatives, each lacking one or more of the three groups, and with these he carried out elegant investigations of the mechanism of the enzyme.

Not all this work was done at Melbourne. In 1957 he accepted a pressing invitation to become professor of agricultural chemistry in the Waite Agricultural Institute at Adelaide. Here he rapidly built up a first-class research group. Under his dynamic and inspiring leadership his department burst into activity on a number of different fronts, quickly acquiring an international reputation and attracting distinguished research workers from other countries. His next five years were incredibly productive. His own work included investigations, not only on cytochrome b_2 , but also on the activities of microsomes and mitochondria of plant cells, on the biosynthesis of coenzymes, on the free energies of some important biochemical reactions, on the chemical control of cell division in relation to tumours, on protein synthesis *in vitro* by particles from plant cells at the expense of phytic acid,

and on many other subjects of great biological interest. In addition, he inspired much work by others in his department.

He spent most of 1962 in England with a professorial fellowship in the University of Nottingham under the Commonwealth Interchange Scheme, travelling a good deal in order to give a fascinating series of lectures. During this time he received an invitation to the chair of biochemistry in the University of Adelaide, which he accepted. At the time of his death he had only been a year in his new department, but he had already left the mark of his invigorating influence on it.

Bob Morton will be remembered with affection for his endearing qualities by a large circle of friends throughout the world. He was a delightful companion, full of zest for life, gay, humorous, unselfish, humble, keenly interested in a wide variety of things and able to inspire the same interest in others. His fine character was founded on high Christian principles. I count it a privilege to have known him.

He was very happy in his home life, and his untimely death is especially tragic for his wife and two young sons.

MALCOLM DIXON

NEWS and VIEWS

Inorganic Chemistry and the Agricultural Research Council's Unit of Nitrogen Fixation at Queen Mary College, London:

Prof. J. Chatt, F.R.S.

DR. J. CHATT has been appointed to the new chair of inorganic chemistry at Queen Mary College, University of London. He will also continue as director of the Agricultural Research Council's Unit of Nitrogen Fixation, which is now being established at Queen Mary College to investigate both the chemical and microbiological sides of the mechanism of nitrogen fixation. A separate building is to be constructed for the Unit close to the new building now being started for the Chemistry Department of the College. Dr. J. R. Postgate, previously at the Microbiological Research Establishment, Porton, is in charge of the Unit's microbiological side, and is at present working at the Royal Veterinary College of the University of London. Dr. Chatt was educated at Nelson School, Wigton, and Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where his first research work was supervised by Dr. F. G. Mann. Since then he has gained an international reputation for his work on the co-ordination chemistry of the transition elements, being particularly associated with synthetic and structural problems of organo-metallic complexes and complexes containing as ligands alkenes, alkynes, hydride ion and the organic derivatives of arsenic and phosphorus. Apart from a year as an Imperial Chemical Industries Research Fellow at the Imperial College of Science and Technology in 1946-47, his career has hitherto been mainly in industry, though he has held temporary appointments as visiting professor in the United States at Pennsylvania State University in 1959 and at Yale University in 1963. After short periods with Woolwich Arsenal and Peter Spence, Ltd., he joined Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., and from 1947 until 1963 he was successively head of the Inorganic Chemistry Department of the Butterwick (later Akers) Research Laboratories, group manager in the Research Department of the Heavy Organic Chemicals Division, and finally group head and research consultant in the Petrochemical and Polymer Laboratory. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1961, and is vice-president of the Chemical Society and a member of the Commission on Nomenclature of Inorganic Chemistry of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry. Among such previous work for scientific societies, it is notable that he

originated the present bi-annual series of International Conferences on Co-ordination Chemistry by a symposium which he organized at Welwyn in 1950.

Physics at the University of Edinburgh:

Prof. W. Cochran, F.R.S.

DR. W. COCHRAN has been appointed to a newly instituted additional chair of physics in the University of Edinburgh. Dr. Cochran was born in Newton Mearns, Renfrewshire, in 1922, and educated at Boroughmuir School, Edinburgh, and at the Universities of Edinburgh and Cambridge. In 1943, he graduated B.Sc. in the University of Edinburgh, with honours in physics, and, in 1946, he graduated Ph.D. in the same University. Later, he graduated M.A. in the University of Cambridge. From 1943, he was for three years assistant lecturer in the Department of Physics in the University of Edinburgh, and from 1948 until 1962 he was demonstrator and lecturer in physics in the University of Cambridge. Dr. Cochran is a Fellow of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, and has been University reader since 1962, in which year he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of London. During periods of academic leave from Cambridge, he has held fellowships from the Rockefeller Foundation and from Atomic Energy of Canada. Dr. Cochran's research in Cambridge has been concerned with the structure of molecules, particularly of those related to deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA). More recently, his interest has been in the use of neutrons to investigate interatomic forces in crystals, and the electrical properties of crystals. Much of his research in this field has been done in collaboration with scientists at Atomic Energy of Canada, and at Harwell. Dr. Cochran will take up his appointment to the additional chair of physics on October 1.

Sociology at the University of Manchester:

Prof. P. M. Worsley

DR. P. M. WORSLEY, senior lecturer in sociology in the University of Hull, has been appointed to the chair of sociology in the University of Manchester from a date to be arranged. Dr. Worsley was educated at St. Francis Xavier's College, Liverpool, and Wallasey Grammar School, and in 1942 was awarded an Exhibition to Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where he read the English Tripos. He entered the Services in 1943 and served in