

S V S**SOCIETY FOR VISITING SCIENTISTS**
Limited**5 OLD BURLINGTON STREET LONDON W1 · TELEPHONE REGENT 1069 and 3994**

October 1960

Dear Member,

It has always been a matter of regret to our Council of Management that we have not been able to keep in closer touch with our overseas members, but I am sure you will appreciate that with an income which prescribes the strictest economy it is not practicable to keep in regular communication with an overseas membership now amounting to some 3,000.

We have, however, recently received news which gives us the greatest pleasure and which we would like to convey to all our members. His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, has graciously agreed to become Patron of the Society. His interest in scientific matters is well known and his patronage of the Society, we feel, is in some measure an indication of the importance which is attached to its work.

The Council of Honour has recently been augmented; its members now are Professor Niels Bohr, For.Mem.R.S., Director, Universitetets Institut for Teoretisk Fysik, Copenhagen, Denmark; Dr. Detlev W. Bronk, O.B.E.(Hon.), For.Mem.R.S., President, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York, U.S.A.; Sir Macfarlane Burnet, O.M., F.R.S., Director, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, Melbourne, Australia; Sir Henry Dale, O.M., G.B.E., F.R.S., Chairman, The Wellcome Trust, London, England; Professor J. Hadamard, For.Mem.R.S., Emeritus Professor of Mathematics, University of Paris, France; Sir Kariamanikkam Srinivasa Krishnan, D.Sc., F.R.S., Director, National Physical Laboratory of India, New Delhi, India; Professor Wilder Penfield, O.M., C.M.G., F.R.S., Director, Montreal Neurological Institute, Montreal, Canada and Dr. S. Siddiqui, Director, C.S.I.R., Pakistan Secretariat, Karachi, Pakistan.

You will have been sorry to learn that Professor F. J. M. Stratton, F.R.S. died on 2nd September 1960. Professor Stratton was Secretary of the Society from 1948 to 1955, and remained a Member of the Council of Management till his death. On his frequent visits to countries all over the world he made the Society known, and his advice was always readily available to and valued by his brother Officers and fellow Members of Council.

Those of you who have visited us recently will know that the Society is as active as ever. Our discussion meetings offer an opportunity for scientists of different disciplines and different countries to meet together, and we are doing everything we can to ensure that in the Society's House both British scientists and those from overseas will find a friendly and congenial centre while they are in London. Our staff are always anxious to help scientists visiting this country; their disappointment is that there are so

many scientists in other parts of the world who do not know of our existence. We are anxious to make our activities more widely known and should be grateful if, when you hear of colleagues likely to be visiting this country, you would tell them about us. You might feel that a short notice in one of your scientific periodicals would be appropriate. If so our Assistant Secretary would be happy to supply a brief statement of the Society's aims and activities.

One feature of our activities which we feel is perhaps not well enough known by our members is our information service. This has grown considerably over the years and we now have an index giving details of the activities, scientific interests and whereabouts of some 70,000 scientists. Increasing use is being made of this service by individuals and organisations who wish to get in touch with scientists working in specific fields. Our visitors, especially, we find, appreciate this type of information and we welcome enquiries.

We are particularly glad to see our overseas members when they return to England and we hope that the opportunity will soon arise for you to visit us again.

Yours sincerely,

A. V. Hill

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President and Chairman

P.S. Do please let us know if you change your address.