# **OBITUARIES**

### Mervyn A. Ellison

Mervyn A. Ellison, professor of astronomy at the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies and a specialist in the field of solar physics, died in Dunsink, Ireland, on September 12. Dr. Ellison, who was 54, had been director of the Dunsink Observatory for five years prior to his death. The son of an astronomer (his father, W. F. A. Ellison, was director of the Armagh Observatory in Northern Ireland), Dr. Ellison was educated at Trinity College in Dublin, where he received his bachelor's and doctoral degrees.

In 1947, he became an astronomer on the staff of the Royal Observatory in Edinburgh, where he served as principal scientific officer. He remained in Edinburgh until 1958, when he returned to Ireland as head of the Dunsink Observatory.

### Oliver J. Lee

Oliver J. Lee, professor emeritus of astronomy and former chairman of the Department of Astronomy at Northwestern University, died on January 13 at the age of 82 in Santa Cruz, Calif. He had lived in Santa Cruz since his retirement in 1947.

Dr. Lee was born in Montevideo. Minn., and was educated at the University of Minnesota, where he received his bachelor's degree in 1907. He continued his graduate studies at the University of Chicago, receiving his master's degree in 1911 and his PhD in astronomy in 1913. While at Chicago, he worked in the University's Yerkes Observatory, and after completing his studies he remained there for a number of years as a member of the staff. He joined Northwestern's Dearborn Observatory as an assistant professor of astronomy in 1928 and became its director in 1929, a post which he held until his retirement. He was named to a full professorship at Northwestern in 1935.

In 1930, Dr. Lee proposed that the moon may have been torn from what

is now the basin of the Pacific Ocean. He observed that the longitudes of the earth's magnetic poles roughly define the boundaries of the Pacific, and speculated that if the moon were really torn from the Pacific, enough of the heavier magnetic elements may have been torn away at the same time to fix the position of the magnetic poles. He took more than two thousand photographs of the asteroid Eros in 1931 when it passed near the earth, thus gaining valuable information for studies involving the solar parallax.

Dr. Lee was a member of the American Astronomical Society and a fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society.

## Peter Pringsheim

Peter Pringsheim, a pioneer in luminescence research and in his later years an authority on color centers in alkali halides, died on November 20 in Antwerp, Belgium, where he had lived for the nine years following his retirement from Argonne National Laboratory.

Professor Pringsheim was born in Munich on March 19, 1881. He received his PhD in physics under the tutelage of Roentgen at the University of Munich, in 1906, and continued his studies, first at the University of Göttingen and then at Cambridge University. He returned to Germany in 1908 and joined the staff of the University of Berlin, where he held various faculty positions. For a number of years he served as full professor at this institution. In his early years in Berlin, Robert Pohl and James Franck also belonged to the younger members of the faculty of the University of Berlin. A scientific cooperation and lifelong friendship with these two developed at that time.

In 1933, Professor Pringsheim left Germany because of the Nazis and joined the staff of the University of Brussels as professor of physics, where



Peter Pringsheim

he remained until 1940. In 1941, he came to the United States as a visiting professor, first at the University of California for one year and then at the University of Chicago for two years. Between 1944 and 1946, he was director of scientific research at the Ray Control Company in Pasadena and then returned to the University of Chicago as a visiting professor. He was a member of the staff of the Argonne National Laboratory from 1947 until 1954 when he retired from active research to live in Antwerp. He was a consultant to Argonne National Laboratory until his death.

Professor Pringsheim is best known for his work in the field of fluorescence and phosphorescence, on which subject he has published about one hundred papers and several sections in Handbuch der Physik, and has authored several books, including one of the most comprehensive reference works on luminescence in the literature. He was also interested in the photoelectric effect and, in addition to carrying out research in this field, he was a co-author (with R. W. Pohl) of a book concerning photoelectric phenomena. In his later years, Professor Pringsheim became well known for his outstanding investigations of color-center phenomena in the alkali halides and other crystals.

He was a fellow of the Berliner Physikalische Gesellschaft and was its president from 1927 to 1931. He was also fellow of the Société Belge de Physique, a fellow of the American Physical Society, and a member of the Academy of Technical Sciences, Warsaw. He received the honorary degree of Doctor of Science from the University of Giessen in 1960.



Takeo Hatanaka

#### Takeo Hatanaka

Japanese radio astronomer Takeo Hatanaka died in Tokyo on November 10 at the age of forty-nine. Dr. Hatanaka spent his professional career at the University of Tokyo and at the time of his death was professor of astronomy there. In 1949, he organized the solar radio-astronomy program of the Tokyo Astronomical Observatory, and under his direction this group has grown to be one of the most active research organizations of its kind in the world.

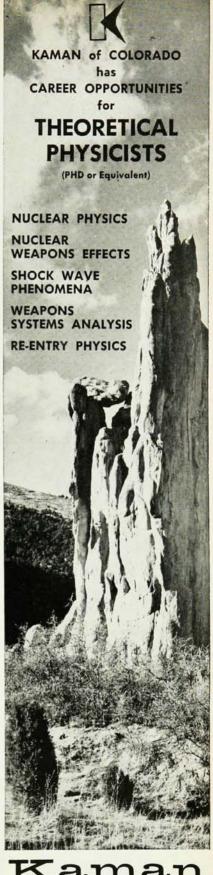
Born in Wakayama, Japan, on January 1, 1914, he was graduated from the Department of Astronomy of the University of Tokyo in 1937 and became an assistant in the Department in 1938. He received his PhD from the University in 1945 and was appointed an instructor on the faculty. He be-

came an assistant professor in 1946 and a full professor in 1953, after having spent the preceding year at Cornell University working on the polarization of radio emission from the sun. In 1955, he again spent several months at Cornell.

Dr. Hatanaka was a member of both the American Astronomical Society and the American Geophysical Union. During the past several years he represented Japan at a number of meetings of the International Astronomical Union, the International Scientific Radio Union, and the Committee on Space Research. In 1958 and again in 1962, he participated in the meetings at the United Nations on the peaceful use of outer space.

#### Correction

In an obituary notice reporting the death of Herbert T. Kalmus (Physics Today, September 1963, p. 107), Dr. Kalmus was credited with having invented the Technicolor process used in color motion-picture photography. We have since been informed that Dr. Kalmus did not invent the process, and that none of the relevant patents are registered in his name. Dr. Kalmus, a physicist, was president from 1915 to 1959 of the Technicolor Corporation, an offshoot of Kalmus, Comstock and Westcott, Inc. He was president of the latter firm from 1912 to 1925, and it was this corporation that carried out the original research and development of the process during the period from 1914 to 1925 under the direction of Daniel F. Comstock. Dr. Kalmus contributed to the success of the enterprise primarily by providing it with sound business direction. Dr. Comstock, who is also a physicist, was a member of the physics faculty at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology from 1904 to 1917 and served as vice president of Kalmus, Comstock and Westcott, Inc., from 1914 to 1925. His name appears as the sole inventor on more than twenty Technicolor patents and in company with collaborators on several other relevant patents. He is president of another research and development company that has been in existence since 1912-Comstock and Westcott, Inc., of Cambridge, Mass.



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