

we hear that

when a new and separate site had to be found for each The successful development of the new sites was due in very great measure to Sir Basil's judgment and understanding, his outstanding organisational ability and his vision."

Born in South Africa, Schonland attended St Andrews College and Rhodes University in Grahamstown. He received his PhD at the University of Cambridge in 1924 where he did research under Lord Rutherford. Schonland subsequently became a lecturer and later a professor of physics at the University of Cape Town (1922-36). In 1936 he was named the first director of the Bernard Price Institute of Geophysics at Witwatersrand University, South Africa. While there he made the discovery that the lightning stroke visible to an observer actually consists of a series of successive strokes from cloud to earth, preceding the visible bolt that darts from earth to cloud.

During World War II Schonland served in the South African Corps of Signals, eventually becoming scientific adviser to General Montgomery and then to General Eisenhower. Upon return to his native South Africa in 1945, he was appointed scientific adviser to the Prime Minister, and he later became the first president of the South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. In 1954 he went to Great Britain to become deputy director at Harwell.

Schonland's honors include the Hughes Medal of the Royal Society for his work on atmospheric electricity (1945) and the Faraday Medal of the Institute of Electrical Engineers (1962).

Lincoln G. Smith

Lincoln G. Smith, a research physicist on the staff of Princeton University, died on 9 December. He was 60 years old.

Smith worked in the field of spectroscopy and was particularly involved in developing methods for the accurate measurement of atomic masses. His investigations lead to the construction of a highly sophisticated mass spectrometer that produced more accurate measurements than any previously obtained.

After receiving his PhD from Princeton in 1938, Smith joined the faculty there, directing research in infrared spectroscopy. In 1949 he went to Brookhaven National Laboratory where he served for nine years as a senior research physicist. Smith returned to Princeton in 1957 and remained there until his death. □

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