Obituaries

organizations, including the Association of Scientific Workers, the World Federation of Scientific Workers, and the World Peace Council, in all of which he had a constructive part.

Bernal received many honours, including the Royal Medal of the Royal Society, the American Medal of Freedom, and the Lenin Peace Prize. In his last years he suffered severe strokes, but these did not deter him from the final revision of *Science in History*.

J. G. CROWTHER

THOMAS MARTIN

Thomas Martin, M.Sc., D.I.C., a founder member of the Society and its president in 1962-3 and 1963-4 died on 11 September 1971. From its formation, he had served for seven years as a member of council and nine years as vice-president. Many members will miss the cheerful smile and happy manner which disguised a vigorous and able administrator.

Martin was born on 26 July 1893, and educated at Alleyn's School, London, before going on to University College, London. After service in the Royal Artillery from 1914 to 1919, he carried out metallurgical research at the Royal School of Mines, South Kensington, from 1919 to 1923. In 1923 he entered upon his real career as science administrator, when he was appointed secretary of the British Empire Exhibition Committee of the Royal Society. During the two years he spent in that office, he was responsible for the scientific exhibits arranged by the Committee for the Empire Exhibition at Wembley. It was during the frenzied days prior to the opening of the Exhibition that I first met him, calmly supervising the preparation of literature. In 1926 he was again involved in organizing, this time for the Optical Convention held in London, with its two substantial volumes of proceedings and large catalogue. Free from that task, he became secretary of the Institute of Physics and editor of the Journal of Scientific Instruments. In 1929 he went to the Royal Institution as general secretary, a post he occupied until 1950, apart from Government service during the second world war.

In the Royal Institution Martin's interest in the history of science found full expression. The Royal Institution had Faraday's MS. notebooks, covering all the scientific work he carried out there. These unique MSS. were copied, and Martin set to work to prepare them for publication. During this period I had the privilege of working with Martin in my spare time. I read the typescript against the MS., and Martin read the printer's proofs against the MS. Doubtful points were discussed, and Martin read the relevant papers published by Faraday. The elaborate and most valuable index to the seven volumes was Martin's work. The volumes were published at intervals between 1932 and 1936. All this was done by Martin in addition to his general duties at the Royal Institution, which included the secretaryship of the Royal Institution Committee for the Faraday Celebrations in 1931, the centenary of the discovery of electromagnetic induction. By-products of his reading were two useful little books: *Faraday* and *Faraday's Discovery of Electromagnetic Induction*. He also wrote a booklet on the Royal Institution for the British Council in 1942.

When Martin entered Government service on the outbreak of war in 1939, his administrative talents and wide scientific interests were used on a number of committees dealing with the supply and use of scientific equipment. After he re-entered Government service in 1950, he became a principal scientific officer at the Home Office, and later consultant to the Ministry of Defence, Navy Department.

A. J. V. GALE