

The Council reports with deep regret the death of Dr L. H. N. Cooper on 19 September 1985, and that of Miss L. M. Serpell on 5 February 1986.

Leslie Cooper joined the staff of the Laboratory in 1930 as an analytical chemist. During the early thirties he was concerned with continuing the series of observations begun by W. R. G. Atkins and H. W. Harvey on the nutrients in the waters of the western English Channel. His work was extended later to include studies of other important elements in sea water, notably iron, and he also joined F. S. Russell, H. W. Harvey and M. V. Lebour in a pioneering study of the factors influencing Channel productivity. Throughout the war he served with the Chemical Inspectorate of the Ministry of Supply, afterwards resuming his post at the Laboratory, where he remained until his retirement in 1972. During this post-war period his notable achievements in chemical oceanography included developing methods that enabled him to trace the autumn flow of water in the Channel from the south-west, and to demonstrate the detailed layering of deep water in the Bay of Biscay. He was elected to a Fellowship of the Royal Society in 1964 and was awarded the OBE in 1973.