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Title: STEPHEN MASON

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More Conversations with Famous Chemists (pp 473-495)

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Abstract: Stephen Mason (b. 1923 in Leicester, England) studied chemistry at the University of Oxford, where he was awarded a B.A. with First Class Honours (1945), M.A. and D.Phil. (1947), and D.Sc. (1967). Since 1982, he has been a Fellow of the Royal Society of London. Following appointments at Oxford, in London, and Exeter, he was Professor of Chemistry at the University of East Anglia, Norwich (1964-70), and then at King's College London (1970–88). Since 1988, he and his fellow chemist-historian wife, Joan, have lived in Cambridge, where they are associated with the University Department of the History and Philosophy of Science. His first book was written before the age of 30, A History of the Sciences: Main Currents of Scientific Thought (Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1953). I asked Professor Mason about his career, and what lessons could be learnt from the history of science...

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