

so that in 1894 he had discovered more than half of the known pairs of which the distance was less than 1".

Burnham afterwards returned to Chicago as professor of practical astronomy at the University. The first volume of the Publications of the Yerkes Observatory consists of his great "General Catalogue of Double Stars," which has become the standard work of reference on the subject. He continued the work of discussing measures and orbits, and of drawing up lists of stars that needed observation, until within a few years of his death.

Burnham was elected a fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society in 1874 on the nomination of the Rev. T. W. Webb, whose "Celestial Objects" had first directed his attention to double stars. He was elected an associate in 1898, having received the gold medal in 1894.

A. C. D. C.

WE announce with regret the death on Thursday, March 31, of MR. T. E. GATEHOUSE at the age of sixty-six years. Mr. Gatehouse was for some forty years associated with our contemporary, the *Electrical Review*, of which he had become editorial and technical director. As a young man he was a pupil of Robert Sabine, one of the most able pioneers of electrical industry, and later he worked with Sir Charles Wheatstone and Sir Samuel Canning. From these he obtained a broad knowledge of electrical engineering in all its aspects, and especially of telegraphy, both on land and by submarine cable. As a young engineer he also took great interest in schemes for electric lighting, and himself held a number of patents for improvements in both the arc and incandescent lamp systems. In 1881 Mr. Gatehouse joined forces with a fellow-pupil under Sabine, Mr. R. H. Kempe, who was proprietor, with Mr. H. Alabaster, of the *Telegraphic Journal and Electrical Review* (afterwards the *Electrical Review*), and Mr. Gatehouse was made editor, a post which he held until a few years

ago. Failing health compelled him to give up active work as editor, but as editorial and technical director he kept in touch with the journal, and lent his aid in a consultative capacity until a few days before his death occurred.

THE death is announced of MR. SYDNEY FISHER, one of the leading authorities on agriculture in Canada. Mr. Fisher was born in 1850, and educated at McGill University, and later at Cambridge. At the age of thirty-one years he entered the Dominion Parliament, and, with the exception of an interval lasting from 1891-96, was a representative in it continuously until 1911. He made a study of the principles of agriculture, and when Sir Wilfrid Laurier came into power in 1896 was appointed Minister of Agriculture, an office which he held for fifteen years. During his tenure of office Mr. Fisher initiated a progressive agricultural policy, the most important part of which was the establishment, in various parts of the Dominion, of experimental farms, where careful and profitable research has been undertaken. Mr. Fisher will also be remembered as the first vice-president of the International Institute of Agriculture convened at Rome in 1908.

THE death is announced of MR. ALEXANDER WYNTER BLYTH, which occurred on April 1 at the age of seventy-six years. Mr. Blyth was for forty years public analyst for the county of Devon and the borough of St. Marylebone, and a past-president of the Incorporated Society of Medical Officers of Health. He will be best remembered as the author of a number of books on public health, among which are "Foods: their Composition and Analysis," "Poisons: their Effects and Detection," and "A Manual of Public Health." He also communicated a number of papers to the Royal Society, the Chemical Society, and the Royal Sanitary Institute.

### Notes.

At the meeting of the Royal Society on May 5 the Croonian lecture will be delivered by Dr. Henry Head on "Release of Function in the Nervous System."

PROF. J. NORMAN COLLIE, professor of organic chemistry in the University of London, and Sir W. Morley Fletcher, Secretary of the Medical Research Council (Privy Council), have been elected members of the Athenæum under the provisions of the rule of the club which empowers the annual election by the committee of a certain number of persons "of distinguished eminence in science, literature, the arts, or for public service."

THE Institute of Physics will be inaugurated at a meeting to be held on Wednesday, April 27, at 6 p.m., in the hall of the Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, Westminster. Sir Richard Glazebrook, the president, will preside, and Sir J. J. Thomson will

deliver an address. Mr. A. J. Balfour is expected to be present and to extend a welcome to the institute. Non-members of the institute or of the societies associated with it may obtain tickets of admission on application to the Secretary, 10 Essex Street, Strand, W.C.2.

A GOOD deal of attention has been devoted in the medical, pharmaceutical, and general Press to the provisions of the Draft Regulations drawn up by the Home Office under the Dangerous Drugs Act of 1920. The drugs specified in the draft regulations are opium, morphine, diamorphine, cocaine, and ecgonine, and, with certain exceptions as regards pharmacists, medical men, dentists, and veterinary surgeons, the manufacture, possession, purchase, or sale of any of these drugs is prohibited except to persons duly licensed or otherwise authorised by the Home Office. Apparently a chemist successfully synthesising one of