

lent book on morbid anatomy, of which the second edition appeared only last year.

Dr. Donaldson had wide interests outside his department. He was a Scot with all the keenness for knowledge which is so characteristic of his countrymen. He loved his native land, and he had a wide knowledge of its customs, its songs and its language. His wanderings in the Highlands and Islands inspired him to learn Gaelic. He was a man of deep religious convictions, and his home life was an inspiration to many. Those of us who knew him regarded him as a great pathologist and teacher, we welcomed him as a colleague, but we loved him as a man, and, as one of his greatest friends has said of him, "Allied to a keen analytical intellect was a heart of the warmest emotions". To his wife and his two daughters we tender our heartfelt sympathy.

J. M. BEATTIE.

DR. MALCOLM E. MACGREGOR

It is with regret that we have to record the death at the early age of forty-three years of Dr. Malcolm Evan MacGregor, who was in charge of the Wellcome Entomological Field Laboratories at Esher, Surrey. Born in South Africa, he studied at Cambridge and later as a Carnegie fellow at Harvard, where he came under the influence of Dr. L. O. Howard, and decided to study the medical aspects of entomology. He first came into prominence during the War when he served with the R.A.M.C. in East Africa in connexion with mosquitoes and other insect carriers of disease. From East Africa he was invalided home, and on recovery was placed in charge of a War Office Research Laboratory at Sandwich to study mosquitoes in their relation to the spread of malaria

in Great Britain from returned soldiers carrying the disease.

After the War, MacGregor took charge of the Entomological Field Laboratory founded by Sir Henry Wellcome. Here he continued his studies of mosquitoes, particularly with the view of solving some of the fundamental problems underlying their mode of life, feeding, hibernation and reproduction. For a period, these researches were interrupted by a visit to Mauritius on behalf of the Colonial Office, to study the mosquito-malaria problem. A valuable report was the result, and it was shown that a second important malaria-carrying mosquito occurred in Mauritius, namely, *Anopheles funesta*, which had been overlooked both by Sir Ronald Ross and Sir Andrew Balfour during their visits to the island.

On his return to England, MacGregor resumed his mosquito studies. He showed that the diverticulum, a sac which opens into the oesophagus of the mosquito, is a kind of reservoir into which the mosquito can direct at will or by reflex action fluids unsuitable for the stomach. He studied the extraordinary effect of ultra-violet rays on the larvæ, the various reactions of waters in which they occurred, and strove to establish the fact that the larvæ of culex and anopheles mosquitoes live in waters of different but particular hydrogen ion concentration. Latterly, he had been studying a so-called autochthonous race of *Culex pipiens*, a race which is able to complete its life-cycle without any blood meal and does not hibernate.

MacGregor's death at the height of his scientific career is nothing short of a tragedy, inflicting a serious loss upon the science of medical entomology. He was the author of numerous scientific papers dealing with the subjects of his particular study, and of a book entitled "Mosquito Surveys".

News and Views

Gold in Kenya and Native Reserves

THE memorandum issued by the Colonial Office on the position in Kenya in relation to the leasing of lands in native occupation on native reserves for mining purposes cannot be regarded as satisfactory. It affords no guarantee that the more objectionable consequences of the amendment of the Ordinance will not ensue. For example, while admitting that "the matter of immediate importance is to ensure that any individual native . . . shall receive compensation and an alternative piece of ground on which he may live and work in proximity to his market", it states that the Governor "does not contemplate any difficulty in providing individual dispossessed natives with land". But when the amendment was introduced, and also when it was discussed in the House of Commons, it was stated definitely that the reason for payment of a money compensation was that land could not be provided for all the natives who, it was anticipated, would be dispossessed. Nothing is said of the terms of

tenure of the land on which the dispossessed natives will be settled, a matter of the first importance in tribal organisation, as has already been pointed out in NATURE.

THE Chief Native Commissioner himself, in introducing the amendment, stated that the natives would not lease their lands voluntarily and that their "most sacred traditions" would be violated by "removal from their own land on which they had the right to live, and setting them up on another piece, the owners of which had the right to eject them". No attempt is made to meet this difficulty. As the explanatory memorandum issued to natives had been circulated before the Chief Native Commissioner made his statement, it is therefore to be presumed that it did not assuage native feeling in this matter. Yet every anthropologist is well aware that it has been through neglect of susceptibilities of this character that our Colonial administrations have been involved in innumerable difficulties and