

in the service of Egyptological studies in America while acting as English honorary secretary for the Egypt Exploration Fund in the United States. These services were recognised in 1893 when the University of Kansas bestowed upon her the degree of Ph.D. In 1896 she was elected a life member of the Bibliothèque Nationale of Paris and life member of College Hall, London.

A further period of strenuous work in Egypt caused a breakdown in health from which Dr. Brodrick never completely recovered, although she continued to lecture occasionally and to write, while keeping closely in touch with the work and affairs of the institutions of the University of London, with which she had been connected. The best known of her works in this later period was "A Concise Dictionary of Egyptian Archaeology".

By the death, on July 9, of Mr. William Gamble, at the age of sixty-eight years, the world of printing-art has lost one of its most outstanding figures. His long association with the firm of Penrose and Co. (later A. W. Penrose and Co., Ltd.), and his editorship of the well-known "Penrose's Pictorial Annual", witnessed a period

of striking advance in colour photography and its application to printing. In this field, as in photo-gravure and process engraving, he was a recognised leader, and his technical advice was continually sought after until the time of his death. He was the author of a number of important books dealing with colour photography, engraving, lithography, and music engraving. He was a fellow of the Royal Photographic Society and of the Optical Society, and was recently elected to the fellowship of the Institute of Physics.

WE regret to announce the following deaths :

Prof. J. W. Hinton, professor of physics in Ceylon University College, Colombo, formerly lecturer in the University of Otago, New Zealand, on July 15, aged thirty-eight years.

Sir Joseph C. Verco, president of the Royal Society of South Australia in 1903-21, known for his services to medicine in Australia, on July 30, aged eighty-two years.

Sir Emery Walker, Sandars reader in bibliography in the University of Cambridge in 1924, a well-known authority on typography, on July 22, aged eighty-two years.

News and Views

Centralisation of Anthropological Studies

ON p. 208 of this issue we publish a communication from Prof. J. L. Myres in reference to the article "Centralisation of Anthropological Studies" appearing in NATURE of July 22, p. 113, in which he directs attention to the efforts made to bring about an improved organisation in the science of anthropology in Great Britain since 1896 and earlier. Such efforts have been noted from time to time and made the subject of comment in NATURE, nor must it be assumed, if no reference has been made to them on this occasion, that they have been overlooked. Lest any confusion should arise, however, it may be as well to point out that the various movements chronicled by Prof. Myres have by no means had an identical objective. Each has pressed for such measures as the circumstances of the time have seemed to demand. At the turn of the century, both on public and on academic grounds, an Imperial Bureau of Ethnology was deemed the most pressing need: the Joint Committee for Anthropological Research and Teaching, which works in association with the Royal Anthropological Institute, is the form taken by the most recent and successful effort. This latter has provided an effective medium for authoritative pronouncement of anthropological opinion on matters of policy, and for the promotion of concerted action. The 'Joint Committee', however, is not an academic body; and the consolidation of anthropological teaching and research within the universities on some such lines as those suggested in NATURE should strengthen the hand of the representatives of the universities on the Committee, rather than conflict with its functions.

Mechanisation and Unemployment

A PAMPHLET entitled "Unemployment: Its Realities and Problems" issued by the Engineering and Allied Employers' National Federation, Broadway House, Tothill Street, London, S.W.1, contains the result of an inquiry conducted among members of the Federation into the general subject of unemployment and particularly the proposal to establish a working week of forty hours. The pamphlet expresses the belief that the signs are that our civilisation still possesses the urge and impulse to recover from its latest shock and resume its upward march. Stress is laid upon the moral effect of confidence in recovery and part of the world's sufferings are still attributed to the six years' arrested growth caused by the late War. The importance of a growing appreciation of the real causes underlying the present depression is recognised as in itself one of the best hopes of amelioration. There is no royal road to the cure for unemployment and the complexity of the factors involved and particularly the psychological effects make progress inevitably slow and difficult. While the part which international co-operation must play is admitted, sufficient emphasis is scarcely laid on this fact and the pamphlet might easily give the impression that national effort alone is sufficient. Particular attention is directed to the increase in total employment which has accompanied the growth of unemployment and it is considered that the unemployment crisis is not the result of mechanisation, a conclusion which was discussed in the leading article in NATURE of July 29, p. 149. It is also concluded that displacement of male by female labour is not true of industry as a whole, but the arguments presented against the

adoption of the 40-hour week are less convincing and make partisan reading. The whole question is discussed too much apart from the fundamental problems of distribution and social economics to which reference was made in our leading article.

Science and the State in Germany

THE publication in the *Times* of July 24, 25, 27, and 28, of extracts from Herr Hitler's book on the eve of its publication in an abbreviated translation, and the simultaneous account by the *Times* correspondent on July 27 of a Bill approved by the German Government for the compulsory sterilisation of those "considered in the light of medical science as it is understood to-day to be by heredity unfit" give a more illuminating view of the real significance of the Nazi movement than has yet appeared. That the Nazi leader stands self-revealed as ill-balanced, fanatical and otherwise abnormal is immaterial. What is supremely significant is that he has come into power on a wave of popular discontent with present-day social, political and economic conditions which is sufficiently intense to submit to previously unheard of restrictions for which a 'scientific' backing is advanced. Unfortunately, not all the Nazi measures can be supported by argument as sound scientifically as that upon which the sterilisation of the unfit is advocated. Herr Hitler's views of 'Aryans' and Jews and their qualities and character, to accord with which the German race of the future is to be moulded, belong to a 'science' which would be out of date even if it had not failed to justify itself when submitted to the test of scientific analysis. The German people, however, are not alone as victims of the world crisis, and if, as events seem to portend, the world is moving towards a solution of its difficulties through the application of scientific method to its problems by means of a more highly organised form of government than is possible in a pure democracy, it cannot be too widely appreciated outside scientific circles that the science which will provide the solution of our difficulties is not reactionary and does not exclude eminence in any field, whatever its racial origin—in short, it is not the 'science' of Herr Hitler.

Ross Institute and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

PROPOSALS for the amalgamation of the Ross Institute and Hospital for Tropical Diseases with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine have recently been issued. Argument in favour of amalgamation centres around the promotion of work for the good of the Empire and the prevention of overlapping of the activities of the two bodies. As a result of the amalgamation, a permanent memorial to Sir Ronald Ross will be established in the School in the form of a department to be called the Ross Institute of Tropical Hygiene. Laboratory accommodation will be provided for Sir Aldo Castellani, at present director of tropical medicine and dermatology at the Ross Institute. He will also be appointed to the staff of the School with the title of director. Sir Malcolm Watson, at present director of tropical hygiene and principal of the Department

of Malaria Control at the Ross Institute, will be appointed director of tropical hygiene at the School. The India branch of the Ross Institute will become an intrinsic part of the amalgamated body, and Dr. G. C. Ramsay will continue as principal of the India branch. Major Lockwood Stevens, organising secretary of the Ross Institute, will join the School in a similar capacity.

Imperial Standard Measures

THE statutory decennial comparisons of the Imperial standards of length and mass with their Parliamentary copies became due in 1932. On the last occasion, in 1922, they were carried out at the Standards Department of the Board of Trade under the supervision of Mr. J. E. Sears, Jr., the superintendent of the Metrology Department of the Laboratory, who was at that time acting also as deputy warden of the standards. By a subsequent agreement between the Board of Trade and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, it was arranged that the National Physical Laboratory should in future undertake the whole of these comparisons on behalf of the Board. The present series of comparisons is accordingly being carried out at the Laboratory. The primary object of the comparisons is the verification of the Parliamentary copies of the Imperial Standard Pound and Yard, any one of which could be used to replace the corresponding Imperial standard should it suffer loss or destruction. There are for each standard five Parliamentary copies; one is immured in Westminster Palace, and one each of the others is in the custody of the Royal Society, the Mint, Greenwich Observatory and the Standards Department.

IN addition to this work, a redetermination of the relationship between the pound and the kilogram will shortly be made, following the scheme which was adopted for the first time in 1922-23. The International Bureau of Weights and Measures, Sèvres, has been invited to undertake a share of the comparisons in this part of the programme. Finally, the principal reference standard pounds at the National Physical Laboratory, together with an auxiliary standard pound belonging to the Board of Trade, will be verified by comparison with one or more of the Parliamentary copies of the pound; a corresponding verification of kilogram standards from the Laboratory and the Board of Trade will also be made. The weighings are being made on a new balance which has recently been constructed at the Laboratory for precision weighings of the highest accuracy. This balance is contained in an inner vault, and all its controls are operated from outside, so that the observer does not enter the vault during any one series of weighings. The indications of the balance are recorded optically on a scale placed some seven metres away.

Empire Cotton Growing Corporation

THE director of the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation, Sir James Currie, stated at the meeting of