

Mr. A. E. Clarence Smith

It would be difficult to over-estimate the contribution made by the late Capt. Alton Clarence Smith, who died on September 16 at the age of forty-nine years, to the development of the Department of Chemistry at University College, Southampton, during the seventeen years in which he was responsible for the teaching of physical chemistry.

Mr. Clarence Smith was a man of wide culture, interested in biology as well as in physical science. He had also an unusual degree of mechanical skill and a marked taste for architectural design, gifts strikingly shown in the planning and equipment of the laboratories which he designed for the use of his students. His research work lay chiefly in the domain of photomicrography, on which he was an acknowledged authority, and his papers on this subject in the *Journal of the Quekett Club* and similar publications led to his being frequently consulted by biologists and others interested in the use and construction of microscopes.

But Clarence Smith was in the first instance a teacher, and it is as a great teacher of physical chemistry that he will be remembered by the students who in successive years listened to the extraordinarily clear discourses with which he illuminated the difficult field of study embraced in physical chemistry. He took infinite pains in the presentation of his subject; the notes which he prepared for his lectures were models of clear thinking and accurate expression. He

was genial and sympathetic with his students, appreciating fully their difficulties, and he had in full measure their affection and respect. His knowledge, experience and that critical judgment which was one of his outstanding characteristics, were always at the service of his colleagues; the research work of the Chemistry Department at Southampton owes a great debt to him for the interest, the counsel and the generous help which he gave so freely.

The loss which the death of Clarence Smith brings to the teaching strength at University College, Southampton, is very great; but, above all, he will be missed for the charm of his personality, from which there radiated always the virtues of sincerity, courage and goodwill. D. R. B.

We regret to announce the following deaths:

Mr. Alan Blakeway, director of the British School of Archaeology at Athens, on October 9, aged thirty-eight years.

Sir George Buchanan, formerly senior medical officer in the Ministry of Health, on October 11, aged sixty-seven years.

Prof. W. E. Praeger, emeritus professor of biology in Kalamazoo College, Michigan, known for his work in ecology, on August 13, aged seventy-two years.

Prof. Camille Sauvageau, formerly professor of botany in the University of Bordeaux, aged seventy-five years.

News and Views

International Relations promoted by Broadcasting

AN international convention on the use of broadcasting in the cause of peace was adopted at a Conference at Geneva on September 23 and signed by representatives of eighteen countries. Soviet Russia signed with some reservations, but Hungary did not sign the convention although the Hungarian delegation had taken part in the proceedings throughout. The Italian delegation, which had also followed the proceedings with close interest, had previously been instructed to withdraw from the conference, and left expressing good wishes for its success. The text of the convention does not differ essentially from that prepared by the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation at the request of the Assembly of the League of Nations. There are fifteen articles, of which six deal with matters of substance. The purpose of the convention is to ensure that broadcasting is never used in a manner prejudicial to good international understanding. A distinction is made between messages in the nature of a direct appeal to the inhabitants of another country and those designed primarily for national listeners. The former are prohibited in so far as they incite to acts incompatible with the internal peace or security of the territory

of another party. States are bound under the convention to prohibit any broadcast likely to prejudice good international understanding by statements the incorrectness of which is, or ought to be, known to those responsible for the broadcast and to ensure that such statements are rectified immediately. Under a special provision, Governments agree, especially in time of crisis, to ensure the accuracy of the information concerning international relations broadcast within their territories. Provision is also made for the exchange of information calculated to promote a better knowledge of civilization and the conditions of life in the countries concerned and also for arbitration and conciliation procedure in the event of a dispute.

Co-operation between Oxford and Cambridge

In Convocation at Oxford on October 7, the Vice-Chancellor announced a scheme for co-operation in academic work which has been discussed by the governing bodies of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. It is proposed to promote legislation to allow students, whether undergraduate or post-graduate, from either university to go to the other for special courses of study and to keep residence