

of Medicine, and also of that Section of the British Medical Association for the year.

He was a close friend of Russell Wells, vice-chancellor of the University of London, and was elected a member of the Senate in 1906, a post he retained until May this year. In 1922 he became president of the University Graduates Association, an honour which no doubt greatly helped him in a keen triangular contest in 1924 to be member of Parliament for the University, which he represented as an Independent Conservative until all university seats were abolished recently. He was most assiduous in his attendance at the House of Commons, and was a frequent contributor to debates involving medical principles, and by letters to the Press, becoming chairman of the Medical Parliamentary Committee in 1943. Retiring from his post of physician for skin diseases at St. Mary's in 1934, he had more time for his political work in the House of Commons. He was largely responsible for the recognition of the West London Hospital by the University as an institution for the admission of women as external students.

Hard fighter as he was in the House and in the University Senate, in pushing for reforms he believed in, yet in private life Graham-Little was kind and always ready to help students with advice, and was a most interesting conversationalist among his friends at dinners or club meetings. Although during the last few years his failing eyesight severely limited his activities in public, yet with the help of his devoted wife he followed the controversies of the day, notably the National Health Act, with the greatest keenness,

and his letters in the daily Press were a frequent source of pleasure to his friends and supporters in opposition to ministerial autocracy in the National Health Service.

The large attendance of medical and other friends at the memorial service at St. Peter's, Vere Street, on St. Luke's Day, were surprised and delighted by the charming, short and friendly discourse given from the pulpit, regarding his friend Graham-Little, by the Rev. Scott Lidgett, a 'young' veteran of ninety-six.

WILFRED HARRIS

WE regret to announce the following deaths :

Captain E. B. H. Cunnington, for many years honorary curator of the Wiltshire Archaeological Society's Museum at Devizes, aged eighty-nine.

Mr. Percy Good, C.B.E., director of the British Standards Institution since 1942, on December 2, aged seventy.

Prof. J. Share Jones, M.B.E., emeritus professor of veterinary anatomy in the University of Liverpool, on December 2, aged seventy-seven.

Dr. Hans Robert Landolt, who had worked at the Royal Institution, London, and the Department of Colloid Science, Cambridge, on the physical chemistry of muscle proteins, on November 30, aged thirty-two.

Dr. J. A. Murray, F.R.S., during 1915-35 director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, on November 20, aged seventy-six.

Brigadier Sir Edward Tandy, formerly surveyor-general of India, on November 30, aged seventy-eight.

## NEWS and VIEWS

### Yerkes and McDonald Observatories: Prof. B. Strömrgren

PROF. BENGT STRÖMGRÉN, director of the University of Copenhagen Observatory, Denmark, has been appointed a professor of astronomy and chairman of the Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics in the University of Chicago, and director of the Yerkes and McDonald Observatories. As he is to retain for the present the directorship of the Copenhagen Observatory and to spend three months each year in Denmark, it can be seen that he is to carry a heavy load of work, and it is not surprising to learn that he will be resigning next year from the post of general secretary of the International Astronomical Union. But the opportunities opened up to him in his new position were too great and important to be refused. They have been well earned, for Prof. Strömrgren's work in astrophysics on the structure of stellar atmospheres, and on interstellar space, has placed him among the world's leaders in this branch of science. For his researches he was recently awarded by the vice-chancellors of the Universities of Denmark the first Augustinus Prize of 50,000 Danish kroner. He will be no stranger when arriving in Chicago, as he has visited the University and its observatories in the past and worked there with Prof. O. Struve. His many friends all over the world welcome the appointment and are confident of the success with which he will carry out its many duties.

### International Research Centre for Chemical Microbiology, Rome

THE United Nations World Health Organization, with the consent of the Italian Government, has

recognized the Istituto Superiore di Sanità (Higher Institute for Health) in Rome as an International Research Centre for Chemical Microbiology. The Institute, under its director-general, Prof. Domenico Marotta, is one of the largest research centres in Italy, and its laboratories are among the most modern and best-equipped in Europe. The research departments include physics, therapeutic chemistry, biochemistry, malariology and bacteriology, and it also contains the main food and drug control centre of the Italian Government. Recent extensions to the existing buildings of the Institute will be used to house the newly created International Centre for Chemical Microbiology. These extensions contain research laboratories as well as a fermentation pilot plant with fermenters up to a capacity of 18,000 l. and all the processing equipment required for the isolation on an industrial scale of biologically interesting substances, such as antibiotics, enzymes, growth factors, etc. Ample workshop facilities are also provided.

The International Centre for Chemical Microbiology will be under the scientific direction of Prof. E. B. Chain, formerly of the University of Oxford, joint winner of the 1945 Nobel Prize for Medicine for the discovery of the chemotherapeutic effect of penicillin and recently elected first chairman of the newly formed Experts Committee on Antibiotics of the World Health Organization. Prof. Chain has been in Rome for two years organizing and directing a new research department of biochemistry at the Institute. The Centre is built up of a number of different research units, including one for biochemistry and organic chemistry, one for bacteriology and mycology, and one for physical chemistry and