

these involve a radical change of diet, and for an appreciation of the reasons for 'desertion' and for dealing with it by sympathetic discussion of difficulties rather than by penalties. He advocated measures to mitigate the hardships of the long journey on foot to the place of labour, which have still scarcely been taken on an adequate scale.

When in 1931 Tanganyika decided to abolish the Labour Department and add its duties to the responsibilities of administrative officers, Orde Browne resigned from the Colonial Service, but his interest in Colonial labour questions continued. His book, "The African Labourer", published in 1933, discussed the problems of labour welfare and protection from every angle and compared the practice of the different colonial Powers. In 1934 he became a substitute member of the International Labour Organisation's Committee of Experts on Native Labour, and took part in the drafting of the conventions on recruiting and contracts which have been adopted by that body. He supplied the original draft for the chapter on labour in Lord Hailey's "African Survey".

After being commissioned in 1937 to make an inquiry into conditions on the copper belt of Northern Rhodesia, where there had been serious riots, he was appointed labour adviser to the Secretary of State in 1938, and in turn visited and reported on the West Indies, West Africa, Ceylon, Mauritius and Malaya, and East Africa. The creation of a specialist Labour Department in every Colony, which he persistently advocated, is now official policy. He was created C.M.G. in 1942 and K.C.M.G. in 1947.

LUCY MAIR

Prof. Walter Ramsden

PROF. WALTER RAMSDEN, emeritus professor of biochemistry in the University of Liverpool, died on March 26 at the age of seventy-eight. He went to Liverpool from Oxford in 1914, following Benjamin Moore in the chair of biochemistry. The subject was still in its infancy, attracting comparatively few graduates and scarcely any science students. Ramsden's teaching was mainly concerned with medical undergraduates, and for them he introduced for the first time a course of lectures in the subject, together with practical classes. These admirably covered general principles, but did not overburden the student with detail. The result was that when the medical student had passed the second M.B. examination he entered the hospital wards with an interest in the biochemical problems of disease—an approach which at that time was comparatively new and exciting.

Ramsden was a shy, retiring man, and his formal lectures could scarcely be heard beyond the front two rows. Moreover, his tiny handwriting, whether on the blackboard or on paper, was difficult to read. Students often react to this situation by merciless ragging; but his gentleness and old-world courtesy captured them, especially as they appreciated that they were listening to a distinguished scholar and pioneer in his subject. In individual contacts, as when answering questions after the formal lecture, or in the practical class, he was at his best. His nicknames ("Rammer" at Oxford and "Rammie" at Liverpool) revealed the kindly affection with which his students regarded him.

His influence upon the Liverpool medical school and upon the University was that of a gentleman, a scholar and a man of science—quiet, unobtrusive, but far-reaching. He planted seeds, almost by stealth, and left them to grow.

Ramsden's main interests lay in the behaviour of proteins and of surface membranes, yet he always found time for young clinicians and others who were feeling their way towards the answers to varied problems, practical or academic. He entered unselfishly and wholeheartedly into their problems, and gave them the guidance and help of a master. He published comparatively little, though he wrote much that never came to publication, for he was almost exasperatingly modest and meticulous. He was rarely satisfied with what he wrote, and as he was always learning from his researches, he never reached that finality which he felt justified publication.

When he retired from the chair at Liverpool in 1930, and returned to Fellows' Room of Pembroke College, Oxford, his friends hoped that more of the material which he had accumulated would be made available for wider study and appreciation. He continued to follow his bent, bred silkworms and studied silkworm protein; but the papers which might have come never came.

He was a personality, and while he was at Liverpool the University and the medical school felt him to be a rare and distinguished possession. A shy and most courteous host, he had a mellow humour and a fund of good stories.

ROBERT COOPE

Dr. Seymour Hadwen

ISAAC SEYMOUR ANDRÉ HADWEN, who died recently, was born at Lees, Lancashire, in 1877. He obtained the doctorate in veterinary science at McGill University in 1902, and it is of interest to note that he was a member of a small band that studied the subject at McGill. The Veterinary School there owed its development to a considerable extent to Sir William Osler at the time when he was at the McGill Medical School. The School had a very short life, however, and closed soon after Hadwen graduated. Thereafter veterinary education in Canada was maintained on a less ambitious plane for a good many years, until the course at the Ontario Veterinary College was expanded and its graduates were admitted to the doctorate of the University of Toronto.

Hadwen joined the Health of Animals Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture in 1904 and worked for a good many years at Ottawa, and also in British Columbia, on a variety of animal health problems important in Canada; for the latter part of that period he held the post of chief pathologist in that Department. In 1920 he left the Department as he felt that the research branch was not developing in the way he considered it should, and joined the United States Bureau of Biological Survey as chief veterinarian and parasitologist, Reindeer Investigation, in Alaska. From 1923 until 1929 he held the post of research professor of animal diseases in the University of Saskatchewan, and in 1929 became director of the Department of Veterinary Science, Ontario Research Foundation, from which he retired in 1942.

Hadwen was an outstanding man with a great deal of the pioneer in his character. He could study minutiae and did so constantly; but it was the wide range of biology that attracted him, the play of the environmental factors, and the struggle of animal life to maintain existence. Most of his personal work centred around parasitology, but many other subjects claimed his attention.