

friend of many of them up to the time of his death. His unassuming kindness and interest in those he came in contact with made him a general favourite socially, and he was a very fresh and companionable friend. He entered with zest into the work and interests of those whom he knew and would take endless trouble to help where his services could be brought usefully to bear. S. R. CHRISTOPHERS

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### Prof. C. Perrier

NEWS has been received of the death of Prof. Carlo Perrier, professor of mineralogy in the University of Genoa, Italy. Prof. Perrier was born on July 7, 1886, in Turin. He studied in that city and obtained his doctorate in chemistry at the University of Turin. Shortly thereafter he worked for some time in the laboratory of Baur in Zurich on physical chemical problems. On his return to Italy his interest turned

to mineralogy, and he joined the school of F. Zambonini.

In 1926 he became professor of mineralogy in the University of Messina, and later he moved to Palermo and finally to Genoa. His work was mostly on crystallochemistry, and he brought to it a remarkable analytical skill and a deep knowledge of crystallography.

Perrier had a wide range of interests and a versatile mind, and when the occasion arose, he was quick to apply his various skills to new problems. Noteworthy among these were the study of technetium carried out by radioactive methods in Palermo in 1936-37 and the investigation by radioactive tracers of some biological and chemical problems. His merits were recognized by membership of several Italian learned societies, including the Academy of the Lincei.

He was a loyal friend and a good teacher, and his untimely death will be deeply regretted by everyone interested in the future of science in Italy.

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## NEWS and VIEWS

### St. Anthony's College, Oxford

AN anonymous Frenchman has given £1,250,000 to the University of Oxford for the foundation at once of a new residential college, with the ordinary status of an Oxford college. Its name is to be St. Anthony's; and its head is to be called the 'warden'. It will start with seven or eight fellows and about fifty graduate and undergraduate members. It will be governed at first by the warden and fellows in conjunction with a St. Anthony Foundation, called into existence recently to carry out the benefactor's wishes. It will be accommodated in the first large house with grounds that can be secured in the vicinity of the University, so that this generous new venture may become visible in the life-time of its founder. He himself has little connexion with England and none with Oxford. His name, if disclosed, would convey nothing to the academic world; but, like Cecil Rhodes, he has admired Oxford men in positions of responsibility all over the world, and has become convinced that the British system of education has promoted initiative and strengthened the moral qualities of students better than any other. Again, like Rhodes, he is anxious that men from overseas should go to Oxford. He has asked, therefore, that in the new St. Anthony's College a substantial proportion of the places available should be kept for qualified graduates from French universities. To encourage undergraduate members to come from France in far greater numbers in the future than they have done hitherto, he has offered a further £250,000 to be divided among any existing Oxford colleges that propose to build additional sets of rooms for their men, provided that in these new sets one third of the places are kept for Frenchmen.

The new proposal was welcomed in a hastily summoned Congregation at Oxford on September 15. St. Anthony's will have the uphill task of all new educational institutions at the present time; but if it contributes something fresh and vigorous to Oxford academic life, as have all the colleges founded in the past hundred years—the five women's colleges, Keble and Nuffield Colleges and St. Peter's Hall—it will

do good work. It is a mistake to think that Oxford has all the colleges it needs and that benefactors would be wiser in giving their money to the University itself for furthering teaching and research than to the colleges to strengthen their tutorial system and collegiate activities. This is exactly the time when new colleges are wanted and when some of the existing colleges need further endowment if they are to retain to the full the tutorial system that is so excellent a part of Oxford life. Relative to even the richer colleges, the University in its role of promoter of teaching and research is very well off. It has its own endowments. It has a substantial income from the colleges (which contribute anything from a few hundreds to about £30,000 yearly, according to the college's capacity to pay) and a large one from Government through the University Grants Committee. Colleges, on the other hand, get nothing from the central body of the University and nothing directly from any Government source. They have their endowments; but the increases in their incomes from these sources have, in recent years, lagged behind those of their outgoings. It is on the colleges that the main burden of catering for the large increases in the numbers of men and women in recent years has fallen. It is good, therefore, that St. Anthony's College has been founded. It is hoped that its foundation may stimulate other benefactors to help other colleges as they go forward to their post-war tasks.

### Administration and Anthropology

THE Frazer Lecture in Social Anthropology delivered before the University of Liverpool on October 23, 1946, by Dr. E. W. Smith, has now been published under the title "Plans and a People—A Dynamic Science of Men in the Service of Africa" (London: Lutterworth Press, 1948. 3s. 6d. net). Dr. Smith reviews first some developments in anthropology since 1908, stressing particularly that the study of acculturation in Africa is very largely the study of a disintegrating society and that our prime purpose in social anthropology is to study African society for its own sake, to understand how