OBITUARIES

Prof. David Waterston

THE death of Prof. David Waterston on September 4 at the age of seventy-one removed one of the distinguished anatomists of the Edinburgh School and a familiar figure for the past twenty-eight years in the life of the University of St. Andrews. After graduating in arts in the University of Edinburgh he took the M.B., C.M. in 1895, the F.R.C.S. (Ed.) in 1898 and the degree of M.D. with a gold medal for his thesis in 1900.

In anatomy Waterston found his life's work and he became lecturer and chief assistant to Sir William Turner, and was one of the ablest of the many anatomists trained by that great master. In 1909 he was appointed professor of anatomy in King's College, University of London, which post he held until 1914 when he succeeded Prof. Musgrove as the second occupant of the Bute chair of anatomy in the United College of the University of St. Andrews.

He entered with zest into the life of the University, for many years was adviser of medical studies, served the University Court as a representative of the Senatus during 1929–35, and during 1930–40 was the representative of the University on the General Medical Council.

Under his direction the Department of Anatomy in St. Andrews has undergone progressive development, and he had the satisfaction of raising it to a high standard of efficiency.

A man of science, Waterston was precise in expression, critical of statements; his powers of observation were always keen and astute, his eager mind stretching out after more and more facts. Much of his technical skill was directed to making the science of anatomy a living one, and we have testimony to this in his volume "Anatomy in the Living Model". He was joint editor of "The Edinburgh Stereoscopic Atlas of Anatomy", was one of the contributors to Cunningham's "Text-book of Anatomy" and published many papers upon anatomical, embryological and anthropological subjects. He was especially interested in prehistoric man and enriched the museum by the collection he made of his handiwork.

In addition to such specialized study he retained a keen interest in clinical medicine and found scope for his ingenious mind in the problems which presented themselves in the work of the James Mackenzie Institute. After the death of Sir James Mackenzie the Institute found in Waterston a staunch and able leader, while as one of its research workers he conducted experiments on himself in order to elucidate the mechanism of pain—a contribution of the highest value.

To those who were associated with him in his work his distinctive personality and influence were a source of continual interest, encouragement and stimulus, and to junior members of his staff he was invariably courteous and never too busy to listen to their problems and to help them by advice.

He was not only a diligent member of many of the committees which are necessary in a university, but also gave valuable service as a member of the Council of St. Leonards and St. Katherines Schools, and since 1939 he had been a member of the Town Council of St. Andrews.

He enjoyed social occasions and in the pursuit of his favourite recreation golf, he played many keen matches in the Royal and Ancient Competitions. Few knew the anatomy of the golf swing better than he did and to the end his short game lost none of its accuracy.

Many have sorrowfully paid tribute to the memory of one who will be much missed. D. R. DOW.

Prof. P. A. Hillhouse

WHEN one looks back on the career and life of Prof. Hillhouse, formerly professor of naval architecture in the University of Glasgow, who died on September 28, at the age of seventy-three, one cannot but realize that his success was due to the combination of great ability in his chosen profession of naval architecture and his personal charm.

As naval architect to the Fairfield Company he was responsible for the design of many famous vessels, but probably the Canadian Pacific *Empress* liners will be for a long time remembered as representing his most notable achievements. To appreciate fully his gifts as a designer one had to work with him. Always ready to investigate the most exacting conditions set down by the shipowners, he was never led into adopting a doubtful policy; no one could have carried out all the preliminary design work with greater care, and one always felt that, once his decision was made, it was the best possible.

The inevitable discussions that sometimes occur between owners and builders found him quite unperturbed, and his calmness and cheerful good humour never deserted him. He was rightly considered an authority on the launching of ships, but, as in all else, he did not think himself to have better ideas than others.

On the powering of ships he had no superior, and he had a remarkable gift for making the fullest practical use of the published work of those engaged in model experiment tanks. In fact, he had no equal in mastering quickly the essential points of any available information.

As professor of naval architecture in the University of Glasgow, a position he held for twenty-one years, Prof. Hillhouse's lectures covered a very wide range. Some of his less competent students may possibly have found it difficult to keep pace with him, but his kind and understanding nature made him tolerant, and he was regarded with affection by all who passed through his classes.

Prof. Hillhouse would have made a first-class consultant, had he chosen to set up in practice. The legal cases in which he figured as technical adviser were brilliantly conducted, as he possessed the clear vision so necessary in this particular class of work.

To those of us who were fortunate enough to know Prof. Hillhouse and his work, his death came as a severe blow, but no one of us can fail to have profited by knowing him and his methods.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Flight-Lieut. A. N. David, of the Indian Forest Service, on October 16, aged fifty-three (on active service).

Prof. Alfred Hettner, formerly professor of geography in the University of Heidelberg.

Prof. G. H. Ling, formerly professor of mathematics in the University of Saskatchewan, aged sixty-eight.

Prof. K. N. Moss, O.B.E., professor of coal and metal mining in the University of Birmingham, on October 20, aged fifty-one.