

they had been freely communicated in talk, it is forgotten that they originated with Newton. Newton came back to the laboratory in 1927, and resumed his work on tetraploid hybrids, among them *Digitalis ambigua* × *purpurea* (produced by B. H. Buxton) and *Primula kewensis*. Around the latter hybrid many misconceptions had arisen, which by the perfection of his technique he succeeded in removing, finally reconciling its peculiar cytological and genetical behaviour.

Newton had not finished with *Tulipa*, a genus abounding with problems, providing the sort of material most apt for his thesis, that cytological relationships provide the real key to systematics. But the study of tulips has lost within a short space both Dykes, who had given years to the collection and morphological examination of the species, and now Newton, who was seeing his way to bring order out of the confusion. He was also occupied with colour inheritance in poppies and an interesting sex problem in *Silene*, until in the late autumn the recurrence of his malady laid him aside. But he never lost either his interest or his courage, and within a few days of his death, in a state of pitiful weakness, he would still discuss his problems and suggest the lines on which further work was needed.

Such was the man, a true *passionné* (pour faire quelque chose de grand il faut être passionné), soft-voiced and gentle, almost austere in manner until his humour broke out, but rigorous for himself and carrying his high laboratory standards into the other walks of life and learning. Death has dealt hardly with the men whom Bateson gathered round him at one time or another, and Newton bade fair to carry on in a quite different fashion that inspiration and stimulus which had so characterised his chief.

A. D. H.

#### MR. HENRY EDMUNDS.

HENRY EDMUNDS, who died at Hove on Nov. 18, at the age of seventy-four years, was one of the pioneers of electric lighting. He was born at Halifax in 1853. At the age of twenty-four he introduced electric lighting by Jablochkoff candles into America. He then returned to introduce the Farmer-Wallace system of electric lighting into England. The Brush Electric Lighting Co. appointed him its first engineer, and so early as 1879 he did much to popularise the Brush system of lighting in Great Britain.

In conjunction with Sir Joseph Swan, Edmunds installed incandescent lamps in H.M.S. *Inflexible* and the Atlantic liners *City of Richmond* and *Servia* in 1881, and in 1885 he became a partner in the firm of Messrs. W. T. Glover and Co., of Manchester, the cable manufacturers. He was a personal friend of Mr. T. A. Edison, and brought the first phonograph to England. An account of this invention was published in the *Times* in January 1887. He was also associated with the late Mr. Augustus Stroh in the manufacture of phonographs. Amongst electrical engineers, however, he is best known by his connexion with the

cable manufacturing industry. He founded the Cable Manufacturers' Association, which is an early and successful example of co-operative working.

Edmunds was also one of the earliest of the pioneers of cycling and motoring in England. In 1898 he brought from Paris a De Dion motor tricycle and trailer, which at the time excited great public interest. It is also interesting to recall that he introduced Mr. C. S. Rolls to Mr. Royce, a meeting which led to the formation of the Rolls Royce Company. He had a very interesting personality and will be missed by many friends.

HERR JULIUS BAUMANN, deputy-director of the Verein für chemische und metallurgische Produktion in Aussig-Karlsbad and extra-ordinary professor of technical chemistry at the University of Innsbruck, died on Aug. 17. Born in Hungary in 1859, Baumann studied for a time at Prague, but soon relinquished the idea of an academic career and devoted his energies to chemical industry, in which he became recognised as one of the leading personalities in Austria.

PROF. PAUL GROTH, of the University of Munich, the well-known crystallographer and author of "Die physikalische Krystallographie," died recently at the age of eighty-five years. His discovery in 1870 of morphotropy, or change in crystalline form due to the replacement of hydrogen by other atoms or groups, was largely responsible for stimulating investigations into the structure of atoms.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Surgeon Rear-Admiral Sir Percy Bassett-Smith, K.C.B., C.M.G., a past president of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, on Dec. 29, aged sixty-six years.

Mr. R. B. Buckley, C.S.I., formerly chief engineer to the Government of Bengal and author of "Irrigation in India," on Dec. 19, aged eighty years.

Mr. W. H. Dines, F.R.S., distinguished for his work on the physics of the upper air, on Dec. 24, aged seventy-two years.

Mr. S. W. Fairchild, of the firm of Fairchild Brothers and Foster, manufacturing pharmaceutical chemists, who founded the Fairchild scholarships and prizes for pharmaceutical students in Great Britain and Ireland and in the United States, on Nov. 13, aged seventy-five years.

Prof. Georg Fendler, until recently chemical director of the new research institute for foodstuffs in Berlin, on Sept. 11, aged fifty-four years.

Mr. H. A. Grueber, late keeper of the Department of Coins and Medals at the British Museum and for many years honorary secretary of the Royal Numismatic Society, on Nov. 21, aged eighty-one years.

Mr. J. B. Hill, until 1922 geological adviser to the Ministry of Health and formerly of the Geological Survey of Great Britain, on Dec. 18, aged sixty-five years.

Dr. William R. Orndorff, professor of organic and physiological chemistry at Cornell University, on Nov. 1, aged sixty-five years.

Prof. Hugo Strache, director of the Institute for fuel technology at the Technische Hochschule in Vienna and a leading authority on gaseous fuels, on Nov. 4, aged sixty-two years.