

discovered straits are probably seldom if ever clear of ice : in fact, they are probably filled with shelf or barrier ice rather than sea-ice.

Unfortunately, Sir Hubert Wilkins could not land, as his machine had wheels and he saw only snow surfaces fit for ski. But the discoveries show the way for future work, which it is to be hoped

may be done at least in part by Sir Hubert himself during the present season. A flight from Deception Island to Com. Byrd's base at the Bay of Whales in the Ross Sea could not fail to have interesting results, but it would be a long flight and a far more hazardous than the one already accomplished.

R. N. R. B.

Obituary.

DR. C. R. YOUNG, O.B.E.

CHARLES ROBERT YOUNG was born at Nottingham on Mar. 4, 1880, and was the son of Robert Young, a bank-actuary of that city. He received his early education at the Nottingham High School, and from there went to the Royal College of Science, where he remained from 1899 until 1901. He obtained the B.Sc. degree of the University of London and was then appointed lecture-assistant to Prof. Purdie of St. Andrews, a position which he held until 1903.

In 1903, Young was appointed research assistant to Prof. Purdie and lecturer in the University and, until 1907, was engaged in carrying out some important researches with Prof. Purdie. Among these may be noted a paper on the alkylation of rhamnose and one on the optically active forms of alkyl oxysuccinic acid, two important applications of the reaction for the alkylation of hydroxy compounds introduced by Purdie which has proved so fruitful in elucidating the constitution of the sugars. He was awarded the D.Sc. degree of the University of St. Andrews on the results of his research work. From 1907 until 1915 he held the post of lecturer in chemistry at the University of Sheffield, and here, although his duties prevented him from continuing his research work, he proved himself to be an able and effective teacher.

When the late Dr. A. W. Crossley, early in 1916, resigned the secretaryship of the Chemical Warfare Committee in order to take over the control of the then newly established experimental station at Porton, he was moved to recommend Young for the post, for Crossley was a great judge of men, and had recognised Young's special qualifications while acting as external examiner at St. Andrews and Sheffield. From this date until the end of the War, Young fully justified Crossley's choice and carried out the duties of his difficult office with that tact, discretion, and thoroughness which characterised all his work. He endeared himself to all members of the Committee by his willingness to serve and by his innate modesty and unflinching courtesy. When in 1919 there arose the question of the appointment of a technical officer for the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, the three members of the Committee, who were also members of the Advisory Council of the Department, were unanimous in recommending Young for the new post.

Young served the Department for nearly ten years, and was, at the time of his death, secretary of the Scientific Grants Committee. All those who came in contact with him, both in his official and

personal capacities, recognised his true worth. He had a kindly, rather shy, temperament and a very lovable disposition. Self-effacing and modest, he nevertheless held his views strongly and was quick to express them with force when occasion required. He was created an Officer of the British Empire for his War services. He died on Dec. 26 last, after a brief illness, and leaves a widow and two daughters.

J. F. T.

WE regret to record the death of Dr. Dawson F. D. Turner at the age of seventy-one years. He was one of the few medical men who took up the study of X-rays in medical work in the real pioneer days. Unfortunately, he suffered from the rays when their dangerous character was scarcely known, but this did not prevent many years of excellent work on his part. He was head of the X-ray department in the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary for nearly twenty-five years, and during this time contributed original papers on the subject of X-rays and medical electricity. His book on the therapeutics of radium was one of the first, if not the first, published in Great Britain. He was a vice-president of the Röntgen Society, and at one time president of the Royal Scottish Society of Arts.

WE regret to announce the following deaths :

Prof. John M. Coulter, professor of botany in the University of Chicago from 1896 until 1925 and a foreign member of the Linnean Society of London, who has been editor of the *Botanical Gazette* since 1875, on Dec. 23, aged seventy-seven years.

Mr. J. S. Diller, who served with the U.S. Geological Survey for forty-one years and was well known for his studies of the geology of the Pacific Coast, on Nov. 13, aged seventy years.

Dr. Alois Kreidl, professor of physiology in the University of Vienna, on Dec. 6, aged sixty-four years.

Prof. F. P. Leavenworth, emeritus professor of astronomy in the University of Minnesota, known for his work in astronomical photography, on Nov. 12, aged seventy years.

Sir Charles Macara, Bart., founder of the International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' and Manufacturers' Associations and widely known in industrial circles, on Jan. 2, aged eighty-three years.

Prof. E. H. L. Schwarz, professor of geology in Rhodes University College, Grahamstown, South Africa, on Dec. 19, aged forty-five years.

Sir Henry Trueman Wood, secretary from 1879 until 1917 of the Royal Society of Arts, on Jan. 7, aged eighty-three years.

Prof. Alexander Ziwet, professor of mathematics at the University of Michigan since 1888, and an associate editor of the *Bulletin of the Mathematical Society*, on Nov. 18, aged seventy-five years.