

Correns was born in Munich on September 19, 1864, his father being a painter and a member of the Bavarian Academy of Art. In 1892 he went to Tübingen and in 1899 was made an extraordinary professor in that University. He went from there to Leipzig in 1902, and in 1909 became professor of botany at Münster in Westphalia. It was there that I first met him, in 1910. An animated discussion with him in the streets of Münster, surrounded by curious onlookers, made one feel rather like one of the disputants in a university town in the Middle Ages. With his bright red hair, thick glasses and large hands with extremely long nails trimmed to a point, he was a man of extraordinary appearance in his younger days. When the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Biological Research was founded at Berlin in 1914 he was called to be its first director and was also made an honorary professor in the University of Berlin. His connexion with this research institute was maintained to the end, its extensive garden, greenhouses and laboratories being the scene of all his later work. An early work, published in 1899, had to do with vegetative multiplication in the mosses, but nearly all his later investigations had some bearing on genetics.

In 1924, on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday,

Correns's collected works on plant genetics, numbering sixty papers, were published in a volume of some 1,300 pages. He married a niece of Nägeli and published (1905) Mendel's letters to Nägeli, in which an unsuccessful attempt was made by Mendel to interest Nägeli in his views regarding the phenomena of heredity. They were republished as an appendix to the volume of collected works.

Correns may be said to occupy a somewhat similar place in modern plant genetics to that of Kölreuter in the eighteenth century. His results were always clearly and methodically presented. He held several honorary degrees, was a member of the Prussian Academy of Sciences, and in 1931 was elected a foreign member of the Linnean Society of London.

R. RUGGLES GATES.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Prof. C. W. Cook, professor of economic geology in the University of Michigan, known for his work on oil geology, on February 17, aged fifty years.

Prof. Erik G. Odelstierna, professor of the metallurgy of iron in the Technical High School, Stockholm, from 1904 until 1918, aged seventy-nine years.

News and Views

Education and Economic Recovery

In his chancellor's address to the University of New Zealand, Dr. J. Macmillan Brown emphasised the contribution of education to recovery from the periodic economic and financial depressions in the assistance it gives to the growing mind to understand the methods and efforts of the past. Youth must be trained to know the data of the situation before it is stirred to investigate and learn the full terms of the problem before attempting its solution. Accordingly, education, and especially advanced education, should be the last element in a civilised community to be submitted to the axe of economy in meeting the want and suffering associated with a depression, and the pruning of educational resources in New Zealand and elsewhere is a definite setback to recovery. The two essentials in the recovery of a community from depression are the broadening and deepening of the intelligence of the mass so as to enable them to learn the lesson of thrift and foresight, and highly developed leaders capable of seeing far into the darkness of the future and leading their fellows to the highest practical goal. The selection and training of the intellectual leaders is the more important for advance in research, and a large proportion of exceptional material is left undeveloped in the absence of scholarships to select and carry it through its course.

It is the true function of a university, Dr. Macmillan Brown said, to select the research workers and leaders of thought who will save mankind from

these recurrent dilemmas. Universities and institutions which prepare for them are the main means by which the methods of one generation are stored up and improved for the benefit of subsequent generations. Dr. Macmillan Brown pointed out that more and more widely is it being realised that self-isolation of the individual, the caste, the community, and the nation is suicidal and destructive of progress, and he urged that the transmission of advance from one community and one generation to others can only be effective, beyond such institutions as the British Commonwealth of Nations and the League of Nations, if there is fellowship and effective international co-operation between the universities. With the universities and their graduates forming the constituencies in every nation and community, mankind might make some approach to a world parliament or at least to a conference which would be competent to indicate sanely the conditions that should belong to a federation of the world. Dr. Macmillan Brown concluded his plea for the place of a trained intelligence in the direction of the affairs of mankind by pointing out that university education must be built on broader foundations than narrow specialisation and be capable of selecting the wisest, most developed minds and characters the community can produce.

Roman Richborough

AFTER eleven years excavation on the site of Roman Richborough, it is at last possible, according to the account of the most recent discovered given by