

Bristol laboratory, has had important consequences in the study of modern physics. He was awarded the honorary degree of D.Sc. by the University of Bristol in 1911, and was elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1920.

DR. T. G. PINCHES

WE regret to record the death of Dr. Theophilus Goldridge Pinches, the distinguished Assyriologist, which took place at the age of seventy-eight years, at Muswell Hill, London, on June 6. Dr. Pinches originally was engaged in his father's business as a die-sinker; but, taking up the study of cuneiform inscriptions, he joined the staff of the British Museum in 1878, retaining that position until 1900, when he retired on pension. He was lecturer in Assyriology at University College, London, and in the University of Liverpool, resigning the latter post, owing to ill-health, only a year or two before his death.

At the British Museum Dr. Pinches' work was especially noted for the beauty of his copies of cuneiform texts. He was responsible for the text of parts of vol. 5 of the "Cuneiform Texts from Babylonian Tablets" and "Cuneiform Inscriptions of Western Asia" published by the Museum; and he compiled a guide to the Nimroud Saloon. For many years, Pinches was one of the foremost workers among the group which included Sayce, Thureau-Dangin and Bertin. He was recognised as an expert in the Assyro-Babylonian and Sumerian languages and had studied Hebrew, Aramaic, Ethiopic and Arabic. He was especially

active in connexion with the work of the Society of Biblical Archæology, the periodical publication of which contains a large number of contributions from him. He was also its editor. For some time he was a member of council of the Royal Asiatic Society.

A very long list of books, monographs and papers on Assyriology stands to Dr. Pinches' credit. He edited and translated the Amherst tablets (1908), the Berens Collection (1915), and the texts belonging to Sir Henry Peek (1888). He also contributed translations to "Records of the Past" (second series). One of his most interesting discoveries was the bilingual story of the Creation which was published in "The Old Testament in the Light of the Historical Records of Babylonia and Assyria" (1908). Among his works of a more popular character may be mentioned "Religion of Babylonia and Assyria" (1906).

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Mme. Curie, professor of general physics in the Faculty of Sciences at the Sorbonne and director of the Laboratoire Curie at the Institut du Radium, Paris, known for her work with her husband, Pierre Curie, leading to the discovery of radium, and for subsequent researches on radioactivity, on July 4, aged 66 years.

Sir James Fowler, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., consulting physician to the Middlesex Hospital, formerly dean of the Faculty of Medicine, University of London, on July 3, aged 82 years.

News and Views

Honorary Members of the Royal Society of Edinburgh

ON July 2, the following were elected honorary fellows of the Royal Society of Edinburgh to commemorate the completion of its 150th year: *Foreign*, Björn Helland-Hansen, Geophysical Institute, Bergen; Prof. Bernardo Houssay, professor of physiology, National University of Buenos Aires; Prof. Frank R. Lillie, professor of zoology and embryology, University of Chicago; Prof. T. H. Morgan, professor of biology, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena; Prof. Paul Sabatier, professor of chemistry, University of Toulouse; Dr. Theobald Smith, formerly director of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, Princeton, New Jersey. *British*, Prof. H. E. Armstrong, emeritus professor of chemistry, Imperial College of Science and Technology, City and Guilds (Engineering) College, London; Prof. J. S. Haldane, director of the Mining Research Laboratory, and honorary professor, University of Birmingham; Prof. Karl Pearson, emeritus Galton professor of eugenics, University of London; Prof. E. B. Poulton, lately Hope professor of zoology, University of Oxford; Sir G. Elliot Smith, professor of anatomy, University College, London; Prof. W. W. Watts, emeritus professor of geology, Imperial College of Science and Technology, London.

Dr. Robert J. D. Graham

THE newly elected professor of botany in the University of St. Andrews, Dr. Robert J. D. Graham, is a native of Perth. He was a student in the University of St. Andrews at University College, Dundee, and at the United College. He graduated at St. Andrews in arts and science and held at the University a Carnegie research scholarship in botany. He spent eleven years in the Indian Agricultural Service, where he did important administrative work as economic botanist to the Government of the Central Provinces in organising botanical study, plant-breeding, etc., in these Provinces. He was granted the degree of D.Sc. by the University of St. Andrews for a thesis on "The Economic and Systematic Botany of the Central Provinces, India". During the War he served in Mesopotamia and was released from military service in 1920 with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. When, in the following year, he retired from the Indian Service, he was appointed to a post in the Botany Department of the University of Edinburgh and he has been attached to that Department until now under the late Sir Isaac Bayley Balfour and Sir William Wright Smith. He has had an extensive and varied experience in the teaching of students of botany. A long series of