was scarce, it has spread like a devouring plague. In a letter to me a few years ago, after referring to the devastation of the rare native vegetation of the Kermadec Islands by goats which had recently been liberated there, he wrote:

"Reverting to goats where the blackberry is worst the cocksfoot grass holds best, its crown just sufficiently protected from the nibbling sheep—we have therefore the curious paradox of the more blackberry the better sward!"

Guthrie-Smith refers to the great increase of sparrows, starlings, blackbirds and thrushes, which all help to spread the blackberry, but points out that the goat, which certainly helps to keep it down, unfortunately eats everything else that comes in its way.

Guthrie-Smith had an intimate knowledge of the native New Zealand flora and of the introduced and naturalized plants, and his knowledge of the fauna was equally extensive, as readers of "Tutira" will well remember. His last book, "Sorrows and Joys of a New Zealand Naturalist" (1937), records his wanderings over many parts of the mainland and to the uninhabited islands, both to the north and south, to watch and study the birds. This, like "Tutira", is written in a very pleasant literary style, illuminated by the humour and imagination which made him so delightful a companion.

His earlier book on New Zealand birds, "Bird Life on Island and Shore" (1926), equally pleasantly written, contains vivid descriptions of species new to European readers. Other books were "Crispus a Drama" and "Mutton Birds and Other Birds".

Guthrie-Smith was born at Helensburgh in 1861, and was the son of Mr. John Guthrie-Smith of Mugdock Castle, Stirlingshire. Very soon after he left Rugby School, he went to New Zealand, where he acquired Tutira, some 20,000 acres, and made it his home. His carefully recorded observations of the changes which have taken place due to human interference, are of the greatest value, and he will be remembered with gratitude by scientific workers and naturalists both now and in years to come.

ARTHUR W. HILL.

Dr. Phyllis M. Tookey Kerridge

By the death, after a short illness, of Dr. Phyllis Margaret Tookey Kerridge, on June 22, the subject of physiology loses one of its ablest women workers, and several circles mourn a valued friend and colleague. The only daughter of Mr. William Alfred Tookey, of Bromley, Kent, she was educated at the City of London School for Girls, and at University College, London. Most of her post-graduate years were spent at the latter institution, first in the Department of Chemistry, in which subject she had taken an honours degree in 1922, and afterwards in the Department of Physiology, in which she was a lecturer at the time of her death. She also worked for various periods of time at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, the Marine Biological Association Laboratory at Plymouth, the Carlsberg

Laboratories at Copenhagen, and the Medical Unit of the London Hospital. While acting as a lecturer in the Department of Physiology at University College she studied medicine at University College Hospital, qualifying in 1933, and obtained the M.R.C.P. in 1937.

Dr. Kerridge contributed to the advance of science in several directions, covering a wide field. Her earliest work was in physical chemistry, from which she passed to the applications of that subject to problems of biology, her most distinguished work in that direction being the introduction and perfection of the glass electrode for the measurement of hydrogen ion concentrations of body fluids and tissues. This work won her an international reputation. After qualification in medicine she turned to the applications of physics, chemistry and physiology to practical requirements of medicine, and here again she distinguished herself, first in connexion with the perfection and investigation of the mode of action of the Bragg-Paul pulsator for the performance of artificial respiration, and secondly, in the many problems connected with the use of hearing aids for the deaf, and the study of the incidence of deafness in children. In this work her human sympathies found expression and her love of music gave it interest and value. For none of this clinical work, so greatly appreciated by the large number of deaf people whom she served so gladly, would she ever take a fee of any kind. The work was afterwards extended to embrace the study of speech in deaf-mutes, and had already achieved notable results. She also carried out, in collaboration with various colleagues, a number of researches of more academic interest—on buffering in tissues, on the conditions for albuminuria, and in several other directions.

All her investigations illustrated her wide acquaintance with methods, and a sure grasp of the experimental approach to a problem. As a teacher also, Dr. Kerridge will long be remembered by the many students who profited by contact with her fine and stimulating personality. Often she would encourage them to participate in her investigations, and to go round with her during their vacations on visits to Special Areas and slums in search for factors in the etiology of deafness in school-children.

Immediately on the outbreak of war, Dr. Kerridge joined the staff of an Emergency Service Hospital, where she and her colleagues fitted up an improvised laboratory for use in pathological and blood transfusion work. While this was in progress, and in the subsequent weeks and months, her cheerful personality and zeal did much to encourage all with whom she came into contact.

Dr. Kerridge was a keen musician, and a lover of the country and all that it brings to make life worthwhile, a capable botanist and ornithologist, and always a most cheerful, loyal and helpful colleague. The passing of so gallant a spirit will leave a gap in many places, and if the world of science is the poorer for her loss, it is the richer for the achievements she leaves behind after a relatively short, but very full, life. She was thirty-eight years of age.

C. LOVATT EVANS.