Skeeping—and "Lamb" by H. Wilson Parker. The horses are not good; one, at least, has the shoulder muscles at fault, and another drags its off hind leg in a painful manner. Neither of the tortoises is particularly successful. The other pieces are competent rather than inspired.

Geologists and mineralogists have very little to claim as their own particular interest, but they share the magnificent painting of the jewellery in Gerald Kelly's charming portrait of Her Majesty the Queen. Precious stones are notoriously difficult to paint; Mr. Kelly has triumphed with a marked economy of pigment and a brilliant sureness of touch.

The mathematician will interest himself mainly in the laws of perspective and their application, and even though there is no solution in paint of a complicated mathematical problem to compare with Mantegna's famous "Dead Christ" or the pulsating rhythm of Uccello's "Rout of San Romano" for him to admire, he would be well advised to examine carefully "Sir Charles Grant Robertson, C.V.O.", by Meredith Frampton, A.R.A., and "Coupons Required", by Leonora K. Green.

As regards physics and chemistry, what is there which concerns them? In a sense the whole exhibition is their oyster. The chemist has a father's interest in the pigments, in their behaviour in mixture, as well as in their use or misuse, while problems of light and shade are for the physicist, who may perhaps one day see a "Portrait of a Sound", even as there has already been a "Photograph of a Smell" (Royal Photographic Society Exhibition, 1938).

Taken as a whole, the exhibits in the South Rooms are not so good as in former years, but there is a very interesting sheet of pencil studies of old agricultural implements—"Details from a Devon Farm", by Russell Flint, R.A. Not only are the drawings pleasing but they are also of historical interest, for they represent a dying phase of agriculture.

At least one man of science always takes a deep breath before venturing into the Architectural Room, for he finds the angularity of "Modern" designs uncomfortable and their curves repellent or even obscene. This year he sighed with relief to find that our English genius has once more triumphed over the upstart invader and that the native tradition still flourishes.

Many words and very little sense have been spent in discussions on modern architecture. Some of its features are admirable; such, for example, are the elimination of waste space and the planning of the fire-places so that the flues run up inside the building instead of dissipating their heat through outside walls. White houses in England there always have been, and coloured roofs as well; the change is in the substitution of more permanent materials for whitewash and in the addition of deep blue and green glazed tiles to the traditional unglazed red.

One's quarrel is with none of these things, but with the perverse body which insists on being revolutionary. The fact that steel and concrete can be made to assume certain forms does not mean that it is desirable that it should be made to assume those forms. That light and fresh air are essential to health is no excuse for designing windows so large that the illuminated rooms are impossible to keep warm during cold weather. As for severity of line and beauty of well-proportioned masses, a boot-box can be severe and well proportioned, but what is suitable for a boot-box is not necessarily suitable for a dwelling-house. There are three parties interested in houses: the housewife, who requires ease of working, the householder, who requires comfort as well as value for money paid, and the community, which has the right to demand that a building shall consort amicably with its surroundings. Unless the architect can satisfy all three he has failed. It is much to their credit that the architectural exhibits in the Academy this year make an honest attempt to fulfil these conditions; and even if there are still such curiosities as windows in which the length of the pane is horizontal instead of upright, the vulgarity of the extreme modern school—vulgar just because it is extreme—is nowhere to be seen.

OBITUARIES

Dr. G. W. C. Kaye, O.B.E., F.R.S.

DR. GEORGE WILLIAM CLARKSON KAYE, superintendent of the Physics Department, National Physical Laboratory, passed away on April 16 after a long illness. His name became familiar to students of science thirty years ago as the co-author of "Tables of Physical and Chemical Constants", which have now reached their eighth edition. He was born in 1880 and studied physics at the Imperial College of Science, then the Royal College of Science, and later at Trinity College, Cambridge. For Cambridge he retained a warm affection throughout his life, and he was at his best when showing a friend round the colleges and the Cavendish Laboratory. For a time he assisted Sir J. J. Thomson in his research work.

Kaye joined the staff of the National Physical Laboratory in 1910, and at first worked in the Metro-

logy Department on the production of a silica standard of length. In 1912 he was transferred to the Physics Department to take charge of the thermometer testing work, then taken over from Kew Observatory, and of radium measurements.

As a captain in the London Electrical Engineers R.E.(T.), he was called to the colours in August 1914 and for a time served at a Thames Estuary Station on searchlight work. Later he transferred to the Aeronautical Inspection Directorate of the Air Ministry, in which organization he rose ultimately to the position of chief inspector of materials, with the rank of major. It was in this position that he applied X-rays to the examination of various types of timber splices. The A.I.D. gave him much experience in the handling of men of many types and of committee work, which appealed especially to him. On his return to the National Physical Laboratory, he took charge of the Physics Department and was appointed superintendent in 1922. He was primarily interested in the administrative side of the work and for more than twenty years he was chairman of the Library Committee of the Laboratory.

Kaye was especially interested in the British X-ray and Radium Protection Committee, and took an active part in the deliberations of the International X-Ray and Radium Protection Commission of the various Congresses of Radiology. He gave the eighth Caldwell Memorial Lecture before the American Roentgen Ray Society in Montreal in 1927, and his presidential address to the British Institute of Radiology in 1929 was entitled "Radiology, Medieval and Modern". At one time thermal measurements attracted his attention, and a number of papers were published jointly with various colleagues.

It was not, however, until the need arose for the inclusion of the subject of sound in the activities of the National Physical Laboratory that Kaye found scope for his special talents. He took great pride in the design of the new Acoustics Laboratory, and neither time nor money was spared to ensure that Great Britain should be in the forefront as regards equipment for the study of the acoustics of buildings and allied problems. Special attention was devoted to noise measurements, on which subject a number of papers was published. These constituted the basis of his presidential address to Section A of the British Association at the Nottingham meeting in 1937. His election to the presidency of Section A afforded him the deepest satisfaction, and much time was spent in the preparation of his address, which was lavishly illustrated by experiments and with a cinematograph film.

Soon after Kaye became superintendent of the Physical Department of the National Physical Laboratory, it had become apparent that a re-housing of the Department was necessary. He undertook wholeheartedly the task of specifying the requirements of the Department and, in conjunction with the then Office of Works, in preparing the basic plans of the present structure. Many times the schemes were turned down for reasons of economy. This delay did not prevent Kaye from keeping the plans abreast of modern requirements, and features of the building have since been incorporated in other new laboratories built in Great Britain.

Kaye was the recipient of many honours, which included the Mackenzie Davidson Medal of the Royal Society of Medicine and the Silvanus Thompson Medal of the British Institute of Radiology. He was elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1939.

EZER GRIFFITHS.

Prof. Charles Laubry

BY the death of Prof. Charles Laubry of Paris at the age of sixty-eight, the announcement of which rapidly follows that of Prof. Wenckebach's (see NATURE, March 1, 1941, p. 260), though the exact date is unascertainable in present circumstances, medical science has lost another pioneer in modern cardiology, and particularly in the application of radiology to diseases of the heart.

Laubry was a pupil of the late Prof. Vaquez of Paris, whose school exercised a great influence over current cardiological teaching throughout Europe and Latin America, though less in Great Britain and the United States. His literary output was considerable. His principal works in chronological order were: "Leçons de sémiologie cardiovasculaire. Les troubles fonctionnels" (1924), "Traité des maladies congénitales du cœur" in collaboration with Pezzi of Milan (1926), and "Radiologie clinique du cœur et des grands vaisseaux" in collaboration with Cottenot, Routier and Heim de Balsac (1939). He was also editor of the *Archives des maladies du cœur*.

In addition to his cardiological work, he was the author of the section on the symptomatology of diseases of the respiratory system in the third volume of the "Nouveau Traité de Pathologie Interne" (1938).

Like Prof. Wenkebach, Laubry had many friends in Great Britain. He delivered the Saint Cyres Lecture at the National Heart Hospital in 1937, and he was an honorary member of the Cardiac Society. He was elected an honorary foreign fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine in 1939.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Mr. N. C. Brown, known for his work on the distribution and habits of North American birds, on March 20, aged eighty-four.

Sir James Frazer, O.M., F.R.S., the well-known anthropologist and author of the "Golden Bough", and Lady Frazer, on May 7, aged eighty-seven.

Prof. G. L. Gulland, C.M.G., emeritus professor of medicine in the University of Edinburgh, on May 4.

Prof. L. Kahlenberg, formerly professor of chemistry in the University of Wisconsin, on March 19, aged seventy-one.

Prof. Nikolaj Konstantinovic Koltzoff, director of the Moscow Institute of Experimental Biology, aged sixty-nine; in making this announcement in NATURE of April 19, p. 474, Prof. Koltzoff's surname was omitted.

Prof. A. C. Pereira, professor of toxicology in the University of Lisbon, on December 20, aged seventy-three.