

to study blackwater fever and was there for two years. In 1911-12 he was again in Africa, this time on a sleeping sickness commission in Northern Rhodesia; in 1914 he was on a similar commission in West Africa. During 1914-29 he held the chair of parasitology at Liverpool, and he was then appointed to the chair of tropical medicine which he occupied until the time of his death on April 24. In 1925 he was awarded the Chalmers Memorial Gold Medal of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, and in 1932 he was elected a fellow of the Royal Society.

He married in 1916 Elizabeth Annie Greening and they had two children. He is survived by his wife, a son, now unfortunately a prisoner in Japanese hands, and a daughter.
D. B. BLACKLOCK.

PROF. WARRINGTON YORKE knew before the end of last year that he had an inoperable cancer which would be fatal within a few months. Despite this knowledge, he undertook a mission to the United States on behalf of the Medical Research Council and returned with valuable information. Also he undertook to give the Croonian Lecture at the Royal Society on July 15 in the hope that he would live long enough to accomplish it. The title of the Lecture was to be: "Recent Developments in Chemotherapy with Special Reference to Tropical Medicine".

Personally I class his untimely death in the same category as deaths of men 'killed in action', and I recall to myself the brave words written by Robert Louis Stevenson in "An Apology for Idlers"—I believe they were:

"Even if the doctor does not give you a year, even if he hesitates about a month, make one brave push and see what can be accomplished in a week."

S. P. JAMES.

Mr. W. Trevor Watson, K.C.

WILLIAM TREVOR WATSON, who died in his fifty-seventh year on March 24, graduated in the honour school of physics at Oxford in 1909, holding a senior mathematical postmastership at Merton College. In 1911 he was called to the Bar by Gray's Inn, taking a first in the final examinations, and all the prizes that were to be had. He became a pupil and, later, 'devil' of J. Hunter Gray, who at that time was the busiest junior specializing in patent law. During the War of 1914-18 his scientific capabilities were quickly realized and he was transferred from the Worcester Regiment to the R.F.C., where he played a large part in carrying the infant art of wireless telephony to the operational stage between aircraft and ground. A crash suffered in this work undoubtedly had some ill effect upon his health in later life, for he was never physically robust.

On his return to chambers, Watson at once found himself very busy, as he appeared day by day to represent the Treasury in claims before the Royal Commission on Awards to Inventors; in addition, his services were in constant demand in patent litigation in the High Court and in opposition proceedings before the Comptroller of Patents; moreover, he made a reputation as an expert in trade mark and copyright law. He took silk in 1930.

The characteristics which made for his great

success were a clear and exceedingly alert mind, keen judgment of the relevant, the gift of explaining difficult scientific matters to those who knew less than he did, and often nothing, while avoiding an air of pedagogy, together with a dignified courtesy to Court and to opponents. He had also a very retentive and accurate memory and the Court accepted without question any statement of the law which he propounded, knowing that he could give chapter and verse without hesitation.

A brief outline only can be given of the scientific detail Watson had to master in the cases he fought, and even this must be incomplete, since no reference can be made to the many problems brought in consultation to his chambers and solved without recourse to litigation. Most of the important inventions of the last twenty years were brought to him for advice at some stage or other. It must be remembered that the understanding of a particular invention is only a minor part of counsel's scientific equipment; he must appreciate so much of the 'common general knowledge' of those skilled in the particular industry that he can evaluate the inventive step which has been made.

The breadth of his knowledge is, perhaps, exemplified by the many inventions brought to the Royal Commission on Awards to Inventors; for example, various radio problems, aeroplanes, mustard gas manufacture, torpedos, paravanes, machine-gun-propeller synchronizing, bomb sights, mortars, grenades, tanks, gyroscopic controls of various kinds. Of his patent cases, mention may be made of the electric lamp cases, the leading-in wire, the coiled-coil filament and the internally frosted globe patents; of the wireless cases, the grid bias and the pentode patents; of the sound-film cases. In the chemical industry, he was concerned in all the rayon litigation, in the hexyl resorcinol case, in the azo-dyestuff case (which established that there may be invention in 'selecting' from a known group for an exceptionally useful purpose) and in the only biochemical case which has come before the Court, the fermentation process for the manufacture of acetone. He also helped to decide whether calcium carbide is legally a synthetic organic chemical or not. Whatever the scientific subject, experts who were cross-examined by him sighed with relief when the battle of wits was concluded and he sat down.

Watson was also a specialist in trade mark and copyright law and was a member of the commission on the advice of which the present trade mark law is founded—though in several respects he disagreed profoundly with the drafting of the present Act.

He remained at all times modest, a delightful companion and interesting talker on many subjects. All who knew him at all well referred to him affectionately as 'Trevor', so that clients have even been known to think he was Mr. Trevor. In later years he took to golf with that thoroughness and competence which he gave to all he undertook. The War made it necessary for him to leave his country house adjoining the North Foreland links, and lack of exercise, the destruction of his chambers in the Temple and the grievous strain of heavy mental work under war conditions impaired his health to the detriment of his accustomed forensic power. It was a great joy to his many friends that in his last case in the House of Lords he recovered all his brilliance, to which the Lord Chancellor, in giving his judgment delivered after Watson's death, made a generous reference.
G. S. W. MARLOW.