

(*Orbitolina birmanica* Sahni), regarded as of Upper Cretaceous age and found not only in the limestones and mudstones of both defiles of the Irrawaddy, but also in the limestones of the Jade Mines District, which in places are highly crystalline, with rubies and spinels. In consequence wide tracts of Upper Burma, both of sedimentary and volcanic rocks, are now regarded as Cretaceous in age, where rocks of this age were not previously suspected to occur. Clegg gives a full account in his second memoir "The Cretaceous and Associated Rocks of Burma" (*Mem. Geol. Sur. Ind.*, 71, Pt. 1, 1; 1941). As the original inspiration for this work was derived from his study of the Mogok area, it is not surprising that Clegg makes a valiant attempt to show that the ruby-bearing limestones of Mogok are also of Cretaceous age. Unfortunately, in his traverse across Mongmit State in the north to the Mogok area in the south he was frustrated by a "gap of about three miles between the definitely shelly limestone rocks of the Cretaceous series and totally re-crystallised and homogeneous limestones of the Mogok series" (*loc. cit.*, p. 29). The gneissic and schistose rocks of the Mogok area are, however, as highly metamorphosed as those of the Eastern Ghats area of India, or of Ceylon, being uniformly of hypometamorphic grade, including, for example, khondalite (see *Rec. Geol. Sur. Ind.*, 68, 27). I have myself twice visited the Mogok tract, once with Dr. Coggin Brown, and once with Dr. Clegg, and I find it difficult to accept the view that in the main the Mogok tract is not an Archæan outlier of the Indian section of Gondwanaland. The Kamaing granite is, however, definitely intrusive in the Mogok series and may be of the same age as the granitic axis that forms the backbone of the Indo-Malayan Peninsula.

and is known to be post-Triassic in age and perhaps Upper Cretaceous. However, Clegg has disturbed the complacency of Archæan enthusiasts, and should the Mogok gneiss, including the marbles, be eventually proved to be of much younger age, to Clegg will belong the credit of having created the doubt.

Besides being a good geologist and administrator, Clegg was a good athlete. He made many friends; and I personally look back with pleasure on times spent together in camp and at social gatherings, as well as to the splendid service he gave in all tasks both executive and administrative with which he was entrusted.

In 1926 Clegg married Helen Goode, a botany graduate of Manchester, and he leaves two sons.

For some of the facts of this note I am indebted to an excellent obituary notice in the October 1944 number of *Science and Culture*, by Dr. H. Crookshank, who has succeeded Clegg as director of the Geological Survey of India.

L. L. FERMOR.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Dr. Guy D. Bengough, F.R.S., consultant to the Chemical Research Laboratory of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, on January 20, aged sixty-eight.

Sir Buckston Browne, honorary fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, a generous benefactor of the British Association, on January 19, aged ninety-four.

Sir Henry Gauvain, past president of the Sections of Electrotherapeutics and of the Diseases of Children of the Royal Society of Medicine, an authority on tuberculosis, on January 19, aged sixty-six.

## NEWS and VIEWS

### Prof. G. M. Bennett: Government Chemist

PROF. GEORGE MACDONALD BENNETT has been appointed to succeed the late Sir John Fox as Government Chemist. His appointment recalls those of two previous Government Chemists, Sir Edward Thorpe and Sir James Dobbie, each of whom was professor of chemistry before becoming Government Chemist.

Prof. Bennett received his earlier education at the East London (now, Queen Mary) College and proceeded to St. John's College, Cambridge, of which he later became a fellow after taking first classes in Parts I and II of the Natural Sciences Tripos. In 1917 he began original investigations in physical chemistry and on chemical problems of national importance at the time. After leaving Cambridge he was appointed successively demonstrator in chemistry at Guy's Hospital Medical School, lecturer in chemistry in the University of Sheffield and Firth professor of chemistry there in 1931. He was appointed to his present professorship in chemistry in the University of London at King's College in 1938. Prof. Bennett is also honorary secretary of the Chemical Society—an arduous office which brings the holder into contact with chemists generally and with chemical and organization problems of diverse types.

Prof. Bennett's record as an investigator is outstanding. He has made major contributions particularly to organic chemistry and to the stereo-

chemistry of sulphur compounds. He is a crystallographer, and his application of this science in his stereochemical investigations has been of great importance. As a physical chemist he has contributed to our knowledge of surface energy, valency angles and the mechanism of the formation of heterocyclic ring systems. It can be confidently predicted that Prof. Bennett's tenure of the unique office of Government Chemist will be distinguished from all points of view; he has a ripe experience not only of many branches of his subject but also a wide knowledge of men and affairs.

### Chair of Chemical Pathology, University College Hospital Medical School: Prof. C. Rimington

DR. RIMINGTON, former scholar of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, has been appointed to the chair of chemical pathology at University College Hospital Medical School. After a distinguished career in Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins' laboratory at Cambridge, he organized the Biochemical Research Department of the Wool Industries Research Association at Leeds, and then for six years held a senior research fellowship of the Empire Marketing Board at the Onderstepoort Veterinary Research Laboratory in South Africa. In 1927 he was appointed to the staff of the National Institute for Medical Research, Hampstead.

Dr. Rimington's work has covered many fields of biochemistry, proteins, plant poisons and porphyrins,