

the Geological Society of London, being the first woman to receive any such recognition from this Society. At that time women were not even allowed to attend meetings of the Society, and Prof. Bonney received the award on her behalf. When in 1919 women were admitted as candidates for fellowship of the Geological Society, Dr. Raisin was elected a fellow.

Dr. Raisin will be remembered by her students, not only as a stimulating and enthusiastic teacher, who worked ungrudgingly to promote their interests, but also as a generous, brave and sympathetic woman whom they loved.

DORIS L. REYNOLDS.

#### Prof. H. E. Annett, M.B.E.

THE death occurred on April 11, 1945, of Henry Edward Annett, at the age of seventy-four years. Dr. Annett's scientific career was varied and his interests ranged over several fields—tropical diseases, bacteriology and pathology among them.

As an undergraduate at the University of Liverpool, Dr. Annett studied physics under Sir Oliver Lodge, but later, in spite of Lodge's persuasions to continue his work as a physicist, he decided to study medicine. After graduating in medicine, he was elected to an 1851 Exhibition and carried out research on tuberculosis under Robert Koch in Berlin. He was a member of the first malaria expedition sent to West Africa by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine in 1891, and during the following year he himself directed a similar expedition. In 1905 he led the Animal Disease Expedition to Uruguay, and in 1906 the Colonial Office Expedition to the West Indies. He was later appointed to the chair of comparative pathology at the University of Liverpool, an appointment which he held until 1911.

Dr. Annett then devoted himself to research in bacteriology, a field in which he became widely known, and for some years was director of the Bacteriological Research Department of Messrs. Evans, Lescher and Webb, in Runcorn. While there, he discovered the 'Liverpool' virus used for killing rats and mice. During the War of 1914–18 he was asked to study the effect on child health of milk preservation by the use of formaldehyde and the conclusions he reached, which were embodied in a Select Committee report, led to a legal ban on formal preservation. For this service he was awarded the M.B.E. The later years of his life were devoted exclusively to researches on cancer and allied problems, and he was occupied with this work up to the time of his death.

Dr. Annett's health had been declining for some years, and his unflinching kindness and encouragement, graced with a rare sense of humour, will be missed by those younger research workers who had the good fortune to come into contact with him.

SARAH BARNES.

#### Dr. W. Knoche

DR. WALTER KNOCHE, a well-known investigator on climatology, atmospheric electricity, geography and ethnology, died on July 3 at Buenos Aires. He was climatologist to the Servicio Meteorológico Nacional of the Argentine Republic, as a successor to the late Robert Mossman.

Knoche was born in Berlin on March 7, 1881, his mother being a sister of Paul Ehrlich, one of the

pioneers of modern chemical therapeutics. Through his uncle's example, Knoche received a powerful stimulus towards medical and physiological problems, and indeed a great number of his climatological investigations were devoted to the relations between climate and man, animals and plants. He studied at Geneva and Berlin, as a pupil of von Richthofen in geography and von Bezold in meteorology. After a short scientific expedition to Bolivia, where he made an extensive series of valuable meteorological observations at the height of 5,200 metres, he became in 1910 the chief of the Meteorological and Geophysical Institute of Chile, a post which he held until 1916. A great number of his early publications deal with atmospheric electricity, based on his own observations on land and sea and on mountains throughout the vast area between Teneriffe and Easter Island, and especially South America. His expedition, in 1911, to Easter Island led him to begin a comprehensive study of its different geographical and anthropological problems, which he discussed in a valuable monograph.

During recent years, Knoche's chief interest was concentrated on phytoclimatology, the formation of deserts, colonization, classification of climates and general bioclimatology, and it is fair to consider him one of the pioneers of this new branch of science. He was the author, together with the late Vladimir Borzakov, of a book on the climate of Argentina, now in the press.

A more detailed review of Knoche's many publications, considerably more than two hundred in number and dealing with an unusually wide range of subjects, will be given in the Argentine journal *Ciencia e Investigación*. OTTO SCHNEIDER.

#### Prof. F. von Wettstein

THERE will be general regret at the information, received from private sources, that Prof. Fritz von Wettstein has died recently in Germany.

Son of Prof. R. V. Wettstein, of the University of Vienna, he achieved as great an eminence as his father in the advancement of botanical and genetical science. Under Erwin Baur at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institut, Berlin-Dahlem, he undertook research work on hybrids and polyploids in mosses, and was one of the first to show the relationships and characteristics of polyploid forms. In 1926 he was appointed professor of botany in the University of Göttingen, where his energies built up the Botanical Garden to be a centre for the breeding of cacti and for investigations on various cryptogams. In 1933 he was appointed to one of the premier botanical chairs of Germany, that of the University of Munich; and later, on the death of Erwin Baur, he was called to take charge, I believe unwillingly, of the German plant breeding and botanical programmes that were under way at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institut at Berlin-Dahlem.

Of a quiet unassuming character, earnest and extremely enthusiastic on any subject relating to botanical genetics, his death, at a comparatively early age (about fifty-eight), is a great loss to science. What I remember most distinctly about Wettstein was his extreme friendliness and overwhelming hospitality to all with whom he came in contact; and despite a lack of English, his ability to overcome language difficulties when talking about his well-loved *Funaria hygrometrica* and *Solanum chimarras*.

F. W. SANSOME.