

on the varieties and species in the decapod crustaceans in which he refers to "varietal characters" and "variations within a homogeneous species or variety". After this he published a series of memoirs ending in a reform of their classification. He regarded the crabs as a true group with a common phylogenetic origin through the Dromiacea. The attempt to show that the main divisions of the Brachyura were ecological as well as morphological groups, based on adaptations to swimming, sand-burrowing, sponge-carrying, 'masking' and so forth was very interesting and illuminating. This was followed by a further consideration of land forms and the relationships of certain prawns, particularly the Pontoniinae from the *Sealark* Expedition. He summarized some of his views in two important papers in the *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*. In 1922 he was awarded the degree of Sc.D.

In 1908 Borradaile was appointed University demonstrator in animal morphology and in 1910 lecturer, retiring in 1937. It was his own choice to specialize in the advanced teaching on invertebrates: he divided his groups into full courses extending through four terms in two years, choosing Crustacea and general questions relating to them, starfish, protochordates, protozoans and odd forms. He was always clear, concise, and there was little original work which was not included. He was at his best in his practical classes, into which he developed in himself and his pupils an enthusiasm often started by some question.

Borradaile had been taking his share of extra-mural lecturing for twenty years, when he published "The Animal and its Environment", 1923, a subject which he chose for lecture courses especially in East Anglia and to the Forces during the War of 1914-18: it

gave to many a delightful hobby wherever they might reside, but the book was spoilt to science students by the publishers' view that the best form of illustration was by the reproduction of text-book and other well-known figures.

Dr. Borradaile was in succession lecturer, dean and then tutor of Selwyn College, and he helped both in his College and in the University during the war period, 1939 onward. He was offered scientific preferment, but his College held the first place in his affections. He was a most conscientious tutor, following the careers of his students, domestic and otherwise, often helping financially those in need. He was a wise counsellor, though his shyness prevented close friendships. He was very proud of being a freeman of the City of London and on the Livery of the Drapers' Company. He liked travel and he had a deep appreciation of pictorial art. In term-time in his later years his hobby was gardening—his dahlias 15 ft. high, fed from a compost heap, were known to all passers-by. In him Cambridge loses a notable figure ever helpful in all its activities.

J. STANLEY GARDINER.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Dr. Frank M. Chapman, emeritus curator of ornithology in the American Museum of Natural History, aged eighty-one.

Dr. J. F. Tocher, formerly lecturer in statistics in the University of Aberdeen, and consulting chemist to the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland since 1912, on November 8, aged eighty-one.

Lady Woolley, who took part with her husband Sir Leonard Woolley in archaeological work at Ur of the Chaldees and elsewhere, on November 8.

NEWS and VIEWS

Science and Ethics

WHILE not agreeing with all the statements made by Prof. J. A. Ryle in his plea for a more ethical approach to matters scientific (beginning on p. 619), we feel that a suggestion that men of science should get together and devise some form of charter to guide their future activities is timely. Charters for men of science have been put forward for their consideration on previous occasions; but there is one condition which seems to us to be imperative. That is, the charter must receive the support of, and be honoured by, men of science in all countries; this does not seem likely of achievement if we have with us men of science who are working under any kind of political regime where they are subject to political control and even orders. Absolute scientific freedom in every country is essential if any form of charter is to have the desired effect. Readers of *Nature* will recall a suggested "Ethical Declaration for the Times" for men of science by Mr. L. L. Whyte published during the disturbed times of 1938 (*Nature*, 141, 827; 1938). That declaration read as follows:

DECLARATION

I am the inheritor of the tradition of civilization which has proved more lasting than empires. Whenever I use the language or the products of science I unconsciously pay homage to the countless men for whom no sacrifice was too great in the struggle to develop the human mind and establish the truth. Toleration and freedom are the heart

of this tradition; for individual thought and love of truth are the basis not only of science, but also of justice and of civilization.

I declare my loyalty to this tradition, my belief in the freedom of the individual to develop his talents for the enrichment of the community, and my conviction that man's community is now the whole human race, within which each nation must play its characteristic part. The natural balance between personal freedom and the proper demands of society, which is the life and health of civilization, is to-day doubly threatened; in certain societies by the denial of freedom and in the democratic countries by the irresponsibility of individuals. In the face of this threat:

I pledge myself to use every opportunity for action to uphold the great tradition of civilization, to protect all those who may suffer for its sake, and to pass it on to the coming generations. I recognize no loyalty greater than that to the task of preserving truth, toleration, and justice in the coming world order.

College of Aeronautics: Appointment of Mr. E. F. Relf, C.B.E., F.R.S.

THE recent announcement that Mr. E. F. Relf, superintendent of the Aerodynamics Division of the National Physical Laboratory, has been appointed principal of the newly founded College of Aeronautics, will interest all those who are concerned with the well-being of British aeronautics. The purpose of the College, as defined in a recent report published by H.M. Stationery Office, is to provide a high-grade engineering, technical and scientific training