

Cautious and precise as a man of science, Hjort was always apt to be impetuous in his relations with others. He had, in fact, a somewhat volcanic temperament which did not easily brook opposition. He was as apt to walk off stage as a film star, and it came about that he handed in his resignation of the post of director of fisheries in Norway once too often. The time came when the authorities did not ask him to reconsider, and accepted his resignation. But he became professor of zoology in the University of Oslo and remained a Norwegian delegate to the International Council. There, too, his volcanic temperament was sometimes active; but his fundamental friendliness always triumphed in the long run, and there is not one of his colleagues, national and international, who does not deplore the loss of a friend and a great man.

His diplomatic gifts were revealed in long and earnest endeavours to settle the vexed question, as between Norway and Great Britain, of the limits of territorial waters off the coasts of Norway. Indeed, if the last word had been with him the long negotiations would, almost certainly, have resulted in agreement; but his views were unacceptable in Norway and agreement seems to be as remote as ever. He attributed the failure to "the politicians". The trend of his political views is revealed in a remark he made to me. "No one," he said, "should be allowed to exercise the Parliamentary vote who has not passed an examination in biology, and members of Parliament, especially Ministers, should be required to have, if not a degree, at least a diploma in natural science. Then there would be no -isms, for none of the -isms will bear examination in the light of biological truth." Thus, picturesquely, he expressed the view that, inasmuch as the well-being of mankind is intimately bound up with the complex biology of all living things, political systems divorced from Nature are built on rotten foundations. But he did not believe that all wisdom was the exclusive possession of the scientific worker, as readers of "The Emperor's New Clothes" and of his Huxley Memorial Lecture, delivered in 1934, will be aware.

In recent years some of his friends have felt that his powers and, with them, his clarity of thought, were failing. But he had a long and useful life behind him, and the influence of the dynamic force he exercised in the field of science and the practical application of scientific findings will endure for generations to come.

H. G. MAURICE

Mrs. Savage

MRS. E. J. SAVAGE (née Fry), whose death occurred recently, was an old student of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, graduating with first-class honours in botany in 1916.

Her early work concerned the "Cryptogamic Pioneer Vegetation of the Aberystwyth Shales", and later she carried out an investigation of rock floras in Caernarvon and Anglesey. She was able to add to our knowledge of the action of lichens in bringing about rock disintegration and soil formation. Several of her papers on this subject appeared in the *Annals of Botany*. During the First World War she carried out researches in anaesthetics and afterwards became a fellow of the University. In 1919, having obtained her M.Sc., she was appointed assistant lecturer in the Department of Botany at Aberystwyth. In 1925 she was appointed lecturer in botany at Westfield College, University of London, a post she held until her marriage to Mr. S. Savage, librarian and assistant secretary of the Linnean Society, in 1932. Afterwards she lived at Welwyn Garden City, where she soon became well known as an artist and miniature painter, some of her work hanging at the local art club's annual exhibition and also at the shows of the London Water Colour Society.

Mrs. Savage has left botanical records of value, carefully labelled and annotated with the meticulous care she bestowed on all her work, together with the memory of a charming personality which continued to survive the heavy trials of a long illness. Her husband has the sympathy of her many friends.

LILY NEWTON

NEWS and VIEWS

Nobel Prize for Chemistry :

Prof. Arne Tiselius

THE recipient of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry this year is Prof. Arne Tiselius, who is well known to protein chemists in Great Britain. For many years he worked in the Physical Chemistry Institute of Prof. Svedberg at Uppsala, and became one of its most outstanding members. Recently a chair in biochemistry was created for him and a new Institute is in the course of construction. His greatest work, and that for which he is most widely known, was in the development of an apparatus for the electrophoretic analysis of biological substances. The apparatus, which now bears his name, has made possible accurate measurements of the electrical properties of proteins and has been most extensively applied both as a test of protein purity and to characterize the components of more complex systems. In this connexion, the application to normal and pathological sera is of great clinical importance. The apparatus is undoubtedly one of the most powerful tools ever developed in the field of protein chemistry. More recently, Prof.

Tiselius has returned to the study of adsorption analysis, a subject which interested him in his earlier research years. Since the introduction of chromatography by Tswett, the method has been employed and developed on somewhat empirical lines. Prof. Tiselius and his school have studied the underlying principles involved in this type of separation and have developed elegant apparatus for the adsorption analysis of colourless substances. Many scientific men who have worked in his laboratory have benefited greatly by his patient application to their problems and by his wide knowledge. All who know him well will agree that this latest honour is indeed well deserved.

Biological Service in Great Britain :

Capt. Cyril Diver

IN continuation of the announcement made in the House of Commons on April 27 that the Government accepted in principle the establishment of a Nature Conservation Board and a Biological Service under the auspices of the Agricultural Research Council, Mr. Herbert Morrison on November 1 stated in the House