

As a member of F. W. Oliver's Department, Hill paid many visits to Blakeney Point, Norfolk. One result of this was his paper (with J. H. Hanley) on "The Structure and Water Content of Shingle Beaches", as well as studies on the osmotic pressures of salt-marsh plants.

In 1915 he published "The Essentials of Illustration". This book was not without its effect upon the standard of illustrations in biological journals; but it never became well known and indeed was not noticed in any botanical journal. In later years 'T.G.' suggested that this might have been because some of the material he used for his illustrations was rather frivolous.

From 1911 T. G. Hill served in the University of London Officers' Training Corps. He was adjutant during the First World War, became major in 1917 and resigned his commission in 1919. During the Second World War he took his department to Bangor,

where he entered into the teaching and demonstrating with a zest which must at times have been a trial to his hosts. He was nearly seventy when he retired.

'T.G.'s retirement was spent at his home in Hambledon. He was well known and liked in the village and will be remembered for his kindness, especially to the children. He was a keen supporter (and critic) of the Hambledon Cricket Club and served as president. He was also at one time president of the now defunct Hambledon Garden Club.

During the post-war years he became a governor of Guildford Technical College, in which he took a great interest. Characteristically, he resigned a few months ago, when he was no longer able to get to the governors' meetings.

At University College 'T.G.' was well known and well liked in the smoking room. He will be remembered with respect and affection by many students and colleagues.

D. J. B. WHITE

NEWS and VIEWS

Biochemistry at Oxford :

Sir Rudolph Peters, F.R.S.

SIR RUDOLPH PETERS retires at the end of the present academic year from the Whitley professorship of biochemistry in the University of Oxford, a post he has held since 1923. Peters studied as an undergraduate at Caius College, Cambridge, of which he became Drosier Fellow and Tutor. He took his B.A. in 1911 and graduated M.B., B.Chir. in 1915. After research and lecturing in biochemistry at Cambridge he joined the R.A.M.C., being awarded the M.C. with bar during the First World War. In 1919 he gained the M.D. degree of Cambridge. At Oxford, from 1923 onwards, he built up a flourishing school of dynamic biochemistry and found the first clue to the mode of action of thiamine from a study of its *in vitro* effects on metabolic processes. In the Second World War the development of British Anti-Lewisite, a substance of usefulness in a wide range of metallic poisonings, was a delightful example of the practical outcome of theoretical considerations. More recently, Peters has investigated the toxic action of fluoroacetic acid and has elegantly demonstrated how the incorporation of this substance into constituents of the tricarboxylic acid cycle leads to toxic action.

Peters has earned many distinctions. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1935, receiving a Royal Medal in 1949 and delivering the Croonian Lecture in 1951. Many honorary degrees and many distinguished lectureships have been held by him, including the Dunham Lectureship at Harvard University. During 1946-50 he was a member of the Medical Research Council. Caius College elected him an Honorary Fellow in 1951. Fortunately, he will not be lost to the world of science on his retirement from Oxford, since he takes up a post with the Agricultural Research Council at the Institute of Animal Physiology, Babraham.

Prof. H. A. Krebs, F.R.S.

PROF. H. A. KREBS has been appointed to succeed Sir Rudolph Peters as Whitley professor of biochemistry at Oxford. He has been professor of biochemistry in the University of Sheffield since 1945, and the award to him, jointly with Dr. F. Lipmann, of the Nobel Prize for Medicine for 1953, was noted

in these columns last year (*Nature*, 172, 837; 1953). Prof. Krebs was educated at the Universities of Göttingen, Freiburg i. B., Munich and Berlin, being assistant in the Department of Prof. Otto Warburg at Berlin-Dahlem during 1926-30. He went to Cambridge as a Rockefeller Research Student in 1933 and was appointed demonstrator in biochemistry in that University in the following year. In 1935 he was appointed lecturer in pharmacology in the University of Sheffield, a post which was afterwards converted to that of lecturer in biochemistry and then to professor. Since 1945 he has also been director of the Medical Research Council Unit for Research in Cell Metabolism at Sheffield.

Prof. Krebs's work has largely been concerned with the study of metabolic processes *in vitro*. In 1932, in collaboration with Henseleit, he proposed a mechanism for the formation of urea in the liver with the participation therein of ornithine, citrulline and arginine by means of a cyclical process, a theory that was afterwards the centre of controversy, although it is now widely accepted. In 1937 he put forward his now classical citric acid cycle as a pathway of oxidation of carbohydrate, and it has since become clear that this cycle is concerned not only with oxidation of carbohydrate but also with that of fat and of protein. Indeed, as the years have passed, the importance of the citric acid cycle has grown rapidly, and Krebs's original idea has been amplified rather than modified. More recently, Krebs and his colleagues have been especially interested in the movement of substances across membranes, and the significance of such movements in metabolic processes in general. His Medical Research Council Unit will accompany him to Oxford, and it is to be hoped that there will be no more than a slight interruption of research as the result of this move.

Evidence for the Antiproton

It is firmly believed by most theoretical physicists that the antiparticle to a proton can exist. Indeed, if the proton is to be described by a modification of the Dirac equation, the existence of negative energy states is required. This particle should bear the same relation to a proton as does the positron to an electron. Should it be possible to create such a particle