there is any danger of substantial loss of rings through predation, isotopes with a short half-life are obviously preferable. It is extremely unlikely, however, that predators will be affected when metal rings are used, as these are either rejected, regurgitated, or passed with the fæces. Nevertheless, the choice of a study area should take into account not only the range of the species being labelled, but also that of any possible predator. In the present work on moles, most of the rings have now been removed from the animals, which have shown no signs of ill-health.

A drawback of the technique is that it is impossible to distinguish between labelled individuals with overlapping ranges. Although this limits its use, there are many important population problems, which by their nature can only be studied at the individual level, and for these it promises to be of valuable application.

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OBITUARIES

Dr. Philip Eggleton

By the death of Dr. Philip Eggleton on October 7 at the early age of fifty-two, medical science has lost one of its most versatile and original minds and the University of Edinburgh one of its most stimulating and popular teachers.

Eggleton received his undergraduate and post-graduate education at University College, London. After graduating with honours in chemistry in 1922, he joined the Department of Physiology and Biochemistry, where he studied for two years under Prof. E. H. Starling, Sir William Bayliss and Sir (then Prof.) Jack Drummond. In 1925, following a brief experience in industry, Eggleton returned to University College with a grant from the Medical Research Council to work on certain of the chemical aspects of muscular contraction under the direction of Prof. A. V. Hill. The following year he was awarded a Beit Memorial Fellowship to continue his work in this field.

During this period, Eggleton (with Grace P. Eggleton) carried out his now classical work on the phosphorus compounds in muscle, which culminated in the almost simultaneous discovery by Fiske and SubbaRow and by himself of creatine phosphate (phosphagen) and in the recognition of the importance of the latter in the chemistry of the contractile process. The part played by Eggleton in what has been termed "The Revolution in Muscle Physiology" (A. V. Hill) was a most distinguished one, and it was fitting that in 1931 he was awarded the Julius Mickle Fellowship by the University of London for the most outstanding research in medical science carried out in the University during the preceding five years.

In 1930 Eggleton went to Edinburgh as lecturer in biochemistry in the Department of Physiology, and in this capacity and as senior lecturer and reader served the University under no fewer than four professors of physiology. On three separate occasions he was acting-head of the Physiology Department for long periods. At Edinburgh, Eggleton developed his great potentialities as a teacher to the full, and soon became one of the most lucid and stimulating lecturers in the University. He also developed a remarkable facility for explaining scientific matters to the layman in vivid and readily understandable language; and, since he was convinced of the value of some knowledge of the aims and methods of science in the general education of everyone, it was natural for him to become actively interested in the popularization of science. In collaboration with Prof. W. O. Kermack, he wrote an excellent popular book, "The Stuff We Are Made Of", and for many years he acted as adviser to the B.B.C. in Scotland on scientific broadcasts. His own broadcast talks were models of what such talks should be.

An important part of Eggleton's duties at Edinburgh consisted in giving help and advice on many different chemical matters to his colleagues in the Physiology Department. Because of this, and also possibly because of his own inclinations, his interests in biochemistry and in science generally broadened very considerably. He extended his knowledge of mathematics, and latterly became interested in rheological problems in biology. Possibly his own career as a creative scientist might have been more spectacularly successful had he been less catholic in his interests and had he been less unselfish in his attitude to his colleagues. However, those who were closest to him know that he was always happiest when helping others.

During the Second World War, Eggleton collaborated in research in the Physiology Department under the direction of Prof. I. de B. Daly on phosgene poisoning on behalf of the Ministry of Supply, and on decompression problems on behalf of the Air Ministry. He joined the Edinburgh Gas Identification Service (Civil Defence) and became deputy district gas adviser for South-East Scotland.

Eggleton was a member of the Physiological Society, the Biochemical Society and the Society for Experimental Biology. He served on the committees of all three bodies. He was also a member of the Joint Committee on Rheology of the International Council of Scientific Unions, and he organized the First International Colloquium on Physiological Problems in Biology, which was held in Sweden in 1950.

G. F. Marrian

Dr. G. P. Douglas, O.B.E.

The death of Dr. G. P. Douglas on October 16 at his home at Camberley will be regretted by a wide circle of friends.

Born in 1892, he was educated at George Watson's College, Edinburgh, and graduated in 1914 from the University of Edinburgh with distinction in engineering. He served in the First World War and was awarded the M.C.; in July 1916 he was wounded, suffering the loss of his leg. In December of that year he joined the Royal Aircraft Factory (now Establishment), where he was concerned in the building and running of the 7-ft. wind tunnels which were to supplement the single 4-ft. tunnel that was then the sole equipment. In 1918 he became engineer in charge of the wind tunnels, and played a formative part in the development of model work at the Establishment. He had a genius for using simple means, lucidity as to the range of validity of these means, and a keen appreciation of the need for flexibility in