During this early period of his career, Blacklock published a series of twenty-one papers on trypanosomiasis, most of them in his own name, but some in collaboration with Warrington Yorke. They were chiefly concerned with the morphology of trypanosomes; but in one of them the important discovery was recorded that *T. cruzi* could undergo development to the infective stage in the bed-bug.

In 1914, Blacklock and Yorke joined the School's thirty-second expedition, which was dispatched to West Africa, and, while in Sierra Leone, studied the breeding places of *Glossina palpalis* and the various species of trypanosomes transmitted by the fly to man and his domestic stock. By the time that the expedition had returned to England, war with Germany had broken out. Blacklock joined the R.A.M.C. and served with it, both at home and abroad, from 1915 until 1919, actively continuing with research during his period of service, and collaborating with Stephens, Yorke and other colleagues in a symposium of more than thirty papers on the treatment of malaria.

In 1921, when the Sir Alfred Lewis Jones Research Laboratory was opened in Freetown, Sierra Leone, by the Liverpool School, Blacklock was appointed its first director and was given the title of professor of tropical diseases of Africa by the University of Liverpool. The eight years which followed represent the most active and productive part of Blacklock's long scientific career. During that time he published more than forty papers on a wide range of problems concerned with various aspects of schistosomiasis, beriberi, malaria, trypanosomiasis and goitre, the most outstanding of which demonstrated for the first time that *Onchocerca volvulus* was transmitted to man by *Simulium damnosum*—a discovery of notable importance in the history of tropical medicine. In 1929 Blacklock returned to Liverpool to succeed Yorke in the Walter Myers chair of parasitology, which he held until 1934, when he was appointed the first holder of the newly established chair of tropical hygiene.

During the Second World War, Blacklock, then nearly sixty-five, was sent to Freetown on a Government mission with the rank of surgeon-captain to investigate the malaria situation at the port and to submit recommendations for its control. His report led to a concentrated attack on the vector anophelines and resulted in the elimination of malaria from the port and the protection of convoys using it. For this and other notable services he was awarded the C.M.G. in 1942.

He retired from the chair of tropical hygiene in 1945, and in 1949 the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine presented him with the Mary Kingsley Medal, as a fitting tribute to his work in West Africa and elsewhere.

Blacklock was a man of striking presence, handsome in appearance, gentle and reserved in manner, his innate kindliness lit from time to time with flashes of brilliant wit. His clear incisive mind made him an excellent lecturer, and his text-book on human parasitology, written in collaboration with Dr. Thomas Southwell and now in its fifth edition, is proof of his powers as a teacher.

He is survived by his wife, Dr. Mary Georgina Blacklock, C.B.E., who accompanied him on his many travels and who collaborated in some of his scientific work. R. M. Gordon

NEWS and VIEWS

Applied Mathematics at Sheffield : Prof. D. N. de G. Allen

Mr. D. N. de G. Allen, reader in applied mathematics at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, has been appointed to the newly created chair of applied mathematics in the University of Sheffield. Mr. Allen is a graduate of the University of Oxford, and received his early training in research under the direction of Sir Richard Southwell at the University Engineering Laboratory, where he became interested in the newly developed relaxation methods as applied to engineering problems. Later, when Sir Richard became rector of Imperial College, Allen accompanied him there and played a large part in the establishment of a research team concerned with relaxation methods. He was appointed lecturer in the Mathematics Department of Imperial College in 1945, and later became reader, then taking over much of the responsibility for the teaching of mathematics to students of engineering. Under his guidance there has grown up at the Imperial College a thriving and productive group of research workers able to apply successfully relaxation techniques to a variety of mathematical problems of engineering interest. In 1949 Allen visited the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to deliver courses of lectures on subjects related to his own field of research, and later, in 1954, he paid a short visit to India for the same purpose. In addition to his interests in teaching and research, Allen has played a full part in the general and social activities at the Imperial College, and though he will be greatly missed by all his colleagues there, he takes with him their very good wishes to his new responsibilities at the University of Sheffield.

University College of Rhodesia and Nyasaland : Prof. E. B. Edney

The appointment of Dr. E. B. Edney, reader in Entomology in the Department of Zoology and Comparative Physiology, University of Birmingham, to the chair of zoology in the newly created University College of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, cannot fail to please those concerned about the future of academic biology in the British Commonwealth. Dr. Edney is an entomologist with a distinguished research record in the field of arthropod physiology and ecology, where his work on water relations and microclimatology has produced results of considerable theoretical and methodological importance. As a systematist, he has specialized in the taxonomy of two widely different arthropod groups, the Chrysididae and Isopods, and has published monographs on both. His past association with academic work in Africa at Rhodes University College, at the National Museum in Bulawayo and at Makerere College, Uganda, has recently been rounded off by a successful research expedition to the Sahara. As a senior member of the teaching staff of the Zoology Department in Birmingham, Dr.