

Faulkner family, until a most unfortunate accident impaired the use of his hands and compelled him to abandon the sea and settle ashore.

Faulkner had simple tastes and detested formality. He was never at home in large gatherings, and his shy, modest and retiring disposition created the false impression that he was not approachable. In fact, there was nothing he relished more than a full pipe and a free and informal discussion. His wife, Mildred, gladly abandoned her distinguished career as a surgeon to share with Odin such pleasures as tennis, golf, bridge, gardening, country walks and yachting. His retirement enabled them and their sons to enjoy to the full the graceful ease and deep contentment offered only to a thoroughly united family.

C. Y. SHEPARD

### Prof. H. King

PROF. HERBERT KING, professor of geography in the University of Hull, died on March 1 after a long and courageous struggle against failing health. He will be remembered at Hull as founder of the Department of Geography, for his devotion to University affairs, and in a wider field as a human geographer in the tradition of his old teacher, Prof. P. M. Roxby.

Herbert King was born in 1897 and educated at Wigan Grammar School, where in 1915 he was head boy and Powell Scholar. After three years war service in the Sherwood Foresters, during which he was wounded in France, he studied geography at the University of Liverpool, securing first-class honours, and was appointed successively to a University scholarship, a University fellowship, and a lectureship in geography in 1924. During this period he studied the evolution of the industrial and agricultural complex of Lancashire and Cheshire, and his published work included contributions to the "Lancastria" section of "Great Britain: Essays in Regional Geography".

In 1928 he was appointed the first lecturer in geography in the newly founded University College of Hull, and for the next few years he taught single-handed the entire geography syllabus for the University of London external degree examination, at the same time laying the foundations of what is now a flourishing Department with an honours school of nearly a hundred. Other activities during the 'thirties were the organization of the Land Utilization Survey of the East Riding, and a period as joint secretary and later recorder to Section E (Geography) of the British Association.

During the Second World War, Prof. King worked at the Board of Trade and the Ministry of Information, and on return to University life became deeply involved in the post-war expansion of the College, which included the development of a geological section, initially as a branch of his own Department. His experience involved him in much committee work, notably as chairman of the Library Committee (1947-52) and as dean of the Faculty of Science (1952-54). He was also president of the Hull Branch of the Geographical Association (1947-54).

In 1954, when the College received its charter as a University, he was appointed its first professor of geography. He spent the session 1954-55 as visiting professor in the University of Rochester, U.S.A.; soon after his return he showed signs of ill-health, but for the next two years, despite an obvious worsening, he willed himself to work almost to the end. Early this year, however, he became gravely ill, and he died at his home on March 1.

King published little, but his memorial is the Department which he built up, for many years under conditions of great financial stringency. He remains, to all who knew him, an example of absolute integrity, and of loyal devotion to the College and University which he served for thirty years. He married in 1926 Helen M. Ashcroft, who survives him.

L. F. PENNY

## NEWS and VIEWS

### Linnean Society of London : Awards

THE Council of the Linnean Society of London has nominated Sir Gavin de Beer and Dr. W. B. Turrill for the award of Linnean Gold Medals for 1958; normally, only one is awarded annually, to a botanist or zoologist alternately, but the centenary of the reading before the Linnean Society of the joint communication by Darwin and Wallace on evolution by natural selection is being marked by the presentation of two Gold Medals, to a zoologist and a botanist respectively. The presentation will be made at the anniversary meeting on May 24, 1958.

In commemoration of the centenary the Council of the Society has also nominated the following for the award of a Silver Darwin-Wallace Commemorative Medal in recognition of their outstanding contributions to our knowledge of evolution. The Medals will be presented at a special meeting of the Society to be held at the Royal Geographical Society on July 15: Dr. Edgar Anderson (U.S.A.), Prof. Maurice Caullery (France), Sir Ronald Fisher (Great Britain), Prof. C. R. Florin (Sweden), Prof. J. B. S. Haldane (Great Britain), Prof. Roger Heim (France),

Dr. John Hutchinson (Great Britain), Sir Julian Huxley (Great Britain), Dr. Ernst Mayr (U.S.A.), Prof. H. J. Muller (U.S.A.), Prof. E. Pavlovsky (U.S.S.R.), Dr. Bernhard Rensch (Germany), Dr. G. Gaylord Simpson (U.S.A.), Prof. Carl Skottsberg (Sweden), Prof. E. A. Stensiö (Sweden), Dr. H. Hamshaw Thomas (Great Britain), Prof. G. V. Turesson (Sweden), Dr. V. van Straelen (Belgium), Prof. D. M. S. Watson (Great Britain) and Dr. J. C. Willis (deceased).

### Metallurgy at Cambridge : Prof. G. W. Austin

THE impending retirement of Prof. George Wesley Austin from the Goldsmiths' chair of metallurgy in the University of Cambridge presents an occasion for directing attention to the remarkable growth in metallurgical activity that has taken place during his occupancy of the chair. While the Department of Metallurgy has had a separate existence for many years—it was founded in 1888—the situation of Cambridge, away from the centres of the metallurgical industries, has tended to militate against any great development there in the teaching of the more practical aspects of the subject. The rapid widening