During her life-time she was awarded a number of honorary degrees and prizes. Her monograph "The Treatment of Human Trypanosomiasis with Tryparsamide", published by the Rockefeller Institute, is a classic. J. D. FULTON

Dr. E. S. Duthie

DR. EDWARD STEPHENS DUTHIE died on June 9 at the age of fifty-two. He was an experimental and clinical pathologist with an exceptional range of talents. Born in Kilkenny, he won a sizarship in mathematics to Trinity College, Dublin, and graduated in arts, medicine and science. He began biological research under Prof. J. B. Gatenby in Dublin and continued under Prof. A. E. Boycott at University College Medical School, London, where he went as Graham Scholar in 1933. His published work during this period was concerned mainly with the mechanism of glandular secretion. While convalescing from tuberculous pleurisy in Italy he wrote a paper on the origin, development and function of the blood cells in certain marine teleosts.

After a brief interlude as assistant pathologist at the University of Sheffield, he joined the staff of the Dunn School of Pathology, Oxford, and collaborated with Chain in a study of 'spreading factor', which they identified as hyaluronidase. Duthie was unfit for military service during the War so he worked as hospital pathologist at Northampton until he was recalled to Oxford to help Sir Hugh Cairns; he organized and took charge of all the chemotherapy at the Radcliffe Infirmary and at the Military Hospital for Head Injuries. His development of penicillinase, his work with Chain on the theory of action of penicillin and his demonstration of the influence of *p*H on the activity of streptomycin, have all contributed to the rapid progress of chemotherapy.

Duthie took charge of the Serum Department of the Lister Institute in London in 1946 and worked on serum and bacterial proteases and their inhibitors. In 1948 he was appointed deputy director of pathology at Southampton, becoming director in 1952. During the past ten years he studied various products of the staphylococcus. His crowning achievement was the purification of coagulase—the first blood-clotting substance to be purified.

Duthie's integrity, sympathy and kindness were apparent to all who met him; his friends knew his generosity, his concern for refugees and all who were oppressed, his appreciation of art and music and his courage and cheerfulness in the face of prolonged ill-health. CHARLES H. LACK

Mr. John Cecil May, C.M.G., O.B.E.

BY the death on September 10 of J. C. May, director of the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation, tropical agriculture has lost one of its wisest and most distinguished administrators of agricultural research. His background of geology and forestry at Oxford, and of the administrative service in Nyasaland and Tanganyika, was singularly appropriate for the development of his life's work in an independent corporation engaged in research in tropical territories. His judgment and enthusiasm were largely responsible for the high standard of recruitment to the Corporation's service, and his sympathy and understanding for the welfare of his staff in the diverse circumstances in which they work. He understood the needs and difficulties as well as the responsibilities of government departments, and his breadth of interest was the foundation of the co-operation between government officials and the research staff of the Corporation that has been so fruitful in the extension of the cotton crop in African territories. His vision and grasp of practical needs and possibilities enabled the Corporation to continue to provide staff for the Sudan when the Republic of the Sudan was established. In planning the British contribution to technical services in the new Africa that is emerging, his counsel will be sorely missed.

J. B. HUTCHINSON

NEWS and VIEWS

International Red Locust Control Service

THE last plague of the red locust, *Nomadacris septemfasciata* Serville, lasted from 1930 until 1944 and affected most of Africa south of the equator. Field investigations by British, South African and Belgian scientists revealed comparatively small outbreak areas in Northern Rhodesia and Tanganyika. In 1941 A. P. G. Michalmore set up headquarters in Abercorn, Northern Rhodesia, and began preventive control of these areas; in 1945 H. J. Bredo became director of the International Red Locust Control Service. This Service was established by international treaty in 1949 and the first decade of the treaty was completed on August 5 this year. At first, the idea was to watch for any upsurge of locusts in the outbreak areas and then to arrange control measures, but it became clear that events moved too quickly and the Service had to be constantly ready to attack. Even so, swarms escaped from the outbreak areas in most years until operational research, mainly by Haydn Lloyd, led to the design of fully effective methods of control, using very light aircraft. In 1955 there occurred the largest upsurge ever recorded; it was completely controlled. No swarms have escaped since 1954.

Dr. D. L. Gunn, C.B.E.

DURING the period 1952–59 the director of the International Red Locust Control Service was Dr. D. L. Gunn. Educated at the High School and the University College, Cardiff, he was then for seventeen years at the University of Birmingham, first as assistant lecturer and finally senior lecturer in zoology. There he became known for researches on the temperature and humidity relations of insects and he collaborated with Dr. Gottfried Fraenkel in "The Orientation of Animals" (Oxf. Univ. Press). Towards the end of the War, he was seconded to Kenya to study the behaviour of desert locusts in swarms, in relation to aircraft spraying, and in 1945 with Douglas Yeo and a team from the Chemical Defence Experimental Establishment, Porton, he carried out the first attacks on adult locusts in Africa that used liquid insecticide sprayed from aircraft. In 1946 he became the first principal scientific officer of the Anti-Locust Research Centre, then newly separated, under Dr. B. P. Uvarov, from the Common-