tempered with more or less astringency according to the recipient.

As he was a man of special and unique quality, so will be the affection with which his colleagues remember him.

N. J. BERRIDGE

Prof. W. Rothmaler

PROF. WERNER ROTHMALER, the well-known plant taxonomist, died at Greifswald, East Germany, in April 1962.

Rothmaler was born in 1908 in Thuringia; he went to school at Weimar and then to the University of Jena. At the age of twenty-five he emigrated to Spain, where he worked at the Botanical Institute in Barcelona; he later moved to Lisbon and worked there at the *Estação Agronomica Nacional*. It was during this period that he made important contributions to the taxonomy and ecology of the flora of the Iberian Peninsula, and he retained an interest in this area all his life.

In 1941 he was recalled to Germany and served as a soldier in Greece, where he was attached to a mapping unit. In 1943, because of illness, he returned to Germany and after a short stay in Berlin found a home in Vienna with Prof. Wettstein. In 1944 he became director of the Botanical Department at Gatersleben and in 1945 went to Halle, where he became professor in 1950. In 1953 he made a final

move to Greifswald, where he was appointed director of the new Institute for Agrobiology, and he remained there until his death, though he continued to travel widely.

Rothmaler published many papers, and was known as an authority on the genera *Alchemilla* and *Antirrhinum*. He recently produced an excellent short Flora of Germany; the final, critical volume of this was nearly complete at the time of his death and will probably appear soon. He proposed as early as 1944 the preparation of a Flora of Europe, a project which had to be abandoned because of war-time circumstances; but he co-operated wholeheartedly in the new Flora Europaea and had already given much valuable assistance. In this, as in other botanical research, both in his own country and internationally, his early death leaves a place difficult to fill.

Rothmaler's interests both inside and outside science were unusually wide; he was an active exponent of the philosophy and history of science, and had expert knowledge of many branches of art and archaeology. British botanists, many of whom had got to know him during the past ten years, will miss him greatly. To work with him in the field was an unforgettable experience; wise, witty and critical, he could always produce the right comment and the illuminating observation.

He leaves a widow and four children.

D. H. VALENTINE

NEWS and VIEWS

Scientific Attaché in Moscow:

T. Garrett

MR. TERENCE GARRETT has been appointed scientific attaché to the British Embassy in Moscow and will take up his post this month. He succeeds Dr. D. A. Senior, who was the first to hold this post (see *Nature*, 183, 1018; 1959), and who is moving to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research's Forest Products Research Laboratory on completion of his term of appointment. As scientific attaché Mr. Garrett will advise the British Ambassador (Sir Frank Roberts) on scientific matters, promote scientific contacts and report on Soviet scientific and technical development in the civil field. Mr. Garrett, who is 32, is at present senior lecturer in the Department of Mathematics and Physics at the Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham. Mr. Garrett attended Alleyn's School, Dulwich, and then won an open scholarship to Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, where he read mathematics. He went on to take a diploma in mathematical statistics with chemical engineering as a special field of application. Before going to Shrivenham he was, for a year, lecturer and head of the Mathematics Section at Ewell Technical College. Mr. Garrett, who speaks Russian and German fluently, has for some years been interested in the problems of translating technical literature and in the statistical analysis of languages. He has written about education in the U.S.S.R. and the Russian Orthodox Church. He has been to the U.S.S.R. several times, recently as interpreter at the British Trade Fair in Moscow.

Biology in the University of East Anglia:

Prof. J. Dainty

DR. JACK DAINTY has been appointed professor of biology in the new University of East Anglia, Norwich.

Dr. Dainty was a pupil at Mexborough Grammar School and obtained an Exhibition in mathematics at Queens' College, Cambridge, where he obtained firsts in the Mathematics Tripos Part I and Natural Sciences (Physics) Tripos Part II. For six years he did research and teaching in nuclear physics at the Cavendish Laboratory, where he was in charge of the cyclotron. After the Second World War he worked for a short time at Chalk River. He came to the Natural Philosophy Department at Edinburgh in 1949 and, after some years spent building up the High Tension Laboratory, decided that biology was perhaps the most interesting branch of physics. Appointed reader in biophysics at Edinburgh in 1955, he has since built up a research and postgraduate teaching department that is unique in Britain. Dr. Dainty's main interest is in the permeability and electrical properties of cell membranes, working particularly on the giant internodal cells of the Characeae. He has developed and applied the as yet incomplete methods of non-equilibrium thermodynamics to permeability studies, and has stressed the serious errors that can arise from the use of simpler less rigorous methods. Dr. Dainty will no doubt attempt at Norwich to encourage a more rigorous and quantitative approach to biological teaching and research. Dr. Dainty has also wide interests in natural history. He will be fully aware of the proper importance of field work and ecology, particularly in a county such as Norfolk.

New Chemical Enzymology Unit for Shell Research

DR. J. W. CORNFORTH, for some years a member of the National Institute of Medical Research, and Dr. G. J. Popják, at present director of the Medical Research Council's Experimental Radio-