

for some years. A new science building in York University (Canada) will shortly bear it.

Dr. Farquharson is survived by his wife and two daughters.

G. M. BROWN

Prof. H. B. Gilliland

PROF. H. B. GILLILAND died on June 23 in Pietermaritzburg, at the age of fifty-four. From 1935 until 1954 he was a member of the staff in the Department of Botany, University of the Witwatersrand. During the Second World War he served in North Africa, working his way from private to major. From 1955 until

1965 he was professor of botany at the University of Singapore.

During 1964 Prof. Gilliland served as acting vice-chancellor of the University of Singapore. He was created professor emeritus in June 1965. Early in 1965 he took up the post of senior lecturer in botany in the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

Prof. Gilliland was well known for his investigations in taxonomy and ecology, having published important contributions to these subjects both in Africa and in Singapore. He leaves a widow, a son and a daughter. His passing is greatly regretted by a wide circle of colleagues and old students.

J. F. V. PHILLIPS

NEWS and VIEWS

Chairman of the Social Science Research Council

IN a written reply to a question in the House of Commons on August 5, Mr. Anthony Crosland, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced that the Government had accepted in principle the recommendation of the Heyworth Committee to establish a Social Science Research Council. Mr. Crosland said that an Order in Council was being prepared, specifying the objects of the new body and declaring it to be a Research Council for the purposes of the Science and Technology Act 1965; the draft would be laid before Parliament, in accordance with Section 1 (4) of the Act, after the new Council had been established by Royal Charter. Mr. Crosland also stated that Dr. M. Young had been appointed chairman of the new Research Council. [See also *Nature*, 207, 559, 576; 1965.]

Dr. M. Young

DR. M. YOUNG has been a Fellow of Churchill College, Cambridge, since 1961, and director of the Institute of Community Studies since 1953. He was born in 1915 and was educated at Dartington Hall School and at the University of London. Later he was called to the Bar at Gray's Inn. Dr. Young was director of Political and Economic Planning from 1941 until 1945, and secretary of the Research Department of the Labour Party from 1945 until 1951. In 1956 Dr. Young became chairman of the Consumers' Association, and in 1959 he assumed the chairmanship of the Advisory Centre for Education. He has been a member of the Central Advisory Council for Education since 1963. Dr. Young is the author of *Family and Kinship in East London* (with Peter Willmott) (1957), *The Rise of the Meritocracy* (1959), and *Family and Class in a London Suburb* (with Peter Willmott) (1960).

Natural Environment Research Council

MR. D. J. MACLEAN has been seconded from the Road Research Laboratory to the Natural Environment Research Council as a deputy chief scientific officer. As the senior officer (scientific) under the secretary of the council, Mr. Maclean will be responsible mainly for matters of scientific policy and for scientific programmes and for the Council's research grants and training awards. Until his secondment, Mr. Maclean was deputy director of the Materials and Construction Division of the Road Research Laboratory, Ministry of Transport, at Harmondsworth. He is best known for his work on soil mechanics and was largely responsible for the very successful book on soil mechanics for road engineers which was published by the Road Research Laboratory in 1951.

Applied Physical Sciences in the University of Reading: Prof. P. B. Fellgett

DR. P. B. FELLGETT, head of the Astronomical Instrumentation Division of the Royal Observatory, Edinburgh,

has been appointed to a professorship in applied physical sciences in the University of Reading. Dr. Fellgett's first experience of research was towards the end of the Second World War, when he was a member of a group dealing with infra-red problems, under the leadership of Dr. (now Sir Gordon) G. B. M. Sutherland, in the Department of Colloid Science, Cambridge. Experience gained there stood him in good stead when in 1947 he became a research student at the Cambridge Observatories, where he obtained a Ph.D. for work on infra-red magnitudes of stars and the theory of ultimate sensitivity of radiation detectors. His thesis included a proposal for, and theoretical discussion of, an interference spectrometer of original design. He spent 1951-52 at the Lick Observatory and then returned to Cambridge, to follow up the ideas developed in his thesis by constructing a multi-channel interference spectrometer for use on stellar spectra in the near infra-red. In addition, with Linfoot, he applied information theory to the evaluation of optical images. In 1955 he joined the Cambridge Observatories staff as a senior observer. About this time he became convinced of the importance of using modern machine methods for the measurement of astronomical photographs taken with Schmidt telescopes, where traditional methods are much too slow to extract all the recorded information. He investigated the problems associated with designing a suitable machine, processing its output, and storing in a readily accessible form the large quantities of numerical data that would be produced. In 1959 he became a principal scientific officer at the Royal Observatory, Edinburgh, and there has taken a leading part in the development of such a machine (*Galaxy*), now under construction by Ferranti. He has also built up a strong electronics group at Edinburgh, has been responsible for elaborate control equipment for the new twin 16-in. telescopes, and has converted most of the Royal Observatory's measuring equipment, so as to give digital outputs suitable for immediate processing by an electronic computer. Dr. Fellgett has always been an enthusiastic advocate of the use of the most advanced optical and electronic techniques in observational astronomy, and an outspoken critic of those reluctant to depart from traditional methods and conventional instrumental design.

Engineering Production at the Bradford Institute of Technology : Prof. R. C. Brewer

MR. R. C. BREWER, senior lecturer in the Production Engineering and Management Studies Section of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Imperial College of Science and Technology, has been appointed to the newly established chair of engineering production at the Bradford Institute of Technology (proposed University of Bradford). Mr. Brewer was, for some nine years, lecturer, and later senior lecturer, at the Royal College of Advanced Technology, Salford. His research there was mainly concerned with the fundamentals of the machining