

contracting organization, separately managed as Fisons Farmwork, Ltd., was prosperously maintained. Concentration was on chemicals. Realizing that the search for new chemicals is becoming increasingly difficult and costly, he followed through the initiative of Avison Wormald, the first managing director under the Fisons régime, in negotiating development agreements with other organizations. Most important was the link-up with the Swiss giant, J. R. Geigy S.A., but this was followed by arrangements with Kureha Chemical Industries, Ltd., of Japan, and Boots Pure Drug Co., and successful licences were obtained from others for compounds which his own Company was well fitted to exploit.

Dr. Parry Jones leaves a widow, two sons and a daughter.

G. S. HARTLEY

### Prof. K. R. L. Hall

PROF. RONALD HALL'S untimely death on July 14 of this year, at the early age of forty-seven, came as a shock to all who knew him, and not least to his colleagues in the Department of Psychology, in the University of Bristol, where he had been professor since 1959.

During the six years in which Prof. Hall held the chair in the University of Bristol, he had built up an extensive research programme for the comparative study of social behaviour in primates. He was especially interested in early learning and the development of social behaviour in monkeys and baboons. He wrote extensively on the comparison between monkey and ape behaviour, and felt strongly that, since the early writings of people such as Zuckerman and Carpenter, so little had been done to further field studies of a comparative type. He himself was as much concerned with laboratory experiments as with field studies, and he was also concerned with the systematic accumulation of data from all sources to contribute to a picture—detailed in depth—of the behaviour of the animals who come nearest in human evolution to man.

Prof. Hall's work ranged from detailed studies of a specific kind, such as the social vigilance behaviour in the Chacma baboon, to a study of the sexual activity of the same animal, and on to more general efforts to build up an integrated picture, ultimately, of human behaviour.

It was the problems of human behaviour that, in the end, he was working to unravel. His interests in animal studies dated from his period as professor of psychology at the University of Cape Town, which lasted from 1954 until 1959, when he returned to Bristol. Since 1959, he had achieved an international reputation for his work, and had by now published extensively in a wide range of journals. During 1962–63, he was a Fellow at the Centre for Advanced Study in the Behavioural Sciences at Palo Alto, California. He returned to East Africa in 1963 to carry out further ecological and behavioural studies of monkeys, and to build more detail into his expanding theoretical framework of behaviour.

Kenneth Ronald Lambert Hall was the only son of Kenneth Lambert Hall, a former acting Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Nyasaland. He was educated at Cheltenham College and at Brasenose College, Oxford, where he took his first degree in Law. During the Second World War, he served in the Middle East and in Germany as a captain in the Royal Artillery, and later as a staff officer. After the War, he returned to Oxford to study psychology, and was awarded the degree of D.Phil. in 1949. In the same year he was appointed head of the Department of Experimental and Clinical Psychology in Bristol Mental Hospitals and was also part-time lecturer in the Department of Psychology at the University of Bristol. During this period his interests were primarily in experimental abnormal psychology, a field in which he built a considerable reputation before his appointment in Cape Town, and his change of primary interest to his ethological work.

He was an exceptional athlete, and as an undergraduate played rugby football for the Oxford University Greyhounds and was awarded a blue for boxing. He continued to play cricket, tennis, squash and golf until his recent illness.

His loss is inevitably a great blow to the development of ethology, and the understanding of animal behaviour, especially as viewed as a basis for a comparison with, and understanding of, human behaviour. He leaves behind him, however, a collection of substantial publications which must in the course of time be brought together into a single collection of his life work.

In 1941 he married Pauline Sophie Assinder, who survives him.

F. H. GEORGE

## NEWS and VIEWS

### Science Education Officer, British Council :

Mr. D. G. Chisman

MR. D. G. CHISMAN, education officer of the Royal Institute of Chemistry, has been appointed to a new post of science education officer at the London Headquarters of the British Council from January 1966. The Council is increasingly being called on to provide assistance in the expansion and reform of science teaching in schools overseas, particularly in the developing Commonwealth. It now has six science teaching specialists in East and West Africa whose function is to provide assistance with the reform of the curriculum and methods, and the adaptation to local needs and conditions of the results of recent and current British work in this sphere. The new post will serve as a point of reference for the Council's overseas officers, keep them in touch with up-to-date British trends and supply information on new equipment, text-books and audio-visual aids, as well as on new teaching methods. Mr. Chisman, after graduating in chemistry at King's College, London, took a postgraduate certificate of education, and had some years practical secondary school teaching experience before joining the Royal Institute of Chemistry. Since then, as a secretary to the British

Committee on Chemical Education and as a member of both the Consultative Committee for the Nuffield Chemistry Project and the Physical Science Committee of the Association for Science Education, he has been closely concerned with the study of the problems of school science teaching in Britain, and has also been involved with overseas problems as a consultant to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development and Unesco.

### Zoology in the University of Newcastle upon Tyne :

Prof. A. D. Hobson

PROF. A. D. HOBSON retires from the chair of zoology in the University of Newcastle upon Tyne in September 1966, and is spending most of the year 1965–66 on sabbatical leave. He has been professor of zoology at Newcastle and director of the Dove Marine Laboratory since 1932, first under the title of Armstrong College, then King's College, and, since 1963, as the separate University of Newcastle upon Tyne. During his time at Newcastle he has seen the Department grow from a stage when it consisted of three lecturers, one of them half-time, to its present size of sixteen teaching staff. The closely associated Dove Marine Laboratory has also expanded during this period.