

PROFESSOR PHILIP G. GUNDRY, Ph.D., B.Sc.

We record with much regret the death at Pretoria on the 25th September, 1929, of Dr. Philip G. Gundry, Professor of Physics at the Transvaal University College.

Professor Gundry was born in London in 1877 and was educated there and at Cambridge and Gottingen. After holding posts at Cardiff University and at the Cirencester College of Agriculture, he joined the staff of the Transvaal University College in 1908 as Professor of Mathematics and Physics. Latterly, owing to the growth of the College, he devoted himself principally to Physics. During the Great War Dr. Gundry served in German S.W. Africa and later proceeded to England and joined the scientific staff of the Royal Air Force, where he was responsible for the invention of many valuable devices making for greater speed and accuracy in flying. His work was most highly appreciated by the British authorities and his duties were carried out in circumstances of great danger involving him in more than one crash.

Dr. Gundry took an active part in astronomical work in Pretoria. He joined the Society in October, 1924, and was also President of the Pretoria Astronomical Association. He was responsible for the building and equipment of the observatory in the grounds of the T.U.C. The fine 5-inch Zeiss equatorial refractor there was discovered by him among some laboratory equipment in the Boys' High School. The cases in which it was packed had remained unnoticed and forgotten since the importation of the refractor by Lord Milner many years earlier. Professor Gundry induced the Council of the T.U.C. to expend a considerable sum in the building of the observatory to house the refractor and a 3-inch transit instrument. He personally supervised the erection of the instruments on concrete foundations and their adjustment was carried out by him. A chronograph was also fitted, connected with a mean time clock in the Physics Laboratory, by an air line about 200 yards in length.

Professor Gundry will be sorely missed by the astronomical fraternity in Pretoria. His genial person-

ality and unflagging energy endeared him to friends and students alike.

Shortly after his return from the War, Dr. Gundry married Miss Ruth Frost, daughter of Mrs. Frost, of Johannesburg, who was on the staff of the Pretoria High School for Girls. Our sympathy is extended to Mrs. Gundry.
