

a disastrous effect on human tissue. But the conditions of danger and the means of avoiding them were gradually ascertained, and recently, thanks to the recent work of the X-ray and Radium Protection Committee, under the chairmanship of Sir Humphry Rolleston, president of the Royal College of Physicians, the necessary precautions have been widely circulated. In the light of a fuller knowledge the destructive effect of the rays has been turned to account by taking advantage of their selective action when applied to superficial and deep-seated growths in the tissue.

The X-rays have also found extensive industrial application to detect flaws and impurities, and in many other directions.

As already mentioned, the X-rays have proved of the greatest importance in recent developments of fundamental physics. We owe to them Moseley's arrangement of the elements in the order of their atomic numbers, a quantity determined by the atomic nucleus. The wonderful results of Sir William Bragg and his son on crystalline structure rest wholly on X-ray measurements. Much of the work which under Sir J. J. Thomson and Sir Ernest Rutherford has made the Cavendish Laboratory world-famous has dealt with X-ray and kindred phenomena.

At the close of Röntgen's life, we may well pause to survey the goodly harvest that science has reaped from the event with which his name will be for ever associated. Hard on the heels of his discovery came that of the electron by J. J. Thomson and of radioactivity by Becquerel. The new chapter of physics which was thus unfolded has already had the most profound effect on everyday life. G. W. C. K.

MR. BERNARD BOSANQUET.

MR. BERNARD BOSANQUET, who died on February 8, after a short illness at his home at Hampstead, to which he had moved a few months ago, has occupied for more than a generation a foremost place in English intellectual life. For the last ten years his health has required him to refuse public engagements, but he continued to be as assiduous in literary productions as during any period of his active life. He was at work till the end, and we are told that he left an uncompleted book on his desk, of which, however, three chapters are finished. The intended title was "What is Mind?" He was an ardent philosopher, who cared little for the brilliance of a speculation and nothing whatever for originality or ownership of ideas, but sought the truth concerning human life and the meaning of experience with an earnestness which seemed like the devotion of a religious mission.

Born in 1848, Mr. Bosanquet was educated at Harrow and at Balliol College, Oxford, and after graduating spent ten years at Oxford as fellow and tutor of University College. In 1881 he came to London and threw himself ardently into the work of the Charity Organisation Society and the Ethical Society, and also lectured on ancient and modern philosophy for the University Extension centres in London.

His "Logic, or Morphology of Knowledge" is a classic. It was published in 1888, and carried out with systematic thoroughness the new principle of an inner activity of thought which had already found expression

in Mr. F. H. Bradley's polemic against the formalism and associationism of the empirical school. The next large work was "A History of Æsthetic" in 1892. In 1912-1913 were published the two volumes of Gifford Lectures, the first on "The Principle of Individuality and Value," the second on "The Value and Destiny of the Individual." It was in these lectures that he worked out his philosophical theory of the meaning of life. "This universe," he said, borrowing a phrase from Keats, "is the vale of soul-making." These volumes constitute one of the profoundest works of pure philosophy of the modern period.

Mr. Bosanquet was a man of great personal charm. Dialectic, in the Socratic meaning, was the joy of life to him, but he was always sympathetic to the opposer, genuinely eager to understand his point of view, and always anxious to appreciate its value. Yet no one was firmer or more tenacious in argument. He never expounded any theory or defended any position unless his whole heart was in it, and unless he was convinced of its truth.

Mr. Bosanquet kept himself fully abreast of all the intellectual movements of his time. He was thoroughly acquainted with the philosophical thought of Germany, and he was deeply interested in the new movement in Italian philosophy, the idealisms of Croce and Gentile, though dissenting from them on essential points. His knowledge of Italian was thorough, and only a few months ago he contributed an article in Italian to Prof. Gentile's *Giornale critico*. He was not attracted by the modern French philosophy, which he could never come to regard as other than superficial. The reason for this, no doubt, was that the approach to philosophy through the problems of science, the fundamental questions of mathematics, physics and physiology, which is especially distinctive of French philosophy, seemed to him less important and less compelling than the ethical approach.

Besides the important works mentioned, Mr. Bosanquet wrote numerous smaller books, many of striking originality and value; of these we may mention "The Philosophical Theory of the State" and two quite recent books, "The Meeting of Extremes in Contemporary Philosophy," 1921, and "Implication and Linear Inference," 1920.

For five years, 1903-1908, Mr. Bosanquet was professor of moral philosophy at St. Andrews. He was an original fellow of the British Academy, and was president of the Aristotelian Society from 1894 to 1898. He received the honorary degree of LL.D. from the University of Glasgow, and of D.C.L. from the University of Durham.

Mr. Bosanquet married, in 1895, Miss Helen Dendy, a sister of Prof. Arthur Dendy, of King's College, London. Mrs. Bosanquet served on the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Poor Law. She is the translator of Sigwart's "Logic" and the author of several books on social and economical questions.

DR. A. H. FISON.

THE staff of Guy's had subscribed money for a wireless installation to illustrate Dr. Alfred Henry Fison's lectures, and for the use of the hospital in other ways. On February 1, when on the roof by himself, attaching