

in the introduction of a system of rational forest management in India. He recorded his experiences and ideas in numerous reports, and he published a book on his "Reminiscences" of his activity in the Central Provinces. He was a great judge of character, and he succeeded in becoming the friend of those who served under him, while stimulating them to energetic action similar to his own. While at Nancy, he overcame in a short time the difficulties which had sprung up before his arrival, and his influence upon the students was highly beneficial; in return they loved and admired him. His younger son is a distinguished member of the Dehra Dun Research Institute.

CAPT. C. H. RYDER.

NEWS has come from Copenhagen of the death of Capt. Carl Hartvig Ryder, director of the Danish Meteorological Service, on May 3. He had been known to be suffering from rheumatism for some years and lately to find the cares of his official duty onerous; but, to us, the news of his death has come quite unexpectedly.

The Danish Meteorological Office is justly famous for the early production of Daily Weather Charts of the Atlantic Ocean, 1873 to 1876, by Capt. Hoffmeyer, sometime director, a work which was continued by the Danish Meteorological Office and Deutsche Seewarte jointly from 1881 until 1911, with the interval of August 1882 to August 1883, which was covered by the maps of the London Meteorological Office. In 1921 the International Committee expressed the desire for the charts to be brought up-to-date and Capt. Ryder had promised his aid. Further, with its relations to Greenland and Iceland, Denmark is one of the guardians of the farthest North, and for many years the Danish Meteorological Office has compiled all available infor-

mation about ice in northern waters and published with great promptitude year by year reports thereupon.

Capt. Ryder, a naval officer, was appointed director in 1907 on the death of Paulsen. He became a member of the International Meteorological Committee in 1910 and was an indefatigable and most helpful member of that body, especially in regard to weather telegrams from Iceland. By nature he was disposed to work out meteorological progress on conservative lines: he realised that there was still much to be done in improving the data without which there are no adequate means of testing theories. His presence at future international meetings will be sadly missed by his colleagues.

NAPIER SHAW.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Dr. D. Duncan, formerly director of Public Instruction in India and principal of Presidency College, Madras, and biographer of Mr. Herbert Spencer, on May 18, aged eighty-three.

Dr. Hans Goldschmidt, the originator of the process for the preparation of chromium known by his name and of thermite, a mixture of aluminium and oxide of iron, used for welding iron and steel, and also in incendiary bombs, on May 20, aged sixty-two.

Prof. G. L. Goodale, professor of botany at Harvard University from 1878 until his retirement as emeritus professor in 1909, and president of the American Association in 1890, on April 12, aged eighty-three.

Prof. Immelmann, general secretary of the German Röntgen Society, in Berlin, on April 1, aged fifty-six.

Dr. A. Looss, formerly professor of parasitology in the School of Medicine, Cairo, a distinguished helminthologist, on May 4, aged sixty-two.

Mr. M. de C. S. Salter, superintendent of the British Rainfall Organisation, on May 21, aged forty-two.

Prof. A. G. Webster, professor of physics, Clark University, Worcester, Mass., known for his work on acoustics, aged fifty-nine.

Current Topics and Events.

WE learn from the Paris correspondent of the *Times* that the celebrations of the centenary of the birth of Pasteur commenced on May 24 with a reception by the French President at the Elysée. On the following day the principal ceremony was held at the Sorbonne, where a plaque was unveiled which bears an inscription recording the meeting between Pasteur and Lister in the Sorbonne on December 27, 1892. This tribute was arranged by the Association France-Grande Bretagne. A visit was paid by the President and the Minister of Education to Pasteur's birthplace at Dôle on May 26. M. and Mme. Vallery-Radot, descendants of Pasteur, have presented a bust of Pasteur, which was unveiled in the Galerie des Glaces at the Palace of Versailles on May 28, and the French President is to unveil the Pasteur monument at Strasbourg on May 31. A kinematograph film tracing the principal events in the life of Pasteur and giving a general idea of his scientific work was exhibited on May 24 to more than 3000 school-children in Paris, and considerable sums in aid of French laboratories have been collected by the sale of Pasteur badges in the streets. A new

French 10-centimes postage stamp bearing the effigy of Pasteur engraved by Prud'homme has been issued to mark the occasion of the centenary. We hope to publish later an account of the celebrations by one of the British delegates.

As recorded in our columns, the late Arthur William Bacot, entomologist to the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine, one of the most brilliant and original investigators in the field of medical entomology, lost his life a little more than a year ago in the course of an experimental inquiry into the rôle of the louse in the transmission of typhus. Several of Mr. Bacot's friends and colleagues have thought that some memorial of him ought to be established in the village where he resided and, before his appointment to the staff of the Lister Institute, carried out important medico-entomological researches. Mr. Bacot entered the ranks of specialist investigators from those of amateur naturalists and Nature students, and always attached the greatest importance to the teaching of Nature study in the elementary schools. His colleagues and friends believe that the