

Obituary.

PROF. J. E. CREIGHTON.

NEWS reaches us from America of the death on October 8, after a long illness, of Prof. James Edwin Creighton, Sage professor of logic and metaphysics in Cornell University since 1895. The United States lose in him one of their most influential and deeply respected teachers. It is only a short time ago that Prof. Creighton's old pupils published a volume of essays in his honour. He was better known as a tutor and lecturer than as an author, though his "Introductory Logic" is widely used by students in Great Britain as well as in the United States. He was engaged on an important work, "The Rise of the Historical Method in Philosophy," when illness compelled him to set it aside. Outside his own university, he was widely known as editor of the *Philosophical Review*, one of the leading American journals devoted to philosophy, and representative of the idealist theories, also as American editor of "Kant-Studien."

Prof. Creighton was one of the founders of the American Philosophical Association, and its president in 1902 and 1903. He was a member of the permanent committee of the International Congresses of Philosophy and took great interest in the European meetings. It was one of his most ardent wishes to arrange an international meeting in the United States, and his death occurred just at the time when his Association is sending out its invitation to the VIth Congress to be held at an American University in 1926.

Prof. Creighton was born at Pictou, Nova Scotia, on April 8, 1861. He was educated at Dalhousie College, Halifax. The terrible explosion which occurred in that city during the War occasioned the loss of

many friends and relatives, and he never completely recovered from the sorrow and shock which he suffered at that time.

H. WILDON CARR.

WE learn with deep regret that Sir Archibald Geikie died on Monday, November 10, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. The world of letters as well as that of science has thus lost a leader of the highest distinction, whose work has had a profound influence upon intellectual progress and the advancement of knowledge. A few months ago (*NATURE*, July 26) we published an appreciative survey of his activities in a review of his autobiography, and in our issue of January 5, 1893, his portrait appeared in the *NATURE* Series of Scientific Worthies, with a sketch of his career by Prof. A. de Lapparent. It is unnecessary to mention now his untiring activities in scientific fields or the many academic honours which came to him, but we are voicing the thought of the whole scientific world when we say that his death leaves a blank in the lives of all who are stimulated by human achievement.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

M. L. E. Bertin, for many years director of naval construction in France, and an honorary member of the Institution of Naval Architects, who, in addition to his technical studies, contributed to our knowledge of the theory of waves, aged eighty-four.

Col. H. D. Love, from 1880 until 1907 principal of the Civil Engineering College at Madras, who was also a student of Anglo-Indian history, aged seventy-two.

Mr. R. W. M. Thomson, assistant lecturer in chemistry at King's College, University of London, on November 5, aged twenty-five.

Current Topics and Events.

THE following is a list of those recommended by the president and council for election to the council of the Royal Society at the anniversary meeting on December 1:—*President*: Sir Charles Sherrington; *Treasurer*: Sir David Prain; *Secretaries*: Mr. W. B. Hardy and Mr. J. H. Jeans; *Foreign Secretary*: Sir Richard Glazebrook; *Other Members of Council*: Sir Frederick Andrewes, Prof. J. H. Ashworth, Dr. F. W. Aston, Sir William Bragg, Prof. S. Chapman, Sir Dugald Clerk, Dr. H. H. Dale, Prof. F. G. Donnan, Prof. A. S. Eddington, Prof. E. S. Goodrich, Sir Thomas Holland, Prof. J. B. Leathes, Prof. T. R. Merton, Dr. G. C. Simpson, Prof. J. F. Thorpe, and Prof. F. E. Weiss. The Earl of Crawford and Balcarres and Sir Otto Beit have been elected fellows of the Royal Society under the Statute which permits of elections on the grounds of conspicuous services rendered to science.

H.M. THE KING has approved of the following awards this year by the president and council of the Royal Society:—A Royal Medal to Sir Dugald Clerk for his application of scientific principles to engineering problems, particularly to the development of the internal-combustion engine; and a Royal Medal to Dr. H. H. Dale, for his researches in pharmacology

and physiology. The following awards have also been made by the president and council:—The Copley Medal to Sir E. Sharpey-Schafer, for his valuable work in physiology and histology; the Rumford Medal to Mr. C. V. Boys, for his invention of the gas calorimeter; the Davy Medal to Prof. A. G. Perkin, for his researches on the structure of natural colouring matters; and the Darwin Medal to Prof. T. H. Morgan, for his valuable work in zoology, especially his researches on heredity and cytology.

MRS. TYNDALL, widow of Prof. John Tyndall, has made a donation of 500*l.* to the Royal Society to be used at the discretion of the Tyndall Mining Bequest Committee, as a fund to meet out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Tyndall Research Student in carrying out his investigations. This gift is additional to the sum of 1000*l.* entrusted to the Royal Society in 1910 for the purpose of encouraging and furthering research in all matters pertaining to mining, including such questions as ventilation, temperature, diseases incidental to miners, and so forth. The income of the former gift is utilised to promote research relating to mining, and much valuable work has been done in connexion with the physiological condition of miners and their safety in mines.