

oyster fisheries of the Lim Fjord, giving a historical summary, an account of the banks, the food, age, spawning, and methods of capture. These oyster fisheries yielded in the decade 1900-1909 an average annual revenue of 70,000 Kr. to the State. Since the introduction of the new rental tariff they have furnished 140,000 Kr. in rental alone, and by the new methods of working this will be still further increased. Amongst other schemes he considered the question of utilising the common starfishes as manure. Nothing, indeed, relating to the Danish fisheries escaped him, and his training and abilities as a practical naturalist enabled him to improve various nets, such as otter-seines, as well as invent an apparatus, 'grab' as it was called, or bottom sampler, to lift samples of the sea bottom with its inhabitants for investigation. In connexion with the organic matter on the sea bottom, he found *Zostera* richer in pentosan compounds than plankton organisms, and that bivalves were capable of digesting it. In 1914 he urged the establishment of a permanent biological station on land on which young men could be trained for the work of the fisheries—with the prospect of regular employment.

Taken all in all, it is seldom that so able and so experienced a naturalist has given his life-long services to his country, or left so noteworthy a record behind him. Petersen often attended the meetings of the British Association, where he was equally welcome as popular. He was no less esteemed abroad than at home, as testified by his honorary degrees of LL.D. from the University of St. Andrews and D.Sc. from the University of Leeds, whilst for seven years he was at the head of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea. He was inclined to recommend the policy of increasing the size of the fishes—especially flat fishes—rather than increasing their numbers by artificial hatching as in Norway and America.

W. C. M'INTOSH.

PROF. A. H. LEAHY.

ARTHUR HERBERT LEAHY, who died at Littlehampton, Sussex, on May 16, just before he had completed his seventy-first year, will be mourned by many generations of Sheffield students. For thirty years he was one of the best-known members, first of Firth College, then of University College, and finally of the University of Sheffield.

Leahy was born at Corfu in 1857, and was the eldest son of Colonel Arthur Leahy, R.E., of Flesk, Killarney. He was educated at Uppingham School, Trinity College, Dublin, and Pembroke College, Cambridge, and was placed ninth wrangler in 1881. In 1886 he was made a fellow and mathematical lecturer at Pembroke, and in 1892 became professor of mathematics at Firth College, Sheffield.

While at Pembroke, Leahy contributed to the study of spherical and tesseral harmonics and helped to introduce into England some of the continental work in this branch of applied mathematics. At all times he was keenly interested in what may be called the mathematical side of theoretical physics, but his teaching and ad-

ministrative duties took up his time, and his mathematical interests were satisfied by following developments from afar. An aspect of the breadth of his tastes appears from his work on old Celtic literature and his classical learning. Leahy's interest in astronomy led Pembroke College to give to the University of Sheffield a valuable telescope and transit instrument, housed now in the Observatory in Weston Park adjoining the University. Many were the nights spent there by him, and many the visitors whom he was delighted to welcome there.

Leahy's main achievements were in the building up of what is now the University of Sheffield, in setting the foundations of the Mathematical Department, and in teaching many of those who are now carrying on the torch. The University remembers him with grateful appreciation of his services.

THE issue of the *Physikalische Zeitschrift* for Feb. 15 contains an obituary notice of Prof. Ferdinand Kurlbaum, by Dr. F. Henning, a former colleague at the Reichsanstalt. F. Kurlbaum was born at Burg, near Magdeburg, on Oct. 4, 1857. On the death of his mother, his father, a district judge, placed him in charge of an aunt until he was six, when his father married again.

As he grew up Kurlbaum hated school, and was twenty-three years of age before he passed the university entrance examination and became a student at Heidelberg, and later at Berlin. In 1887 he got his doctor's degree with a research on the wave-lengths of certain lines in the solar spectrum, done under the guidance of Kayser, who was then one of Helmholtz's assistants. On Kayser's promotion to Hanover, Kurlbaum became his assistant and remained with him until 1891, when he was appointed assistant at the Reichsanstalt in Lummer's department. In 1901 he became head of the Electrical Machinery Department, and in 1904 left the Reichsanstalt to become professor at the Charlottenburg Technical School, with Rubens as a colleague. Military occupations had a great attraction for him, and during the War he did a large amount of testing mirrors and guns. He died on July 29, 1927. His work on black body radiation and on the radiation thermometer is well known.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Mr. Charles S. Boyer, of Philadelphia, known for his studies of Diatomaceæ, aged seventy-one years.

Dr. John S. Dexter, since 1923 professor of zoology in the University of Porto Rico, on April 19, aged forty-two years.

Prof. Léon Guignard, professor of general botany in the Faculty of Pharmacy of Paris, and president in 1919 of the Paris Academy of Sciences, aged seventy-five years.

Prof. Harris H. Wilder, professor of zoology in Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts, known for his work on the anatomy of amphibia and also for his anthropological studies, on Feb. 27, aged sixty-three years.