

inexhaustible energy resulted in collections of equally rare and interesting plants.

During his numerous explorations Henry's interest had been aroused in trees and in the forests. When he finally returned home in 1900, after having accomplished what would have satisfied many men as a life's work, he therefore determined to study forestry. For this purpose, being then forty-five years old, he joined the French Forestry School at Nancy, where he passed nearly two years, 1902-3. It was in the latter year that, being on furlough, I accompanied the senior class of that school on a tour of the Vosges and first met Henry, who formed one of the class. To those who knew that delightful personality, it will be unnecessary to say that Henry was the life and soul of the party, and his quaint Irishisms and anecdotes, rendered into French with a rich Irish brogue, were an unflinching source of merriment.

In connexion with his forest work, Henry will be chiefly remembered for his collaboration with the late H. J. Elwes in producing the great standard work on "The Trees of Great Britain and Ireland", which was published in parts between 1906 and 1913.

It was whilst engaged on this work that Henry was appointed to the first readership in forestry founded in 1907 in the new School of Forestry at Cambridge. From that appointment he started a second life's work. At Cambridge he was chiefly interested in carrying out breeding experiments connected with trees, chiefly elms, on Mendelian lines—a piece of research work which, for some purposes, may have practical results. In 1913, Henry was appointed professor of forestry in the College of Science, Dublin, the chair being afterwards absorbed (in 1926) in the Irish National University. In addition to the "Trees of Great Britain" he published "Forests and Trees in Relation to Hygiene", and many papers in the *Kew Bulletin* and other scientific publications. His travels, apart from China, in the forests of North America and a considerable portion of Europe, gave him an intimate knowledge of the species of trees of many types, a knowledge which was ever at the disposal of all.

Henry had a wide circle of friends in many walks of life, and many will remember the kindly face, great energy, and ever ready humour which rendered so many excursions of the Royal Arboricultural Societies the more enjoyable for his company.

E. P. STEBBING.

#### PROF. F. V. THEOBALD.

FREDERICK VINCENT THEOBALD died on Thursday, Mar. 6, at his residence, Wye Court, Wye, Kent, at sixty-one years of age. Though a comparatively young man, he had not had good health for some time, being very susceptible to chills. Last Easter he made a marvellous recovery from pneumonia, but it undoubtedly left its mark in the form of a weakened heart. Some six weeks ago, when about to leave the house for a much-needed change, he became ill and was ordered to bed. He seemed to

be progressing satisfactorily when bronchitis set in, and this in his weakened state led to his death.

The son of the late J. P. Theobald of Kingston-upon-Thames, Theobald's early days were passed at his home and at St. Leonards. He then went to St. John's College, Cambridge. From a very early age he was attracted to all forms of Nature study, and at the early age of eight, with childish enthusiasm, he set himself the task of writing the "Fauna of Sussex". The pages in a boyish handwriting showed such promise that his parents deemed them worthy of binding, and they form an interesting first volume to his many subsequent works.

Of Theobald's later entomological work much could be written. After taking his degree he became an extension lecturer in economic zoology for the University of Cambridge, but on the opening of the South-Eastern Agricultural College in 1894 he gave this up, taking up the post of lecturer in agricultural zoology at Wye.

Besides the many reports of economic entomology which have appeared from Theobald's pen, he published "Agricultural Zoology", a standard textbook, and "Insect Pests of Fruit", a large reference work which soon found favour amongst the fruit-growers not only of Kent but also of Britain generally. About this time he was also engaged upon work on mosquitoes, and having completed his "Monograph of the Mosquitoes of the World", he turned his attention to the Aphidæ. This was some twenty years ago, and although the third and last volume of his monograph on the "Plant Lice or Aphidæ of Great Britain" appeared a year ago, he was still at work upon the group at the time of his death.

Among the numerous scientific distinctions which came Theobald's way were the election to honorary membership of the Société nationale d'Acclimatation de France, from which he received the Grande Médaille Isidore Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire; Société pour l'Étude Agricolaire Zoologique de Bordeaux; Société de Médecine tropicale de Paris; Association of Economic Entomologists of the United States, and the Royal Horticultural Society of Britain, etc. He was made an Officer of the Imperial Ottoman Order of the Osmanieh; he was also a Mary Kingsley medallist (University of Liverpool) and a fellow of the Entomological Society of London; only a few years ago he was presented with the Victoria gold medal of honour of the Royal Horticultural Society. He was also an early president of the Society of Economic Biologists; and at one time was vice-principal of the South-Eastern Agricultural College.

From 1900 to 1904 Theobald was entrusted with the arrangement of the economic zoology collection at the British Museum and resigned his agricultural zoology professorship in the University of London. In 1920 he ceased to hold the post of lecturer at Wye College, devoting his time to advisory and research work under the Ministry of Agriculture, and though this work was primarily for the south-eastern province of England, he had much correspondence from other parts of the world.

Theobald was not a collector in the ordinary sense of the word, and was always against the formation of mere collections of dried insects; he got together, however, what is probably the finest collection in existence of insects of economic importance, showing the various stages and damage done by these pests. In his work he may at times have appeared too hasty in his summing up of obscure matters and so opened himself to criticism, but in time his critics were usually compelled to come round to his way of thinking.

Of a kindly and genial nature, Theobald was always more than ready to help with advice those who came to him for assistance, and the present writer, who had the privilege of being in close touch with him for nineteen years, will always be grateful to him for his ever-ready help. He was buried in Wye Churchyard on Monday, Mar. 10, being borne from the house by colleagues and students of the College to which he had given so much of his time. C. A. W. D.

WE regret to announce the death in his sixty-second year of Prof. Robert Franz Pschorr, which occurred quite unexpectedly on Feb. 23 in Munich. Prof. Pschorr occupied the chair of organic chemistry at the Technical High School in Charlottenburg. From the *Chemiker-Zeitung* we learn the following particulars of his career. Born and educated in Munich, he began the study of chemistry there under Adolph von Baeyer. Part of his student course was also spent with Bamberger at Zurich and with Knorr at Jena, where he graduated in 1893. Attracted to Berlin by Emil Fischer, he

began there his well-known work on the synthesis of derivatives of phenanthrene, which at once established his reputation. Thereafter Pschorr's chief interest lay in the investigation of the constitution of the alkaloids derived from phenanthrene. Shortly after his arrival in Berlin, Pschorr was appointed to a responsible position in the University Chemical Institute, and in 1914 he was elected to succeed Liebermann at Charlottenburg. During his later years he devoted considerable attention to the investigation of coal-tar. He interested himself greatly in the student-life of Berlin, and became the first president of the students' hostel at Charlottenburg. He was the recipient of many academic honours, and was one of the editors of the *Berichte der deutschen chemischen Gesellschaft*.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Prof. G. A. Gibson, emeritus professor of mathematics in the University of Glasgow, aged seventy-one years.

M. Armand Solvay, president of the Société Solvay, and honorary member of the Society of Chemical Industry, who was the son of Ernest Solvay, the pioneer of the ammonia soda process, on Feb. 2, aged sixty-three years.

Dr. J. W. L. Spence, who was associated with Röntgen in his early investigation of X-rays, and was one of the founders of the Radiological Department of Edinburgh Infirmary, on Mar. 15.

Sir David Wilson, Bart., honorary treasurer and formerly chairman of directors and convener of the science committee of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, on Mar. 8, aged seventy-four years.

### News and Views.

MR. RICHARD INWARDS, pioneer in mining and related operations in various parts of the world, celebrates his ninetieth birthday on April 22, an event the more auspicious in view of his maintenance of personal vigour. Born at Houghton Regis and educated at Soulbury, Mr. Inwards early engaged in and afterwards adopted as a career mining prospection work, allied also with managerial duties. He has reported on mining enterprises in Great Britain, Norway, Portugal, Austria, South America, and Mexico; indeed we think he has an even wider range of countries to his credit. Elected president of the Royal Meteorological Society in 1894, Mr. Inwards served for two years; his presidential addresses were entitled respectively, "Some Phenomena of the Upper Air", and "Weather Fallacies". He was also author of an interesting paper "Turner's Representations of Lightning", showing that the artist's representations might be placed side by side with photographs of lightning, and would be found to convey faithfully to the mind all that the highest powers of sight can perceive in the phenomena. Mr. Inwards once wrote regarding popular weather prophets: "The stock-in-trade of a prophet is of a slender and cheap description. He must have an inventive mind, a store of self-confidence, a keen memory for successes, and a prompt forgetful-

ness of failures." Mr. Inwards has been a fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society for many years.

CLASSICAL education, as a contribution to general culture of the mind, is by no means to be held in small repute by those whose training has directed them into scientific channels of thought. We sympathise with the view that everyone, including the scientific worker, has much to learn from the classics, and here we evidently have the support of the Archbishop of York, who discussed the matter in his presidential address to the Classical Association on "The Distinctive Excellencies of Greek and Latin". To look back on to a past age, to examine and to assimilate something of the spirit of the sources of our present-day civilisation, is a delight and a profitable recreation such as we could wish all members of the scientific professions to enjoy, for the distinctive excellencies of Greek and Latin are unquestionable. In so far as there are schools whence youth passes out into the world primed with scientific facts and figures but ignorant almost of the very existence of ancient civilisations, we would support the claims of the humanities—literature, history, philosophy—to recognition, but we would also remind Dr. Temple that there are places where neither the plea nor the support is necessary, where it is the