founded on unambitious lines has grown in the space of fifty years into a University with nearly 2000 students and a staff of 268, constantly widening its range of studies, developing a strong Faculty of Arts while maintaining the distinction of its scientific work, retaining through all this expansion the atmosphere of friendliness in which it justifiably takes pride, and meeting its financial obligations in face of an annual expenditure increased in the space of six years from 70,000*l.* to 173,000*l.*

The University of Leeds is also entitled to congratulation for its present resolve to continue its progress in spite of the severe financial difficulties which stand in the way. It has set itself the great task of providing buildings worthy of its high purpose and of enlarging its endowment for scientific research. The purpose is one which deserves and will no doubt receive general commendation, and our best wish for the University is that its present enterprise will be crowned with a success equal to its past achievements.

Obituary.

PROF. IAROSLAV HLAVA.

WITHIN recent times the Czechoslovak nation has suffered several losses of eminent professors of its Charles' (Bohemian) University, which have been recorded in NATURE. Prof. Iaroslav Hlava died in Prague in his seventieth year on November 1. Prof. Hlava was the senior of the medical faculty and its eminent, most representative member. He was professor of pathological anatomy and of bacteriology, but he had to establish the chair of that science for our nation, for up to the year 1882 it was represented only by German professors. He began his career as a demonstrator of Prof. Klebs in Prague and then studied under Conheim, Weigert, Wirchow, Recklingshausen, Cornil, Vulpian, and Stricker.

Hlava became in 1884 associate professor, and in 1887 ordinary professor; later he was dean of the faculty, and in 1906 Rector Magnificus of our University. He was a great teacher of pathological anatomy. But he was also a well-known scientific investigator, and the number of his scientific discoveries and publications is too great to be mentioned here in detail. The principal object of his investigations were the infectious diseases, the modern teaching of which celebrated its triumphs at a time when Hlava was a young man. Bacteriology was in our country closely connected with his name. His special study was that of exanthemata, especially of scarlatina and of exanthemic typhoid fever, but this investigation proceeded very slowly, owing to the scarcity of this disease, and was brought to a close only during the War. His other investigations covered histology, epidemiology, and parasitology.

Hlava published most of his papers in the Bohemian language, and established for this purpose a special Collective Journal. To every paper a French résumé was added, and so Hlava's work became known in foreign countries. How it was appreciated there is evident from the great interest by which his numerous papers were received at different scientific congresses, especially French, Russian, Polish, and Yugoslav. A proof of it is given by the fact that he was not only a member of Bohemian learned societies like the Bohemian Academy of Sciences, and president of our Medical Society and of the High Sanitary Council, but also president of the Bohemian national committee at many scientific congresses, and foreign associate of the Academy of Medicine in Paris, member of the military Medical Academy of Petrograd, and a number of other medical societies in various countries. He received three

high Serbian decorations. The imposing monument which exists in his wonderfully up-to-date Pathological Institute (called Hlava's Institute) will be a permanent symbol of his scientific significance.

BOHUSLAV BRAUNER.

CAMBRIDGE mourns the death, on December 7, of Richard Irwin Lynch, who for forty years was Curator of the University Botanic Garden. Mr. Lynch was born at St. Germans, Cornwall, in 1850, and went to Kew at the age of seventeen. He rose to the position of senior foreman, which he held until 1879, when he came to Cambridge. Of his many publications, all written in a fresh and charming style, perhaps the best known is his book on Iris. He is also well known by the Cineraria and Gerbera hybrids he raised. The University gave him an honorary degree of M.A. in 1906, and in the same year he received the Victorian Medal for Horticulture from the Royal Horticultural Society. In 1923 he received the Veitch medal inscribed "To R. Irwin Lynch for his work in Horticulture." He was an accurate botanist and an assiduous collector, and few of the present generation know how much Cambridge owes to him. On his retirement in 1919 he went to live at Torquay, a move deeply regretted by his numerous friends in Cambridge, who would have enjoyed his companionship, and been glad of his help and advice about everything to do with gardening.

H. G.-C.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Prof. Hugo von Seeliger, professor of astronomy and director of the observatory at Munich, and formerly president of the Bavarian Academy of Sciences, on December 2, aged seventy-five.

Dr. Otto Pufahl, professor of metallurgy in the mining department of the Berlin Technische Hochschule, on November 18, aged seventy.

Dr. Carlo De Stefani, professor of geology and physical geography in the Royal University of Florence, on December 12.

M. Eugène Simon, correspondant of the Paris Academy of Sciences in the section of anatomy and zoology, and author of the "Histoire naturelle des Araignées," on November 17, aged seventy-six.

Dr. Felix Tannhäuser, extra-ordinary professor of mineralogy and geology at the Technische Hochschule and the University of Berlin, on December 2.