

Geologists' Association and of other societies. At the time of his death he was an honorary member of the Geologists' Association, of the Geological Societies of Liverpool, Manchester, and Yorkshire, of the Philosophical Society of York, of the Belgian Society of Geology, and correspondent of the Academy of Natural Science of Philadelphia.

Whitaker made many a friend, but never an enemy. Indeed, it is impossible to suppose that with so kindly a nature he could speak an unkind word. To the younger generations of geologists he never failed to lay open his stores of knowledge, or to impart the enthusiasm with which he had himself been inspired. The attainment of the truth was the dominant motive with him, and it gave him as much pleasure that it should be attained by others as by himself. Unselfishness, transparent honesty, and kindness were the conspicuous features of his truly lovable character.

A. STRAHAN.

THE death on October 29 of Dr. Ernst König, of the famous dyeworks at Höchst-am-Main (formerly Meister, Lucius, and Brüning) at the early age of fifty-five, is recorded by the *Chemiker-Zeitung*. König's reputation rests securely upon his well-known researches in the field of photochemistry. Born at Flensburg in Schleswig, he graduated at the University of Leipzig, where for a very brief period he acted as assistant to Prof. Stohmann. In 1893 he entered the service of the dyeworks at Höchst, where he eventually attained a position of the highest responsibility. At first he undertook the investigation of new coal-tar colours, but his chief interest lay in their application to photographic processes. In 1902 a photographic department of the works was formed under his direction, and two years later a new kind of three-colour collodion process, the *pinachrome* process, was invented. This was

followed by the application of dyes to chromate-gelatin emulsions and the development of the *pinatype* process. He also devoted much attention to the production of various light-filters and desensitisers. One of the most important of his discoveries was that of the panchromatic plate. The problem of extending the region of sensitiveness of the emulsion beyond the yellow into the red and even far down into the infra-red region was solved by employing as sensitisers derivatives of quinoline, containing auxochromic groups in the benzene nucleus. König was also the author of numerous scientific papers and books on photographic subjects.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Mr. G. Abbott, well known for his geological studies, and one of the founders of the South Eastern Union of Scientific Societies, on January 12, aged eighty.

Right Rev. L. C. Casartelli, Roman Catholic Bishop of Salford, and formerly president of the Manchester Egyptian Association, of the Manchester Egyptian and Oriental Society, and of the Manchester Statistical Society, and the author of numerous papers in oriental journals and in the proceedings of the Manchester Statistical and Geographical Societies, on January 18, aged seventy-two.

Dr. Clement Dukes, for thirty-seven years physician to Rugby School, and author of "Essentials of School Diet" and "School Health," on January 18, aged seventy-nine.

Dr. J. McT. E. McTaggart, fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, since 1891, and the author of "The Nature of Existence," on January 18, aged fifty-eight.

Dr. Julius Morgenroth, a professor at the Robert Koch Institute for the study of infectious diseases in Berlin, and a former student and colleague of Paul Ehrlich, known for his work on immunity, on December 20, 1924, at the age of fifty-three.

Current Topics and Events.

GREAT encouragement for industrial research is contained in a notification just made to the chairman of the British Cotton Industry Research Association to the effect that 65,000*l.* is to be received by the Association as an addition to its present income—most welcome aid towards the maintenance of the laboratories at the Shirley Institute, Didsbury. The trustees of the Cotton Trade War Memorial Fund, acting on a recommendation from the Cotton Reconstruction Board, have decided, subject to the approval of the Board of Trade, to make this grant in instalments, 5000*l.* for the year ending June 30, 1926, and 20,000*l.* for each of the three years ending June 30, 1927, 1928, and 1929. Some four years ago the Cotton Reconstruction Board made a grant to the British Cotton Industry Research Association of 200,000*l.*, a sum from which a large part of its income has ever since been derived, and the fact that the trustees have now decided to continue their help shows their great confidence in the ultimate benefits that will accrue to the cotton trade as the result of scientific research. Nothing could more strongly signalise the value of science to the industry than a gift such as this; and their appreciation of what they

describe as "the good work being carried out by the Shirley Institute" is bound to encourage not only the staff there but industrial research workers throughout Great Britain. Further, they feel that this work should be made even more widely known to the trade and to the workpeople themselves, showing that the real importance of applied science is now being more fully realised. Thus the labours of chemists, physicists, botanists, and engineers on the fundamental problems presented by cotton are being justified.

THE Dominion of Canada, which extends in an irregular way on a 3000-mile base line, with a scattered population and cities widely separated, will benefit largely by radio communication. In accordance with the agreement made between the Marconi Co. and the British Post Office, the Canadian Marconi Co. has begun to construct a "beam" station in Canada for communication with the stations which the Marconi Co. is to erect in England. The transmitting station is being erected at Drummondville, 50 miles east of Montreal, where the main office is situated, and the receiving station is at Yamachiche, which is about the same distance from headquarters. Both sections