

Prof. G. MANNE SIEGBAHN, who has held the chair of physics in the University of Upsala since 1923, was born in 1886. Formerly he was a professor in the University of Lund. Nobel laureate in physics for 1924, an experimentalist of great refinement of method, his chief researches have been in the field of X-ray spectroscopy. He has made a special study of the soft radiations which lie between the ultra-violet and the ordinary X-ray region. Prof. Siegbahn is the author of "The Spectroscopy of X-rays" (Oxford Press, 1925). Published originally (1923) at Berlin, it was translated by Mr. George A. Lindsay, assistant professor of physics in the University of Michigan.

Prof. FRANK LINCOLN STEVENS, botanist, was born at Syracuse, N.Y., in 1871. He studied at Ohio State University and the University of Chicago. He occupied the chair of botany and vegetable pathology in North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts from 1902 until 1912, and shortly afterwards was elected professor of plant pathology in the University of Illinois, a post he still fills. He has been for many years head of the department of plant diseases and biologist in North Carolina Agricultural Experimental Station. Prof. Stevens is the author of a standard work, "Plant Disease Fungi."

Dr. JOHANNES WALTHER, who was born in 1860, occupies the chair of geology in the University of Halle-Wittenberg, Halle. Formerly he held a similar chair in the University of Jena. Dr. Walther is a foreign member of the Geological Society of London.

Prof. HENRY BALDWIN WARD, zoologist, was born at Troy, N.Y., in 1865. He is a graduate of Williams College, U.S.A., and he was a post-graduate student at the Universities of Göttingen, Freiburg, and Leipzig. He was professor of zoology in the University of Michigan from 1899 until 1909, and has since that date occupied the chair of zoology in the University of Illinois. He has long been in charge of the biological

work of the Michigan Fish Commission on Lake Michigan, and has rendered good service to the United States Fish Commission. Prof. Ward is the author of "Freshwater Biology" (1917), and of many monographs and papers, especially in regard to animal parasites and the relations of animals to disease.

Geheimrat WILHELM WIEN, the distinguished physicist, rector of the University of Munich, was born in 1864. Formerly he was professor of physics in the University of Würzburg, having succeeded Röntgen in 1900. Whilst working there, Prof. Wien was awarded the Nobel prize for physics (1911); in that year Madame Curie was given the Nobel prize for chemistry. Prof. Wien accepted the chair of experimental physics at Munich, on leaving Würzburg. It may be recalled that at the meeting of the Association held in Cambridge in 1904, Prof. Wien attended and read a paper entitled "Experiments to decide whether the Ether moves with the Earth."

Prof. PIETER ZEEMAN, of Amsterdam, was born in 1865. He is a foreign member of the Royal Society of London, and in 1922 was awarded the Rumford medal for his researches in optics. Earlier (1902) Prof. Zeeman was Nobel laureate in physics, jointly with Prof. H. A. Lorentz.

Limitations of space do not allow extension of the above brief notices, but we may add that other prominent European men of science attending the meeting include M. von Frey, professor of psychology, University of Würzburg, Dr. D. Nys A. Michotte, professor of psychology in the University of Louvain, Prof. E. Rignano, Milan, Prof. H. Kniep, occupant of the chair of botany in the University of Berlin, Dr. Bosch Gimpera, University of Barcelona, the leading archaeologist of northern Spain, M. Champy, professor of histology in the University of Paris, Dr. J. A. Christiansen, professor of chemistry in the University of Copenhagen, and Prof. H. ter Meulen, of Delft.

### Obituary.

SIR PETER SCOTT LANG.

WE learn with regret that Sir Peter Redford Scott Lang died on July 5 at his residence at Mansfield, St. Andrews. Owing to failing health, in 1921 he had retired from the chair of Regius professor of mathematics in the United Collegé at the University of St. Andrews, being given the title of emeritus professor, while he ever continued to show an alert and sympathetic interest in the town and college which he loved and served.

Born in Edinburgh on October 8, 1850, Sir Peter received his early education at the Institution and then studied at the University there, where he performed brilliantly in spite of the interruptions to his college work caused by the need to spend considerable time in an office. As a student so circumstanced and yet so successfully overcoming the difficulties of his twofold task, he won first the notice and later the esteem and lasting friendship of the late Prof. P. G. Tait, who appointed him in 1872 to be his assistant in natural philosophy at the University of Edinburgh.

In those days the graduate in arts was seldom proficient or even interested in the sciences; and it was

notable how this youthful assistant soon acquired a wide and accurate knowledge of these fields, inspired as he was by the example of Prof. Tait. These two friends co-operated both in classroom and in the work of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, where under this guidance the younger man received much useful experience, and where in 1878 he was made a fellow.

The next year Sir Peter was called to the chair of mathematics in St. Andrews, which had just been vacated by Chrystal, who was migrating to Edinburgh. From 1879 until 1921 Scott Lang held this post with marked distinction. He devoted himself both to his teaching and also to the wider interests of college life. In this venerable University, affiliated indeed to Bologna, the oldest of medieval universities, new life was wanting. Chrystal had scarcely spent long enough time there to make his influence felt; but during the service of his successor a regeneration took place. He sought to regain that spirit of comradeship among the students which was lacking, and, thanks very largely to his unsparing energies, St. Andrews regained much of the charm and distinction which are the incidental gifts that one of the older universities bestows on its

students. He earned the honours which King and College gave to him at the close of his active career.

MISS GERTRUDE LOWTHIAN BELL.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL studies in the Near East have suffered a great, indeed an almost irreparable, loss by the death of Miss Gertrude Lowthian Bell, which took place at Baghdad on July 11, at the age of fifty-seven years. The eldest daughter of Sir Hugh Bell, she was educated at Queen's College, London, and at the University of Oxford, where she took a first class in the History Schools. She then went to Teheran and later began her travels in Arab countries, travels in which—a remarkable achievement for a woman—she crossed the deserts of Arabia, thereby winning for herself the gold medal of the Royal Geographical Society, and visited the Shammar stronghold at Hayil, to which no European had penetrated for twenty years. Here a detention, virtually as a prisoner, gave her a remarkable insight into Arab customs, the Arab temperament, and an acquaintance with Ibn Saud, which were to prove later of the greatest value to Great Britain. It was very largely this knowledge of Arab character which was responsible for her successful achievement as a political officer at Baghdad during the War in the Political Department of the Government of India, which was then in charge of Mesopotamian affairs.

Miss Bell was not interested in geographical exploration alone; her knowledge of eastern archæology was both wide and deep. She was particularly interested in the study of early Christian and Islamic architecture, and in 1905 and 1907 she was associated with Sir William Ramsay in an examination of the churches of Lycaonia. The results were published in "The Thousand and One Churches," of which she wrote the greater part. Perhaps her greatest service to archæology was after the War, when she had taken up her residence as a member of the Government service in Baghdad. It was largely through her efforts that excavations were so promptly resumed after the War by the British Museum at Ur and the University of Oxford at Kish, and she founded and organised the Museum of Antiquities at Iraq, in which she worked hard as a labour of love until the time of her death.

Miss Bell's knowledge of the Arab and Arab politics played a large part in the settlement of Iraq after the War. How great this knowledge was, and the qualities upon which it was based, may perhaps best be gathered by those who did not know her personally from her books. In "The Desert and the Sown" (1906) and "Amurath to Amurath" (1910) she revealed the indomitable courage, backed as it was by an iron constitution, which had enabled her to endure the hardships of the desert; but she also showed what were her most striking qualities—penetration, sympathy, and a wide knowledge of Eastern human nature, permeated with a humorous and tolerant appreciation of its foibles.

MR. F. HARRISON GLEW, M.B.E.

WE regret to record the death of Mr. F. H. Glew, M.B.E., which took place on July 10, at the age of

sixty-eight years. Mr. Glew was educated at Wakefield Grammar School and entered engineering works in that town, but soon changed over to pharmaceutical studies and, in due course, became a member of the Pharmaceutical Society. Soon after the discovery of X-rays he became one of the pioneers of their use in medical work in England, and, for many years, he did the X-ray work for the Lambeth Infirmary, for the Belgrave Hospital for Children, and for medical men in that district.

As a pharmacist, Mr. Glew's interest was aroused by the medical uses of radium, and he occupied an important position in the radium world for many years, where his manipulative skill and chemical knowledge were put to very severe tests. During the War he was chief adviser on radium technique to the Ministry of (Optical) Munitions, his services being rewarded by an M.B.E. When the War was over, a large quantity of radium was put at the disposal of the Medical Research Council for medical investigations, and here again the services of Mr. Glew were requisitioned to deal with the technical problems involved in its use.

Mr. Glew was one of the original members of the Röntgen Society, and contributed several papers to its proceedings, but he wrote little beyond these articles and parts of the section on radiology and radium in the "Extra Pharmacopœia." He was also a fellow of the Institute of Physics and member of the Physical Society, and he served on the Board of Visitors of the Royal Institution, at all of which he gave not infrequent demonstrations. By these demonstrations, always exhibiting something novel in an ingenious way, Mr. Glew became known to a very wide scientific public; he had indeed made for himself a unique place in scientific work. His loss will be felt very much, especially by those who had learnt to look upon him with something akin to affection.

S. Russ.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Mr. E. T. Cresson, founder of the Entomological Society of Philadelphia, later the American Entomological Society, and an authority on North American Hymenoptera, on April 19, aged eighty-seven years.

Mr. G. A. Keartland, for more than forty years a member and in 1907 president of the Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria, who took part as naturalist in several expeditions to Central Australia, notably the Horn Expedition of 1894, and was known for his interest in bird-life.

Prof. Geo. D. Shepardson, professor of electrical engineering in the University of Minnesota since 1892, distinguished for his work on problems of electric lighting and telephone disturbances, on May 26, aged sixty-one years.

Prof. J. C. Smock, assistant in charge of the New York State Museum and afterwards (1890-1900) State geologist of New Jersey, on April 21, aged eighty-three years.

Dr. Henry M. Whelpley, dean of the St. Louis College of Pharmacy, secretary of the United States Pharmacopœial Convention and formerly president of the American Pharmaceutical Association, on June 26, aged sixty-five years.