

value to the College. Pressure of work caused him, however, to relinquish the chair in 1923, and it is significant of the aims of Armstrong College that he was succeeded by Dr. Cecil Cochrane, whose connexion with iron manufacture is too well known to need emphasising here.

Sir Hugh Bell was a notable exception to the widely held view that an able father does not produce an able son. Although in this case both father and son were distinguished ironmasters, it must, however, be admitted that their mentalities were of an entirely different order. Sir Lowthian Bell will be remembered best for his scientific acquirements and their application to technology, whilst Sir Hugh Bell's fame is not that of a man of science, but of a man who devoted his brilliant abilities and keen insight to the service of the community. It is not too much to say that he would have been eminent in any profession or career that he had cared to take up. It is a curious comment on the lives of these two great men that Sir Lowthian Bell, eminent as his scientific acquirements were, is now seen to have thrown back the industries of coke-making and of pig-iron production, to which he devoted his life, many years by his obstinate preference for the old-fashioned beehive to the more modern retort-oven coke. The future may possibly show that his brilliant son may have retarded the progress of the nation to a similar extent by his obstinate adherence to old-fashioned free trade principles. He appeared to disregard entirely the wise saying, *Temporibus mores sapiens sine crimine mutat*, and did not seem to realise that a policy which might have been entirely right and sound at one period of the world's history, might be disastrous under different conditions.

As is perhaps only natural in the case of a man who has succeeded in living to an age beyond that of most others, the closing years of Sir Hugh's life were saddened by the loss of many dear to him; here it is only necessary to mention the death of his gifted daughter, Gertrude Bell, who died in July 1926, and that of Lady Bell, who died a little more than a year ago.

The whole record of the life and activities of the man whose loss we mourn is that of a man of keen and penetrating intellect, a brilliant speaker, an advanced thinker, and a shrewd observer, whose keenness was, however, tempered by the geniality of his character, a man who devoted his great gifts unselfishly and unsparingly to the service of his fellow-men.

HENRY LOUIS.

THOUGH the Science Museum at South Kensington was established in 1857, the development of its collections had lagged far behind those representing art; but in 1909 a number of people distinguished in science and representing technical institutions sought an interview with the President of the Board of Education in order to represent the urgent importance of developing its collections and of providing more suitable buildings for their accommodation. The result of the representation thus made was that a Departmental Committee

was appointed in the following year, of which Sir Hugh Bell was the chairman, its terms of reference being to consider and report upon the condition and the future development of the Science Museum and the Geological Museum.

Sir Hugh Bell took the keenest interest in this task, and under his guidance the Committee prepared a detailed report, which was adopted by the Board, laying down the lines which the development of the Museum has since followed. The report proposed the replacement of the old buildings by others of modern type, of which the eastern and centre blocks were to be completed as soon as practicable, but the outbreak of war delayed the execution of this plan and only the former of these has as yet been constructed.

In 1913 Sir Hugh Bell was appointed chairman of the Advisory Council of the Science Museum, and in this capacity for eighteen years he watched over the development of the collections and their exhibition in the galleries of the new building in accordance with the plan devised by his Committee. Difficulties and delays occurred from time to time, and on all such occasions his tact, influence, and ready help were of the greatest value in overcoming them. He took a wide view of the influence which the museums at South Kensington might, he thought, exert, and he strongly advocated a general policy of co-operation in which each museum would not only work out its own line of policy but should also look out for and develop contact with the others in order that the various aspects of human endeavour might be more fully represented.

The Science Museum owes more to Sir Hugh Bell than to anyone, and by his death it has lost a wise counsellor, a ready helper, and a valued friend.

PROF. H. WILDON CARR.

By the death of Prof. Herbert Wildon Carr, which took place on July 8 at Los Angeles, at the age of seventy-four years, philosophy has lost an enthusiastic student and exponent, and philosophers in many countries a friend greatly respected for his single-minded devotion to learning and beloved for his generosity and kindness of heart.

Wildon Carr's life had some of the features of a romance, including (one may be permitted to say) a singularly fortunate and happy marriage. Born in circumstances which precluded a prolonged education, he had to go out into the world at the age of fourteen. But even at that tender age he had already marked out for himself what was to be the real business of his life, and addressed himself deliberately to the task of winning as soon as possible a financial competence in order that he might thereafter devote himself to philosophy. Not often have the dreams of boyhood worked out more completely 'according to plan'. For in due course Wildon Carr enjoyed in succession the status of a member of committee of the London Stock Exchange and of a president of the Aristotelian