ledge as the appreciation of its value, and the advantage of applying the methods of scientific inquiry in affairs of every kind. Such methods are not less applicable to the problems which confront the statesman, the administrator, the merchant, the manufacturer, the soldier, and the schoolmaster than to those of the scientific worker. These were the convictions of Sir Norman Lockyer, and he had the satisfaction in recent years of hearing them proclaimed from the housetops, while the Guild itself stands as a monument of their power and his prescience.

In 1904 a large and influential deputation urged upon Mr. Balfour, then Prime Minister, the need for further assistance to university education and research, and in announcing that the grant would at once be doubled, as well as redoubled in the following year, Mr. Balfour stated that the increase, which represented a capital sum of 3,000,000*l.* at 2½ per cent., was given as the result of the appeal made in 1903 by Sir Norman Lockyer in his presidential address to the British Association at Southport. This represents one result only of his ceaseless activity on behalf of science and higher education; the pages of NATURE throughout its existence afford ample testimony of the use of the same zeal for progress.

"There must," he once said, "be only one kind of education—the best—and that is to be given to everybody." He expected the best work from everybody associated with him, and would not tolerate any lower standard for either individual or national aims. His fingers have now loosed their grasp upon the torch of science which he held aloft for so many years, but the light still burns on the bank of the dark river he has crossed; and in admiration, hope, and reverence it will be borne onwards by workers whom he inspired. His body will be laid to rest on Saturday morning at Salcombe Regis Church, Sidmouth, but his spirit will remain in the observatory on the hill-top near-by to stimulate others to reach out and touch the sky.

Sir Edward Brabrook writes:—

Among the many who have been honoured by the friendship of Sir Norman Lockyer and are in sorrow at his death, I count myself, as having had opportunities of being associated with him in more than one capacity. I was one of those members of the Civil Service whom he invited to join with him in a welcome to Mowatt, of the Treasury, on the occasion of his election as a member of the Athenæum. In the year when Sir Norman presided over the British Association, I was one of the sectional presidents, and was nominated by him as a member of the council. I warmly sympathised with the wishes he then entertained for the extension of the functions of the association, and when these were seen to be not realisable in the form in which he desired them, I accepted his invitation to join in the formation of the British Science Guild. Others will be better able than I to tell the story of his labours for that institution, and of the success that has attended them; but I may say a few words on another aspect of his untiring intellectual work, viz. his contributions to archæology. In this respect he was an example of the interdependence that exists between the sciences, for it was the pursuit of his favourite science of astronomy that gave the direction to his studies of ancient civilisation. In the temples of Egypt and in the stone circles of our own country he found evidence of the astronomical knowledge and purpose with which they were erected, and his own profound acquaintance with the problems they presented to him from that point of view led him to conclusions which, as in the case of fixing the date of Stonehenge, were closely verified by the evidence afterwards derived from excavations on the spot.

AGRICULTURAL chemistry has lost a distinguished exponent by the death of PROF. EDWARD KINCH on August 6 at the age of seventy-one. Prof. Kinch was educated at the Grammar School, Henley-on-Thames, and the Royal College of Chemistry, and successively occupied the following positions:—Chief assistant to the professor of chemistry (the late Sir Arthur Church) at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, 1869–73; on chemical staff of Royal School of Mines, 1873–75; superintendent of minerals, India Museum, 1875–76; professor of chemistry, Imperial College of Agriculture, Tokyo, 1876–81; professor of chemistry, Cirencester, 1881–1915, when the Royal Agricultural College closed on account of the war. He published many technical papers on agricultural chemistry, in which he was a leading authority, always distinguished by the soundness of his judgment. As a teacher Prof. Kinch did much for his subject both in this country and in Japan, and he will be remembered with respect and affection by many generations of students and numerous former colleagues. His life was saddened by the premature death of his young wife (a daughter of the late Rev. Geo. Huntington), whom he married in 1889, and after this he led a somewhat retired life. Those privileged to be his intimate friends will not easily forget his many sterling qualities and quiet sense of humour.

J. R. A.-D.

WE regret to note that the death of MR. JOHN KIRKALDY is announced in *Engineering* for August 13. Mr. Kirkaldy was born in 1853, and was head of the well-known London firm of John Kirkaldy, Ltd. Quite early in life he took over the management of his father's business, and under his direction the firm played an important part in introducing fresh-water distilling apparatus for use on board ship. Plant of this kind was also designed for use in the Ashanti campaign, and in 1883 and 1885 in connection with the Egyptian campaigns. Mr. Kirkaldy was a member of the Institution of Civil Engineers, and also of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.