

before his death, and his wife survives him. An appreciation of his work by Prof. F. Cohn is contained in *Astronomische Nachrichten*, No. 5053.

THE death is announced, at the age of fifty-eight, of PROF. SAMUEL SHELDON, professor of physics and electrical engineering at the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn since 1889. Prof. Sheldon was at one time assistant to Kohlrausch, with whom he was associated in the former's determination of the ohm. In 1906 he was elected president of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

THE death of SIR LINDSAY WOOD, Bt., on September 22, at eighty-six years of age, is announced in the *Journal of the Royal Society of Arts*. Sir Lindsay was born in 1834, and educated at the Royal Keper Grammar School, Houghton-le-Spring, and King's College, London. He served as a mining engineer apprentice at Hetton Collieries, of which in 1866 he became managing

director. He was also on the boards of several other coal companies and allied undertakings. From 1875-78 he was president of the Northern Institute of Mining and Mechanical Engineers, and in 1879 he served on the Royal Commission on Accidents in Mines. His chief work was a series of elaborate and exhaustive experiments on the pressure of gas in coal. Sir Lindsay was created a baronet in 1897, and served as Deputy-Lieutenant and High Sheriff of the County of Durham.

DR. HARMON NORTHRUP MORSE, professor of inorganic and analytical chemistry and director of the chemical laboratory at Johns Hopkins University, died recently in his seventy-second year. Having graduated at Amherst in 1873, Dr. Morse returned to that college as an assistant in chemistry in 1875, after a period of study at Göttingen. In the following year he was appointed associate professor at Johns Hopkins, and in 1891 was promoted to a full professorship. He carried out many original researches on osmotic pressure and related subjects.

### Notes.

At the concluding meeting of the International Congress of Physiologists, which was held in Paris on July 16-20, it was unanimously resolved, on the invitation of Sir E. Sharpey Schafer, to hold the next meeting in Edinburgh in 1923.

THE annual oration of the Medical Society of London is to be delivered in May next by Lord Dawson of Penn. The Lettsomian lectures of the same society are to be given in February and March next by Mr. George E. Gask.

THE British Electrical and Allied Industries Research Association has been approved by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research as complying with the conditions laid down in the Government scheme for the encouragement of industrial research. The association may be approached through Mr. E. B. Wedmore, Electrical Research Committee, c/o Electrical Development Association, Hampden House, 64 Kingsway W.C.2.

THE following arrangements have been made by the Royal College of Physicians of London:—The Horace Dobell lecture will be delivered by Sir William B. Leishman, at 5 o'clock on November 2, on "An Experimental Investigation of the Parasite of Tick Fever, *Spirochaeta Duttoni*"; the Bradshaw lecture by Dr. C. Wall, at 5 o'clock on November 4, on "Chorea"; and the FitzPatrick lectures by Dr. E. G. Browne, at 5 o'clock on November 9 and 11, on "Arabian Medicine after Avicenna."

THE council of the Chemical Society has arranged for the following lectures to be held during the coming session:—October 28, Emil Fischer memorial lecture, Dr. M. O. Forster; December 16, Some Properties of Explosives, Sir Robert Robertson; April 7, 1921, Mass Spectra and Atomic Weights, Dr. F. W. Aston; and June 16, 1921, The Natural Photo-

synthetic Processes on Land and in Sea and Air, and their Relation to the Origin and Preservation of Life upon the Earth, Prof. Benjamin Moore. By the courtesy of the council of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, the first two lectures will be held in the lecture hall of that institution (Storey's Gate, Westminster, S.W.1). Informal meetings, at which fellows are invited to show experiments and apparatus, will be held at Burlington House on November 18 next and on February 3 and May 19, 1921.

PROF. F. SODDY's review of the activities of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research published in the *Observer* of September 26 has been followed up in the same newspaper by letters from Dr. J. W. Evans and Mr. J. W. McConnell. Prof. Soddy remarked: "To-day a new kind of science—Government science—is being step by step built up, not for humanity, but its masters; not for the community, but big business"; emphasised the fundamental change of policy which accompanied the creation of the new department for the administration of funds for industrial research; and contrasted the generous treatment and comparative freedom from Government control accorded to industrial associations with the arbitrary methods of dealing with individual research workers. Dr. Evans suggests that the mistakes of the Department are attributable to the "fundamentally wrong-headed attitude adopted by the nation generally with regard to our scientific societies and the science faculties of our universities," and instances the disabilities under which these bodies suffer in carrying on their work. He deplores also the decision of some university authorities to raise their fees at a critical time in the nation's history. Mr. McConnell, who acted as chairman of the provisional committee for forming the Cotton Research Association, although in general sympathy with the