

annual volumes published. He paid attention to several widely different groups of plants, while he was keenly interested in the problems concerning hybridisation.

Mr. Rolfe was elected an associate of the Linnean Society in 1885. He received many distinctions. In February last he was awarded the Victoria medal of the Royal Horticultural Society and the gold medal of the Veitch Memorial Trust Fund. Mr. Rolfe's work was well done. He was esteemed by all who knew him, and his many amiable qualities won for him the affectionate regard of his numerous colleagues and friends.

PROF. ISAO IJIMA, who died of apoplexy in Tokyo on March 14, was born in 1861, and received his training as a zoologist in Tokyo from Prof. C. O. Whitman; and his first papers, on the leech *Nephelis*, were contributed to the *Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science* and *Zoologischer Anzeiger* (1882). Continuing the study of various worms, he was attracted to the laboratory of Leuckart; but after his return to Japan, about 1890, he began a long series of researches on the

beautiful Hexactinellid sponges of the neighbouring seas. In a series of papers published in the *Journal of the College of Science of Tokyo University*, Ijima threw light on the structure and development of many of these siliceous sponges. On the death of Mitsukuri, Ijima became senior professor of zoology at Tokyo University. Though administrative duties checked the flow of papers, he had prepared the manuscript of a large monograph on the Hexactinellidæ, which, it is to be hoped, will soon see the light. Ijima was a good shot, a keen fisherman, an all-round naturalist, and a charming companion. He leaves many friends and a succession of distinguished pupils.

THE death is announced, in *Science* of April 8, of DR. JOHN IRIDELLE DILLARD HINDS, at the age of seventy-three years. Dr. Hinds was one of the founders of the American Chemical Society, and for forty years acted as professor of chemistry, first in Cumberland University and later in the University of Nashville and Peabody College. At the time of his death he was chemist to the Geological Survey of Tennessee.

Notes.

THE first of the two annual soirées of the Royal Society will be held at Burlington House on Wednesday, May 11.

In consequence of industrial disturbances, the Congress of Radiology, fixed for April 14 and following days, has been postponed until the spring of 1922.

It is announced that the King has approved the conferment of the honour of knighthood on Dr. James Craig, King's professor of medicine at Trinity College, Dublin, and president of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland.

THE *British Medical Journal* for April 16 states that the Government of Panama has assigned the sum of 10,000,000 dollars for the erection in Panama of the proposed Institute for Tropical Diseases in memory of the late Surg.-Gen. Gorgas.

NOTICE is given by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries that applications for grants in aid of scientific investigations bearing on agriculture will be received until May 15 next. Copies of form A.230/I., giving particulars of the conditions under which the grants will be made, are obtainable from the Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Whitehall Place, S.W.1.

It is announced in *Science* for March 25 that the American Engineering Council has joined with the National Association of Manufacturers, the American Patent Law Association, the American Chemical Society, and the National Research Council in a movement to bring about reforms in the United States Patent Office. A committee on patents has been appointed which is representative of mechanical, electrical, civil, mining, and metallurgical engineers in the United States in order to deal with this subject.

NO. 2687, VOL. 107]

THE subjects for discussion at the seventh International Fisheries Congress, which will be held at Santander, in Spain, on July 31-August 8, are:—

(1) Oceanography, physical, biological, and meteorological; (2) technique of sea- and river-fishing; (3) fish, oyster, and mussel culture; (4) the industrial exploitation of the produce of the fisheries; (5) social problems; and (6) statistics and legislation. Papers for consideration ought to be sent to the Secretary-General of the Congress (*via* the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries) before June 1. The British Fisheries Society (which expects to be in being very shortly) is opening a subscription for the purchase of medals (six at 45s. each and six at 21s. each), and it is proposed that these should be awarded by the society for the two best papers in each of the above sections of the congress. The society invites British writers to submit papers.

THE Faraday Society is organising a general discussion on physico-chemical problems relating to the soil to be held during the afternoon and evening of May 31 in the rooms of the Chemical Society, London, and presided over by Sir Daniel Hall, Chief Scientific Adviser to the Board of Agriculture. The discussion will be opened by Dr. E. J. Russell, director of the Rothamsted Experimental Station, who will give a general survey of the subject. A series of papers dealing with soil moisture, organic constituents, adsorption, and colloidal phenomena will then be put forward as a basis for discussion. It is expected that among those present will be Prof. Sven Oden, of the University of Upsala. Further particulars of the meeting may be obtained from the Secretary of the Faraday Society, 10 Essex Street, London, W.C.2.