from the records of the various expeditions that were sent to those regions. He also contributed numerous and varied articles on meteorological instruments to the *Horological Journal*, while many of the leading opticians were helped in their constructive work by his keen knowledge of instruments and their requirements. He joined the Royal Meteorological Society in 1865, being a fellow for practically sixty years. He served on the Council of the Society and contributed many discussions to the Society's Proceedings and Quarterly Journal.

Mr. Strachan edited a monthly *Meteorological Magazine* in 1864, but it was only current for four months, April-July; it was the precursor of *Symons' Monthly Meteorological Magazine*, which commenced in 1866 and is now continued by the Air Ministry. In 1868 he issued a pamphlet on principles of weather forecasts and storm prevision, and in 1910, ten years after retirement, a treatise on the basis of evaporation, dealing with the temperature of the sea around the British Islands.

The writer was a colleague with Mr. Strachan under the directorship of Admiral FitzRoy, and for many years later, and can testify to the ungrudging assistance given to aid in the solution of meteorological problems.

C. H.

PROF. CHARLES GODFREY, M.V.O.

As was announced in *NATURE* of April 12, Prof. Charles Godfrey died on April 4 at the early age of fifty years. All who are interested in the education of boys and girls realise something of his influence on the modern teaching of mathematics, even if their knowledge of him extends only to the admirable text-books of which he was one of the authors. But they do not all know that he did much more than write able books to meet an existing demand; that has been done before; it was largely his preliminary work in the cause of better teaching that created the demand for new text-books.

The revolution in school mathematics which has been in progress during the past twenty years needed a man not only with vision and driving force, but also able to bridge the gap between the actual teachers in schools and the mathematical experts who impose on them the general lines of their teaching and test its results.

Prof. Godfrey was such a man, and he devoted himself to the work. He could meet the experts on their own ground, and could speak with authority on the needs and difficulties of the dull and average learner as well as those of the brilliant exception in whom the expert takes most interest. He possessed a rare combination, the enthusiasm of a reformer with a critic's detachment of mind, partly natural, no doubt, but partly acquired during a school life spent under the influence of Rawdon Levett, an eminent example of both qualities.

So equipped, Godfrey was a most valuable member of those countless committees where revolutions are planned and directed until they have gathered strength to spread of themselves. Perhaps his greatest asset for this work was his readiness to efface himself if he could thereby induce his distinguished colleagues to think that they were the initiators of his proposals. Thus the results of the experiments he carried out, first at Winchester and then at Osborne, were made available for the benefit of all schools in the British Empire and even beyond it. Only those who are able to contrast the present with former systems can fully realise the debt which mathematical education owes to Prof. Godfrey.

C. E. ASHFORD.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

M. C. A. Angot, lately Director of the Central Meteorological Bureau, Paris, and a member of the International Meteorological Committee, on March 16, aged seventy-five.

Prof. F. H. Bigelow, formerly professor of meteorology in the United States Weather Bureau and director of the Solar and Magnetic Observatory at Pilar, Argentina, aged seventy-three.

Sir A. J. Leppoc Cappel, K.C.I.E., Director-General of Indian Telegraphs from 1883 until 1889, on April 20, aged eighty-seven.

Major F. W. Cragg, of the Indian Medical Service, and assistant director of the Central Research Institute at Kasauli, on April 23.

Dr. G. Stanley Hall, emeritus president and formerly professor of psychology of Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts, and editor of the *American Journal of Psychology*, on April 24, aged seventy-eight.

Prof. T. C. Mendenhall, emeritus professor of physics in the Ohio State University, president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1889, aged eighty-two.

Current Topics and Events.

At the meeting of the Berlin Mikrobiological Society in the Hygienic Institute of the Veterinary School, Berlin, on April 7, the important announcement was made by Profs. Frosch and Dahmen that they had succeeded in isolating, cultivating, and photographing the long sought-for virus of foot-and-mouth disease. From the short account in the *Berliner tierärztliche Wochenschrift* (1924, xl. p. 185), just published, their success was primarily due to the fact that, regarding the fluid in the disease blisters as a reaction on the part of the infected animal, they separated the fluid from the virus which it contained by some means which they do not yet publish. In some way, also, Dahmen succeeded in getting the virus to grow on

solid media and was able to propagate it in sub-culture through as many as twenty-five generations. With the 13th and 23rd generations of culture, they successfully produced the disease in guinea-pigs. With the sixth sub-culture of another strain a cow was inoculated on the muzzle and after eight days showed salivation. From this animal another cow was inoculated and developed typical foot-and-mouth disease. Frosch, continuing the account of Dahmen, describes the colonies of the virus as extraordinarily minute with a diameter not greater than that of a human red blood corpuscle (*i.e.* 7-8 μ). Naturally they can only be seen with the microscope, when they appear as rounded or oval masses with a slightly