expended in developing the ordinary domestic electric switch.

Sir David took a great interest in the development of engineering in France. He was one of the eight founders of the Aero Club de France, and was a founder and an honorary member of the Automobile Club de France. In the early days, long before there seemed to be any commercial possibilities in automobiles, he had a motor car, and later on he helped the industry by assisting in the formation of the Royal Automobile Club, of which he was a vice-president. He was the author of several books, of which the best known is "Electric Light Installations and the Management of Accumulators," which is now in its eleventh edition. For many years this was practically the only book on the subject, and was in the library of almost every electrical engineer. He also carried out important researches, and made inventions in connexion with electric signalling apparatus, speed indicators and fire-proofing material.

As a member of council Salomons took a great interest in the management of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, with which he was closely connected almost from its inception. He was honorary treasurer for many years, and a vice-president for five years. In 1895 he would, in the ordinary course of affairs, have become president had not several members of council objected. They said that the president of a professional institution should only be a member who was in actual practice. He was president of the Electrical Trades Benevolent Institution, and took a great interest in its prosperity. He was also very interested in the training of young engineers, and founded several valuable scholarships. In his later years he devoted much time to photographic developments. His only son lost his life by drowning in 1915 when on active service.

Sir David was a good citizen and took a leading part in municipal, political and social affairs. He will be sadly missed by the older generation of electrical engineers, who will always remember his useful pioneering work. A. R.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Dr. V. Ebner, Ritter v. Rofenstein, professor (1888–1913), and emeritus professor of histology in the University of Vienna, and a member of the Vienna Academy of Sciences, distinguished for his contributions to embryology and histology, on March 21, aged eighty-three.

Dr. G. S. Fullerton, formerly professor of philosophy in the University of Pennsylvania and in Columbia University, and president in 1895 of the American Psychological Society, on March 23, aged sixty-five.

Dr. W. H. Julius, professor of experimental physics since 1896 in the University of Utrecht, and known for his work in astrophysics on anomalous dispersion, on April 15, aged sixty-four.

Dr. Frédéric Morin, president of the Station Climatérique de Leysin, Switzerland, and one of the founders and later a president of the International Union against Tuberculosis, aged seventy-two.

Mr. J. A. Parkhurst, for twenty-five years on the staff of the Yerkes Observatory, and associate professor of astronomy in the University of Chicago, who made contributions to our knowledge of photographic and visual stellar magnitudes, on March 1, aged sixty three.

Prof. Eduard F. L. Mazelle, formerly Director of the Observatory, Trieste, a corresponding member of the Vienna Academy of Sciences, distinguished for his work on meteorology and seismology, on January 26, aged sixty-two.

Current Topics and Events.

MONDAY next, May 4, will be the centenary of the birth of Thomas Henry Huxley, and the event is one to be held in grateful recollection by all who esteem the pursuit of scientific truth or see the light to which it leads. As a tribute to the memory of this great naturalist and teacher, we are issuing with next week's NATURE a special Supplement containing a remarkable collection of articles surveying his scientific work from various aspects and relating the personal reminiscences of the few remaining people who were in close contact with him during his life. It is very rarely that a great man of science is also a great leader in social and intellectual development, but in Huxley these two qualities were brilliantly combined. The four volumes of his scientific memoirs establish his place in scientific history, and the papers in them display deep insight as well as extraordinary powers of generalisation. As examples of his scientific genius mention may be made of his recognition of the fundamental character of the endoderm and ectoderm, his demonstration of the close affinities between reptiles and birds, and of the ancestry of the horse, and his work "On Man's Place in Nature," in which he showed that the anatomical differences between man and the higher apes were no greater than those between the higher and lower apes, and thus provided substantial evidence of the extension of the evolutionary principle to man. The full significance of this work can be understood only in scientific circles, in which it has taken a permanent place. To the public he was a fearless champion of scientific thought and intellectual freedom, possessing exceptional gifts of lucid exposition in his literary style and lectures, and using them continuously in social service. The symposium which we shall publish in our next issue will, we hope, induce workers and thinkers of the present time to turn to Huxley's life and writings for the stimulus and guidance which are as much needed now as they were in his own days if science is to come into its kingdom.

THE Governors of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, South Kensington, have made special arrangements for the celebration of the centenary of Huxley's birth. During the afternoon of Monday next, May 4, there will be an exhibition in the Zoological Department of the College, followed after tea by an address to be given by Prof. E. B. Poulton on Huxley's zoological work, and in the evening at 8.30 a reception will be held by Lord Buckmaster (chairman of the Governing Body) in the