

in chemistry and chemists to the end. Even when infirmity, which might have deterred many a younger man from making the effort, came upon him, he would travel from Northwood to attend meetings of the Chemical Society's council. These visits became less frequent as his sight began to fail, and after the summer of 1923 he was seen only once more at Burlington House, when, at the annual general meeting in 1924, as those who heard him will never forget, he made his last speech, rich in reminiscences of his early days as a fellow of the Society. To those who had the privilege of serving on his staff in Birmingham or London, he was ever the stimulating counsellor and appreciative chief. Nor were his students slow to recognise that in him they had a teacher who never spared himself in their interest, and, giving them of his best, he received in return that consideration which old-world courtesy invariably calls forth.

Sir William Tilden was twice married: first in 1869 to Charlotte, daughter of the late Robert Bush, and secondly, in 1907, to Julia Mary, daughter of the late C. W. Ramie. He is survived by Lady Tilden and by a son of the first marriage, Philip Armstrong Tilden, who has achieved distinction as an architect. The funeral at Northwood Parish Church on Wednesday, Dec. 15, was attended by a large body of mourners, including besides relatives the representatives of societies connected with chemistry, pure and applied, and many personal friends.

W. P. WYNNE.

#### SIR JAMES WILSON, K.C.S.I.

WE regret to record the death of Sir James Wilson, late of the Indian Civil Service, on Dec. 22 at his residence, Annieslea, Crieff. He was a recognised authority on a variety of topics connected with India—administrative, economic, philological, and ethnographic. After his retirement from the Indian service in 1911, when he settled in London, being keenly interested in agricultural matters, he acted as superintending inspector under the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and became a governor of the Agricultural Organisation Society; in 1914 he was appointed permanent delegate for Great Britain, Canada, Australia,

New Zealand, and South Africa to the Institute of Agriculture in Rome.

Sir James Wilson was born on Feb. 27, 1853, the son of the Rev. John Wilson, of Dunning, Perthshire. He was educated at Perth Academy and, after passing the Indian Civil Service examination in 1873, graduated at Edinburgh and then proceeded to Balliol College, Oxford, where he obtained the Boden Sanskrit scholarship, but did not stay long enough to take a degree. He went to India in 1875, and was posted to the Punjab. A distinguished administrative career, which included such high official appointments as secretary to the Punjab Government and the Financial Commissioner, membership of the Punjab Legislature, and, on Lord Curzon's selection, secretary to the Government of India in the Revenue and Agricultural Department, and finally Financial Commissioner of the Punjab, was recognised by the award of the C.S.I. in 1900 and the K.C.S.I. in 1909, two years before his retirement.

Apart from his official duties, Sir James Wilson's interest lay especially in investigating the dialects and folklore of his province. He wrote on tribal customs in the Gurgaon, Sisra, and Shahpur, compiled a gazetteer of the latter district, and wrote a grammar of Western Punjabi. Similar interests in folklore and dialect after his retirement produced "Lowland Scotch as Spoken in the Lower Strathearn District of Perthshire," published in 1915, "The Dialects of Robert Burns," and recently, "Scottish Poems of Robert Burns in his Native Dialect." He had also completed a book on the dialects of central Scotland.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Dr. Laurence Pullar, who, by a gift of £10,000, made possible the survey of the Scottish lochs carried out by the late Sir John Murray, and later, with Sir John, edited the six large volumes containing the results, on Dec. 22, aged eighty-eight years.

Dr. H. Campbell Ross, Director of the McFadden Research Foundation at the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine, London, on Dec. 14, aged fifty-one years.

Mr. T. S. P. Strangeways, Huddersfield lecturer in special pathology and Director of the Research Hospital at Cambridge, on Dec. 23, aged sixty years.

#### News and Views.

THE New Year honours list includes the names of the following men of science and others associated with scientific work:—*Privy Councillor*: The Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby-Gore, Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies and president of Section E (Geography) of the British Association at the Oxford meeting in 1926. *Knights*: Dr. Henry Head, who has made distinguished contributions to our knowledge of the nervous system; Mr. A. E. Kitson, Director of the Geological Survey, Gold Coast Colony; Mr. J. C. W. Reith, Managing Director of the British Broadcasting Company; Dr. D. Milne Watson, Governor of the Gas Light and Coke Company, London. *K.C.B. (Civil Division)*: Dr. G. Macdonald, Secretary to the Scottish Education Department. *C.B. (Civil Division)*: Mr. H. T. Tizard, Principal Assistant Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. *C.I.E.*:

Lieut.-Colonel J. W. Cornwall, lately Director, Southern India Pasteur Institute, Coonoor, India; Mr. D. Anstead, Director of Agriculture, Madras; Mr. D. Milne, Director of Agriculture, Punjab. *K.C.M.G.*: Prof. W. Mitchell, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide, in recognition of his services to the Commonwealth of Australia. *C.B.E. (Civil Division)*: Mrs. Eugénie Strong, Assistant Director of the British School of Archæology in Rome.

LORD BALFOUR, on behalf of the Prime Minister, will receive a deputation on Feb. 15 from the British Waterworks Association, the Salmon and Trout Association, the Society of Medical Officers of Health, and other bodies, who wish to persuade the Government to set up a central authority to deal with the vexed question of river pollution in Great Britain. In our leading article of Jan. 1 we