

gate a plant disease, and late in life he was specially concerned in the establishment of the Imperial College of Agriculture in Trinidad, which he visited on more than one occasion and of which he was chairman. He was also chairman of the Council of the Marine Biological Association, a member of Royal Commissions on the Civil Service, Trinity College, Dublin, and the importation of store cattle and of the departmental inquiry into grouse disease; and he was a trustee of the Hunterian, Tancred, and Beit Foundations. His scientific distinction was recognised by honorary degrees conferred on him by Princeton, Michigan, and Philadelphia, and by being made foreign member of the American Association of Economic Entomologists and of the Helminthological Society of Washington, and honorary member of the Société Zoologique et Malacologique de Belgique. His period of office as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, in 1917-1919, was described by the *Times* of Sept. 23, in an interesting account of the invaluable services which he performed for the country, fitly recognised by the award to him of the G.B.E. in 1920. He died at the Master's Lodge of Christ's on Sept. 22.

Few men have had a wider circle of friends than Shipley, whose gifts of sympathy made him

persona grata to all sorts and conditions of men, from cabinet ministers to undergraduates fresh from school. He died full of honours and universally respected as a man who consistently maintained the highest standard of public and private duty, and in the midst of responsibilities which might well have absorbed all his attention, was always ready to give his time to the performance of innumerable acts of kindness.

SIDNEY F. HARMER.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

M. Emile Hug, *membre titulaire* of the Section of Mineralogy of the Paris Academy of Sciences, professor of geology at the Sorbonne and a past president of the Geological Society of France, on Aug. 28, aged sixty-six years.

Prof. L. R. Lenox, for thirty-five years a member of the faculty of chemistry at Stanford University, on July 25, aged sixty-two years.

Dr. Thomas W. Salmon, medical director of the U.S. National Committee for Mental Hygiene and professor of psychiatry in Columbia University, New York, on Aug. 13, aged fifty-one years.

Prof. Adrian Stokes, Sir William Dunn professor of pathology in the University of London, while with the Rockefeller expedition investigating West African yellow fever, at Lagos on Sept. 19, aged forty years.

News and Views.

MANUFACTURERS in Great Britain have been the targets of much deserved criticism on account of their long neglect of the assistance which systematic chemical and physical research is able to offer them, but in recent years their attitude has implied a growing faith. Doubtless their policy in the past has been conditioned more by the fact that research organisations adequate to the study of many of their problems cost a great deal of money than by any hostility to the idea of progress, although this is probably not universally true; 'small profits and quick returns,' however excellent a maxim, does not stimulate the long view when business is brisk, and cannot afford it during a slump. The realisation, however, that industrial competition does not necessarily exclude scientific co-operation has led to the establishment and profitable operation, with State assistance, of a number of research associations. The youngest member of the family is the Research Association of British Paint, Colour, and Varnish Manufacturers, which was incorporated in September 1926, and the laboratories of which were opened at the first annual general meeting at Teddington on Sept. 21 last.

THE new Association, of which the president is Mr. S. K. Thompson and the director is Dr. L. A. Jordan, comes into existence at an interesting, if difficult, stage in the history of paint and varnish making. The ingredients of the good old varnish, often made by a secret process, find themselves challenged by new materials having unchallengeable protective and decorative qualities; the new materials require careful study in a variety of conditions, and the

relation of the character of the protective film to those of the liquid applied are by no means fully understood. It is now realised that the paint or varnish, as manufactured, is, after all, only an intermediate product; its properties are of interest chiefly so far as—subject to the interference of external conditions such as climate and weather—they govern those of the film. Decoration, as well as protection, also moves with the times. The statement that the United States of America is using wood four times as rapidly as it is growing, or that that country wastes thirty million dollars annually on rust and decay, is adequate enough to support the 'more and better paint' movement, but a generally enhanced appreciation of the decorative value of paint coatings, with its demand for new shades of colour, new surfaces, and new properties, cannot be ignored.

CLEARLY, the wide problems of the paint and varnish industries are beyond the resources of single manufacturers. Co-operation, however, has already made possible the equipment for the new research association of three chemical and physical laboratories, with offices and library, and work is now proceeding on the equipment of a workshop and technical laboratory, so that processes can be tested on a semi-manufacturing scale. Already several specialised pieces of plant and apparatus have been presented or lent to the Association by firms or individuals interested in its work. Whilst the technical side of the work is in its preliminary stages, laboratory research on several important problems is already in active progress. Economies and profits will doubtless accrue to the promoters from many of the investigations