In Stokes's public and private life, transparent honesty and sincerity irradiated his every word and every action; outspoken and candid, he never left any doubt as to his meaning and 'to beat about the bush' was foreign to his nature. His energy and his capacity for work were amazing, and all the more so when one remembers that his greatest enemy was insomnia, and that for him five hours was an unusually good night's sleep. As a teacher, he preached the gospel of scientific truth with an earnestness born of conviction. His students absorbed from him the right critical attitude towards their work, and the best of them became infected with his own zeal for research. He was generous to a fault, and many a lame dog was helped over a stile without ever knowing whence his help had come. An Irishman by everything but the accident of his birthplace, he loved his country as deeply as he hated those whom he regarded as being responsible for her unhappy state, which was a source of real grief to him.

Stokes died in harness, as he would have wished to die, but his premature death will be widely mourned by all who are interested in the advancement of medical knowledge, and especially by those who were privileged to come into intimate contact with a personality so vigorous, so stimulating, and so kindly.

T. B. J.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Prof. Svante August Arrhenius, For. Mem. R.S., of the Nobel Institute, Stockholm, from which he received the Nobel prize for physics for 1903, on Oct. 2, aged sixty-eight years.

Prof. Willem Einthoven, For. Mem. R.S., professor of physiology in the University of Leyden, and Nobel laureate for physiology for 1924, on Sept. 28, aged sixty-seven years.

Dr. George Andrews Hill, senior astronomer at the U.S. Naval Observatory, Washington, on Aug. 29, aged sixty-nine years.

Prof. A. Liversidge, F.R.S., emeritus professor of chemistry in the University of Sydney, on Sept. 26, aged seventy-nine years.

Dr. H. D. Thompson, for more than thirty years professor of mathematics at Princeton University, who was known for his work on hyperelliptic functions and on geometry, aged sixty-three years.

News and Views.

THE annual general meeting of the Australian National Research Council was held in Melbourne on Aug. 25–26. Particular attention was given to the financial position of the Council in relation to present and future work. The offer of the Carnegie Corporation to provide a sum of £5000 as the nucleus of a research fund was accepted with most cordial thanks, and with this sum and more than £1000 available from other sources, such a fund was formally instituted. A strong committee was appointed to take action for securing additional contributions from Australian sources, and it is hoped that before long the Council will be in a position to give considerable aid to Australian workers in pure science. Amongst several satisfactory reports on the year's work was one from the Anthropology Committee outlining the progress made since the initiation of the Department of Anthropology in the University of Sydney. This step followed upon a resolution by the second Pan Pacific Science Congress of 1923 and was made possible by contributions from the Commonwealth and State Governments and the Rockefeller Foundation. The new Department is now in full swing and is taking active steps to organise investigations both on the mainland and on the neighbouring Pacific islands. The following new members were elected to the Australian National Research Council, the total membership of which may not at any time exceed 100: Mr. C. R. P. Andrews (Director of Education, Western Australia); Prof. A. R. Radcliffe Brown (Anthropology, University of Sydney); Prof. A. N. S. H. Burkitt (Anatomy, Sydney); Prof. A. J. Ewart (Botany, Melbourne); Dr. W. A. Hargreaves (Government Chemist, South Australia); Prof. J. W. Paterson, (Agriculture, Perth); and Dr. H. R. Seddon (Veterinary Research Station, New South Wales).

THE Trustees of the Commonwealth Science and Industry Endowment Fund in Australia are this year making £1250 available in small grants for the assistance of scientific workers in Australia. The lines which will be followed in making the grants will be similar to those which have been proved to be satisfactory by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in Great Britain. The Commonwealth Fund has an invested capital of £100,000, and it is provided by Act of Parliament that the interest from it shall be employed for the dual purposes of training students in the methods of scientific research and in providing assistance to persons engaged in research, irrespective of whether their work has an obvious practical application or not. At present, the income is being devoted mainly to the first object, but as time goes on it is expected that an increasing sum will be available annually for distribution in grants.

PROF. J. A. PRESCOTT, professor of agricultural chemistry at the Waite Institute, University of Adelaide, has been appointed adviser on soils problems to the Commonwealth Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. Prof. B. T. Dickson, of Macdonald College, Quebec, has been appointed chief mycologist to the Council and will take up his duties in Australia towards the end of the year.

THE interest in the relationship between science and religion, which was revived by Sir Arthur Keith's address to the British Association on the descent of man, has been further stimulated by the sermon preached by the Bishop of Birmingham in Westminster Abbey on Sept. 25, and the opinions of eminent divines thereon which have been collected by the *Morning Post*. As a further reaction, the Sociological Society, aiming at resolving the conflict in a higher synthesis, has arranged a series of addresses expounding the 'sociological approach' to religion in which a 'higher' science, accepting the data of a 'lower,' will deal with the religious process as a striving after a purpose which renews itself from