

classified the Russian soils. P. A. Kostychev studied these relationships chemically. A close connexion was found between the soil types and climate, and the generalisation gradually emerged that the soil is largely a function of the climate, this being more important than the parent rock.

This remains the fundamental thesis of the Russian workers. If the climate be known it is possible to predict what the soil type will be. Further studies have revealed discrepancies which, however, are courageously dealt with; where it is not possible to explain the soil on its present-day climate, as in the case of the so-called degraded *chernozem*, a change of climate is postulated to account for the observed facts. The British soils present considerable difficulties, many of them being so closely dominated by the properties of the parent rock that the geological classification is still the best, but they are being studied by the Russian methods. It is now universally recognised that the Russian pedologists have added much to the resources of soil science, and among the foremost of the pioneers Glinka's name will always be counted.

E. J. RUSSELL.

LORD KENYON, K.C.V.O.

LORD KENYON of Gredington, Flintshire, who died on Nov. 30, ^{aged} sixty-three years, was a country gentleman with a fine record of public service in respect to agriculture and Welsh institutions such as the University and the National Museum of Wales. He was Lord Lieutenant of Denbighshire, and had been Lord-in-Waiting to three sovereigns.

The first Lord Kenyon of Gredington was the great jurist; the late peer, the fourth holder of the title, succeeded his grandfather in 1869 at the age of five. He was educated at Eton and Christchurch, Oxford, and was created K.C.V.O. in 1907. His interest in agriculture led to his appointment when a young man as a member of the Welsh Land Commission. In 1924 he was chairman of the Advisory Committee on Milk Production and of the Agricultural Wages Board.

As Pro-Chancellor of the University of Wales, Lord Kenyon did a great deal to foster and encourage scientific research in the University. He realised very clearly that one of the chief aims of a university must be the attainment of truth and the extension of knowledge. He took a particular interest in the new science buildings at the University College of North Wales, Bangor, which were opened in 1926, and in the well-equipped laboratories which have been set up at Swansea during recent years. He also watched with growing interest the rise of the new physics and chemistry buildings at the University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire, Cardiff, which are at the present time nearing completion. His great interest in the Welsh National School of Medicine was largely due to the fact that he realised the great services that by means of scientific research and investigation such an institution is capable of rendering not only to the solution of health prob-

lems in Wales, but also to the cause of medical science generally. For this reason he was a strong advocate of what is known as the 'medical unit system.'

Few realised more clearly than Lord Kenyon the function of a university in the life of the community, as a place for guarding and increasing our inheritance of knowledge and for keeping that knowledge alive. He was a great believer in post-graduate scholarships for research, and nothing gave him greater pleasure than to announce gifts made from time to time for the endowment of such scholarships. He secured many such gifts for the University of Wales.

Lord Kenyon's services to the National Museum of Wales at a critical period in its development were no less valuable. He was elected president of the National Museum for the five-year period which terminated on Sept. 30 last. Though he had had no previous connexion with the institution, he at once set himself to grasp the problems and needs of the Museum and threw himself heart and soul into its work. When he took office, only the western wing of the Museum building in Cathays Park, Cardiff, was in use. The great part of the south front was a mere shell, and there was at that time no possibility of finishing it. He was foremost in urging on all interested in education in Wales that the completion of a sufficient portion of the building adequately to illustrate the environment and history of man in Wales, and the achievement of the people of Wales in the arts and crafts, was vitally important. Generous benefactions having enabled this work to be carried out, it fell to Lord Kenyon, as president, to receive their Majesties the King and Queen on the occasion of the opening ceremony in April last, and it is a source of great gratification to all concerned that he should have been able, before his death, to see this national institution happily launched on its career.

Lord Kenyon proved an admirable president; he never spared himself in the services of the Institution, and attended every meeting at which his presence was desired, even at great personal inconvenience. Though the intra-mural work of the Museum was his chief interest—his personal inclinations leant towards art and archaeology—his long experience of administration and of Welsh life and culture, led him to support in the warmest possible way the efforts made to extend the extra-mural activities of the Museum by the scheme successfully launched during his presidency of affiliating to the Institution the local museums in Wales.

Lord Kenyon's imposing figure, charming manner, and unflinching courtesy endeared him to all classes of the community. By his death Wales loses one of her most conscientious, painstaking, and influential public men, who combined the prestige of a great name with an exceptional personality. In the words of one who knew him well: "He brought to the service of the Welsh people the qualities which in the past made leadership easy and natural to aristocracy."

C. F.

J. J.