

in the field. Thanks to the generous assistance of Mr. J. D. Rockefeller, Jr., who accompanied Breasted on a tour of the chief pivotal sites of his scheme, it became possible to put the plan into operation; and it took material form as the Oriental Institute, which, as Breasted stated, at the time of the formal dedication of its own building in December 1931, in addition to its activities in Chicago, had no less than eleven expeditions at work in the field at one time. The placing of these expeditions in reference to the respective phases of historical and cultural research which Breasted anticipated that each would elucidate, showed a masterly grasp of the essential movements of ancient history, a quality conspicuous in what are perhaps his best known works "The Development of Religion and Thought in Ancient Egypt" (1912) and "A Survey of an Ancient World", "Ancient Times: a Survey of the Early World" (1916), and "The Dawn of Conscience" (1933).

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Prof. J. S. Mackenzie, emeritus professor of logic and philosophy in the University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire, Cardiff, on December 6, aged seventy-five years.

Prof. Charles Richet, professor of physiology in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Paris, on December 4, aged eighty-five years.

Sir Alfred Sharpe, K.C.M.G., C.B., formerly governor of Nyasaland, who was well known as a traveller and big-game hunter, author of "The Backbone of Africa" (1921), on December 10, aged eighty-two years.

Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. White, C.B.E., emeritus professor of psychological medicine in King's College, London, on November 28, aged eighty-four years.

News and Views

The Ultimate Value of Science

IN a recent address on "Ultimate Values of Science" before the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco, Dr. J. C. Merriam, president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, discussed the question whether, by reason of science or research, the world has been made a better place in which to live, or life has become more worth while. Referring first to the way in which better use is being made through science of natural resources, Dr. Merriam pointed out that though we have still a long way to go in learning to control the living world, the way has been marked out, and mankind may be expected to follow it. Moreover, organisation of society has made possible the transmission of knowledge from one generation to another, and science in particular has made possible the recording and continuous development of knowledge in a way which no one generation could achieve alone. The whole capacity for constructive work has been increased, and science is gradually giving us a new outlook over the universe, with ample opportunity for appreciation of life and a new attitude towards its problems. The scientific point of view and the humanistic point of view require adjustment, if the full value of science, art, philosophy and religion is to be secured for mankind.

DR. MERRIAM urged that science, by reducing the uncertainties of life, increasing the assurance of progress and broadening the possibilities of achievement, has increased the opportunity for constructive living and thus favoured the development of the individual. He insisted that the problem of leisure should be considered primarily in terms of opportunity, and that it is essential to guard against a narrow vision in facing this and other problems of

citizenship. The direct facing of the issues, the honest use of all the knowledge gained, is the surest way to recovery, and the wide acceptance of an attitude of mind illustrated by the pattern of scientific thought with its persistent search for facts upon which to base judgment and its broad vision over the world of things and events is an urgent need. The building of a better world depends upon the quality of intelligence used and upon clarity of vision, as much as upon thorough investigation and correlation of the facts.

Romanticism and the Modern World

AT the Royal Institution on December 6, Mr. F. L. Lucas, fellow and librarian of King's College, Cambridge, delivered a discourse on this subject. Romanticism, he said, may perhaps be called the literature of intoxication and dream. Freud has pictured the human ego as living a harassed life between the conflicting claims of the instinctive, animal 'id', the 'super-ego' or sense of social obligation, and the 'reality-principle' or sense of fact. Eighteenth-century classicism shows above all a too tyrannical control, by the two last, of the dreams and impulses that rise from the less conscious depths of personality. The Romantic revival was a revolt of dreamers against those twin sleepless dragons—'good sense' and 'good taste'. Though the Romantic Empire declined and fell, at its heart remains an eternal city. Romance is not dead. The science of the nineteenth century seemed to expel her with a brandished test-tube; the science of the twentieth re-opens the door to her with a bow. Yet this should not be exaggerated. The recently expressed view that poetry is independent of truth, a mere alcohol to stimulate 'emotional attitudes', is in its turn