

the energy and foresight of men such as him that at the present time the majority of American universities recognize research as being one of their most important functions.

In 1929, Prof. Nichols was awarded the Ives Medal of the Optical Society of America, and the present writer recollects with pleasure the dinner at which the medal was presented, and the speech by the late Mr. I. G. Priest, then president of the Society, in which he referred in glowing terms to the great service the medallist had rendered to optics.

W. D. W.

THE death is reported from Wellington, New Zealand, of Dr. Herbert William Williams, Bishop of Waiapu and well known as a Maori scholar, which took place on December 7 at the age of seventy-seven years. Dr. Williams was the third in descent of his family to hold this bishopric, both his grandfather and his father having held it before him. Dr. Williams was born at Waeranga-a-hika and was educated at Christ's College, Christchurch, and Canterbury College. After graduating in the University of New Zealand, he held a scholarship at Jesus College, Cambridge, where he graduated as a senior optime in 1884. After a brief period as a master at Haileybury he was ordained. In 1888 he returned to New Zealand, and in 1929 was elected to succeed Bishop Sedgwick in this diocese. Dr. Williams's life-long acquaintance and friendship with the Maori gave him an exceptional position as an authority on their history and culture.

He was the author of a Maori dictionary, which appeared in 1917, of a bibliography of printed Maori, which appeared in 1924, and of "First Lessons in Maori". His scholarship was recognized by the award of the degree of Litt.D. of the University of New Zealand in 1924 and of the Litt.D. of Cambridge in 1925. He was a fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand, of which he was president in 1935. He was also president of the Polynesian Society in 1929.

WE regret to announce the following deaths :

Prof. G. A. Buckmaster, emeritus professor of physiology in the University of Bristol, on December 19, aged seventy-eight years.

Mr. A. G. Edie, C.I.E., formerly chief conservator of forests, Bombay, on December 18, aged sixty-five years.

Prof. L. N. G. Filon, C.B.E., F.R.S., Goldsmid professor of mathematics in the University of London, formerly vice-chancellor of the University, on December 29, aged sixty-two years.

Miss Elizabeth Sanderson Haldane, C.H., author of works on Descartes, Ferrier and Hegel, and known for her interest in adult education, on December 24, aged seventy-five years.

Rear-Admiral R. S. Patton, since 1929 director of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, on November 25, aged fifty-four years.

Dr. Ivan K. Urumoff, known for his work on the flora of Bulgaria, aged eighty-one years.

## News and Views

### New Year Honours

THE New Year Honours list contains the names of the following men of science and others associated with scientific work : *Viscount* : Lord Nuffield, for public and philanthropic services. *Baron* : Sir Henry Lopes, Bt., deputy president of the University College of the South West, Exeter. *G.C.V.O.* : Lord Horder. *G.B.E.* : Sir Andrew Duncan, chairman of the Central Electricity Board, 1927-35. *K.C.B.* : Mr. K. McK. Clark, director of the National Gallery and surveyor of the King's Pictures. *K.B.E.* : Mr. T. Rigg, director of the Cawthron Institute, Nelson, Dominion of New Zealand ; Dr. W. H. McLean, for services to education and economic development in the Colonies ; Dr. W. D. Ross, president of the British Academy and provost of Oriol College, Oxford. *Knights* : Dr. Zia-Uddin Ahmad, vice-chancellor of the Aligarh Muslim University, United Provinces, India ; Prof. G. A. R. Callender, first director of the National Maritime Museum ; Mr. W. Palin Elderton, chairman of the British Insurance Association, actuary and manager of the Equitable Life Assurance Society ; Mr. W. Reavell, lately president of the British Engineers' Association ; Dr. W. G. Savage,

county medical officer of health, Somerset ; Dr. T. F. Sibly, vice-chancellor of the University of Reading, member of the Advisory Council of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research ; Mr. J. P. Ross-Taylor, chairman of the Highland and Agricultural Society ; Dr. C. McM. Wilson, dean of St. Mary's Hospital Medical School ; Mr. D. R. Wilson, H.M. Chief Inspector of Factories, Home Office.

*C.B.* : Major-General W. P. MacArthur, honorary physician to the King, commandant and director of studies, Royal Army Medical College, Millbank ; Major-General A. E. Davidson, director of mechanization, War Office. *C.M.G.* : Mr. F. Hemming, secretary to the International Committee for the Application of the Agreement regarding Non-intervention in Spain, who is secretary of the International Commission of Zoological Nomenclature ; Dr. P. H. Manson-Bahr, consulting physician to the Colonial Office ; Dr. J. D. Tothill, director of agriculture, Uganda Protectorate. *C.I.E.* : Mr. C. F. Bell, chief conservator of forests, Central Provinces and Berar ; Lieutenant-Colonel G. T. Burke, lately