

SCIENCE

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EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND LEADERSHIP¹

THE British Science Guild has sustained a grievous loss by the sudden death of Sir Alexander Pedler, who for eleven years was its valued honorary secretary. To all the work of the guild he brought wide experience and ripe knowledge. He gave his time freely to its service, and he has been a wise counsellor and a true friend during its early years. He died, as he would have wished, while engaged in work for his country.

Professor Gregory has dealt with our annual report and the objects at which we have aimed in the past year; but there is one matter to which I wish to direct special attention. The war has forced upon us the necessity for efforts to establish the manufacture of many articles formerly obtained mainly or entirely from abroad. Among such products and appliances are synthetic dyes, pharmaceutical and medicinal preparations, glassware and optical instruments, medical and surgical apparatus, and other important requirements alike of peace and of war. The fiction, if it existed, that German science was an essential factor in manufactures of this kind has been permanently dispelled. The guild is organizing an exhibition of British scientific products in order to show what has recently been accomplished by British science and industry. His Majesty the King has graciously consented to be patron of this exhibition and Lord Crewe is its president. The exhibition will be open at King's College next August, and we hope that it will effectively demonstrate the successful application of British scientific research and ingenuity brought into play to meet the needs of the war, as well as prove conclusively that our dependency on Germany in certain departments of industry can be overcome.

¹ Presidential address to the Annual Meeting of the British Science Guild, June 19, 1918.

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