

OBITUARY.

Prof. K. K. Mathur.

PROFESSOR KRISHNA KUMAR MATHUR's premature death on July 18, 1936, deprived India of an eminent geologist and an educationist. Though of late he had been suffering from a prolonged illness from myloid leukæmia, an incurable disease, the news of his death has come as a sudden shock to every one who knew him. Educational career of Professor Mathur has

been all through very brilliant. In all examinations he stood first and secured merit scholarships. After finishing the secondary education he joined the Agra College. It was here that he came in close contact with the inspiring personality of Prof. N. C. Nag. He graduated in the year 1915 and topped the list of the successful candidates of the Allahabad University. The Government awarded him a scholarship for studies abroad in the year 1916. This he availed in spite of the troubled atmosphere of the last Great War in Europe. In England he prosecuted his studies at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, where he took the Associateship of the Royal School of Mines in Mining and Mining Geology, and the B.Sc. degree in Mining, with First Class Honours, of the University of London. There too he stood first amongst the successful candidates of his batch and was awarded the De La Beche Medal.

Soon after his return to India Prof. Mathur's services were secured by the Benares Hindu University as the University Professor of Geology in the year 1921. There he soon established himself as a great teacher and

administrator. The Department of Geology owes its growth and development to Prof. Mathur who was its Head from the very beginning. His love for the science of geology was great and he was keenly devoted to it. His personality attracted students from all parts of India. At Benares he built up a school of geology, which is all India in its character. His indomitable

spirit in the face of hardship and his great love for the science of geology, were a source of great inspiration to his students, who are spread far and wide in India and some of them hold important offices. His colleagues in the University held him in the highest esteem, and when he was appointed Principal of the College of Science constituted in 1935 every one was indeed very happy at the selection.

In the field of research his principal contributions comprise the Petrology of the Deccan Trap Igneous Activity. He carried on investigations of the study of the various differentiates and

threw much light on the genetic processes leading to the formation of the different types. His Presidential Address to the Geology Section of the Bombay Session of the Indian Science Congress, 1934, on this subject will continue to be a valuable work of reference for a long time to come. His research activities also extended to stratigraphy, mineralogy and colloidal chemistry.

Amongst the scientists in India he held a prominent position. He was Vice-President of the Geological, Mining and Metallurgical



Late Prof. K. K. Mathur.