

IN MEMORIAM

ARTHUR R. BROWN

At the time of his death in March 1955, Sheriff Arthur R. Brown, a life member, was the senior member of the Club, and the last whose membership commenced in the nineteenth century. It was on the summit of Lochnagar at midnight on June 22, 1897, the night of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, and exactly ten years after the Club was conceived, that Arthur Brown was admitted to membership at a meeting under the presidency of Mr John A. McHardy. He knew the Cairngorms well and twice climbed in Switzerland, although his brother William Brown is much better known because of his ascent of the Tough-Brown Ridge.

Sheriff Brown carried on practice as an advocate in Edinburgh until about 1925, when he took up office as Sheriff-Substitute in Lanarkshire.

W. M. ALEXANDER

By the death at the age of 78 of William M. Alexander, M.A., B.L., LL.D., on January 16, 1959, the North-East of Scotland was deprived of one of its most able scholars. His knowledge of European and certain non-European languages, and of canon law, was profound, while he was also a keen student of geology, botany and astronomy. Dr Alexander wrote authoritatively on the academic system in medieval Europe, and took an active part in the production of the periodical *Scottish Gaelic Studies*. In 1936 his joint interest in languages and astronomy took him to Omsk in Siberia with the University of Aberdeen expedition to study the total eclipse of the sun. He is probably best known for his monograph on "The Place Names of Aberdeenshire" published by the Third Spalding Club in 1952, an outstanding study in toponymy and etymology, a copy of which he presented to the Club Library. He was honoured in 1952 by the degree of Doctor of Laws by his Alma Mater, the University of Aberdeen, where he had graduated in arts and law before studying at the University of Bonn. In his early days he was closely associated with his brother, the late Sir Henry Alexander, on the Aberdeen Free Press.

Dr Alexander joined the Club in 1924, and served as Vice-President from 1930 to 1933. He was a strong hill walker and

attended meets and excursions regularly until about 1935. He contributed numerous articles to the *Journal*, discussing such topics as geology, meteorology, and his favourite subject, place-names, in addition to that delightful Irish cameo "The Hungry Grass of Galtymore" in Vol. XIII. He assisted his brother in the preparation of the S.M.C. Guide to the Cairngorms. Reticent, quiet and retiring, yet ever helpful when asked for advice, W. M. Alexander was an unfailing source of information on the life and customs of the North-East.

JOHN ANGUS

John Angus, Advocate in Aberdeen, one of the senior Members of the Club, died very suddenly at his home on May 10, 1961. He joined the Club in 1931 and he and his wife were generally members of the cheerful parties which would gather for New Year Meets at the Invercauld Hotel, Braemar, in the 1930s. He was a keen walker to whom a day on the hills provided a happy relaxation from the busy life which he led in the city. During his later years he had to give up any strenuous walking on the hills, but still retained his interest in the Cairngorm Club and was invariably present at our Annual Dinner.

In his profession John Angus specialised in Court work and was a familiar figure in the Sheriff Court at Aberdeen for the past forty years. He was latterly an Honorary Sheriff-Substitute and at the time of his death the President of the Society of Advocates in Aberdeen.

A. C. W. LOWE

Mr Augustus C. W. Lowe of Lochiel, Boat of Garten, who had been a member of the Club since 1919, died on August 4, 1960, in his 70's. Although unable to attend the outings from Aberdeen, Mr Lowe occasionally either joined those which entered Speyside or met the Club on the Cairngorm tops. He also went out with H. D. Whitehouse on the latter's visits from the South.

Before his retirement in 1952, Mr Lowe was Food Executive Officer for Inverness-shire. He has since served on the Inverness County Council and was Chairman of the Badenoch District Council, taking an active interest in all matters concerning the development of Speyside. The magnificent library of books, on Scottish subjects and on all aspects of mountaineering, which Mr Lowe had built up demonstrated his keen interest and wide knowledge of these subjects :