

IN MEMORIAM

It is with regret that the Club records the death of the following members:

Mr George Cook (OL 1951)

Miss A.M. Pittendrigh (OL 1931)

Mr Alexander Duncan (O 1940)

Col. E. Birnie Reid (OH 1919 Pres.
1946–49. Hon Pres. 1969–80)

Dr David Levack (OL 1917
Pres. 1935–38)

Mr Thomas Train (O 1936)

Mr Martin Nichols (O 1949)

Mr George Walker (A 1958)



DAVID P. LEVACK

Dr. David Proudfoot Levack, C.B.E., West Manse, Drumoak, our senior member, died in Aberdeen on 26th February, 1979. He joined the club in 1917 and in the years between the wars took a very active part in the affairs of the club, being Vice President from 1932 to 1934 and President from 1935 to 1938. Older members will have pleasant memories of days on the hills spent in his company at New Year Meets at Braemar and at Easter Meets further afield. A love of the hills was in his blood as his father Dr. John R. Levack had been President, or Chairman as it was then styled, of the club from 1919 to 1924 – the only case of a son following a father in that office in the history of the club.

David Levack also followed his father in that he had a distinguished medical career in the City of Aberdeen where both specialised in the field of Radiology. David Levack was Honorary Radiologist to Aberdeen Royal Infirmary from 1928 to 1947 and Senior Consultant Radiologist to the North-East Scotland Regional Hospital Board from 1948 until his retirement in 1964. In 1955–56 he was President of the Aberdeen Medico-Chirurgical Society.

During the 1914–18 War David Levack served in the Royal Signals and after graduating M.B., Ch.B. with Honours at Aberdeen University in 1924 he gave a considerable number of years of service in the Territorial Army when he was Regimental Medical Officer to the 51st (Highland)

Division. Soon after the outbreak of the second world war he was in France and in 1940 as Assistant Director of Medical Services to the 51st Division he was captured at St. Valery and was a Prisoner of War till he was repatriated in 1944. In 1945 he was made a C.B.E. for "gallant and distinguished services in the field".

J.E.B.

SIR LANDSBOROUGH THOMSON

The death of Sir Arthur Landsborough Thomson was recorded in the last *Journal*, as was his talk to the Club on 'Mountains of the World'. When, in course of arranging for the talk, the writer informed Sir Landsborough that he was the Club's senior member, he reflected in a letter: "it is wonderful what the mere effluxion of time will do for one; it is a position of honour that is not held for long, and the foregoing suggestion about a date for a talk is put forward with due reservation". His caution proved unnecessary and his Club audience in September 1976 greatly admired the liveliness of presentation of Sir Landsborough's illustrated lecture. He died in London in the following June, not far short of his eighty-seventh birthday.

He joined the Club in 1911. Within one year he had contributed the first of at least four *Journal* articles, all worth tracking down. Although his First War service and his subsequent career as a scientist based in London took him from Aberdeen and prevented active involvement in Club affairs, his attachment to Aberdeen and to the Club was unambiguous throughout his long life. Aberdeen Grammar School, Aberdeen University and the Cairngorm Club were, appropriately, represented in the large and distinguished congregation at the Pont Street memorial service.

There was no one near to being a Club contemporary of Sir Landsborough's to chronicle the man and his life at anything like first hand. Members may however care to conjecture whether the Club roll has ever had on it anyone *more* distinguished than Sir Landsborough. Qualified obituarists have recorded *inter alia* that: he was outstanding as an administrator of medical and biological research, having from 1919 been chief of staff of what became the Medical Research Council; he was equally outstanding as an ornithologist, becoming President of the British Ornithologists' Union, subsequently President of the Zoological Society of London and Chairman of Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History); in both fields he made major contributions to the literature – for example, as author of the two-volume *Half a century of medical research* and as editor of the massive *A new dictionary of birds*; he was an OBE and a CB, FRSE and FRGS, and an LL D of both Aberdeen and Birmingham.

His recreations were noted in *Who's Who* as 'travel, formerly climbing'. He was indeed a world traveller: in the year he talked to the Club he had already visited Peru, the Galapagos Islands, New Zealand and Switzerland. As for climbing, in 1961 he was elected to the Alpine Club 'in recognition of his sixty years' passion for the hills'.

H.M.R.W.



COL. E. BIRNIE REID

We regret to record the death on 18th March, 1980 of Colonel Edward Bernie Reid, OBE (MIL), TD, DL, C.A., the Honorary President of the Club. He was a student at Clare College Cambridge when the First World War interrupted his studies. After war service he joined the family business of Meston & Co., C.A., Aberdeen, eventually becoming senior partner of that firm until he retired in 1972. His services to the accountancy profession in Scotland were recognised by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland who elected him President of their Institute in 1966, the centenary year of the Aberdeen Society.

He maintained his army connection and became Honorary Colonel of the 51st(H) Division Signals Regiment.

Colonel Reid's recreational interests included hill walking, ski-ing, riding and golf. Just as in his professional career there was a strong family connection, so there was in his connection with the Cairngorm Club. His father, Dr. Walter Reid, was a well known and active member who had served as a Vice President. Colonel E.B. Reid himself joined the Club in 1919. He served on several occasions as a member of the Committee, as Vice President 1936/38 and 1944/46 and as President 1947/49. He was made an Honorary Member in 1966 and Honorary President in 1969.

The primary objects of the Club are to encourage mountain climbing in Scotland and to issue such publications as may be considered advantageous. Colonel Reid supported these objects in full. He was fo

many years a regular attender at Club outings and meets. He took his full share of Committee work and contributed occasional articles to the journal.

He had a very friendly and sociable disposition and was always ready to offer hospitality. These qualities perhaps concealed from those who were not so well acquainted with him those strong business qualities reflected in his professional success and particularly during his term of office as President his successful negotiations on behalf of the Club with Estate Factors in relation to the Club huts.

A.L.H.

TOM TRAIN

Tom Train (1890–1979) who died last year, frequently contributed to the Journal, usually in the form of delightful pen sketches, to illustrate articles or as merely decorative in-fills. (See Vol XV, No. 80 etc.) He also wrote one article :Artist in the Hills, which attracted favourable notice from the Rucksack Club reviewer. It was, however, as an artist that he excelled.

W.A.E.

