

OBITUARY

WALTER RAVENHILL BROWN BATTLE was drowned on 13 July 1953 in a glacier stream on Baffin Island. "Ben" Battle, as he was known to his friends, was born in Leeds on 23 December 1919. He was educated there and took a degree in geography at Leeds University. He became a keen traveller and mountaineer, and in 1948 organized and led a four-man expedition to East Greenland, where he made geomorphological and glaciological investigations on Pasterzebreen. Battle returned to the same area in 1949 and afterwards went to Cambridge as a research student to investigate the action of frost and water in the formation of cirques. During this period he twice visited Jotunheimen in Norway with parties from Cambridge. Towards the end of 1952 he went to McGill University and continued his studies as Senior Carnegie Fellow of the Arctic Institute of North America. At the time of his death he was working on Penny Highland, Cumberland Peninsula, as a member of an expedition led by P. D. Baird.

LENNART BERGLÖF was born in Söderhamn on 15 October 1878 and died in Stockholm on 3 February 1953. A Swedish civil servant, he always had a sympathetic regard for Lapp interests and became a recognized authority on their affairs. After 1907 his work brought him into close contact with the investigation of the successive Norwegian-Swedish commissions, set up to resolve the problems created by Lapp reindeer movements across the common frontier. At the convention of 1919 he was secretary of the Swedish delegation which drew up the treaty that finally settled the dispute. His special knowledge of these problems proved of value in similar discussions between Sweden and Finland in 1925. Berglöf later took an active part in formulating policy for the administration of the Swedish Lapps.

RICHARD S. E. BØGVAD, who devoted his life to the geology of Greenland, was born on 21 November 1897 and died near Ivigtut on 8 August 1952. He first visited Greenland in 1929 and was a member of the Seventh Thule Expedition which worked in south-east Greenland in 1932–33. He later became mineralogist to Øresunds Chemiske Fabrikker (now part of Kryolitselskabet Øresund A/S) and thereafter worked mainly in the Ivigtut area. He made a special study of the cryolite deposits there and of the general geology of southernmost Greenland. Unfortunately he never published the results of his investigations, although from time to time he described rare minerals found at Ivigtut with meticulous care and thoroughness.

WILLIAM NOBLE CROFT died on 10 July 1953 at the age of thirty-eight. He was educated at Stowe School and Queens' College, Cambridge. In 1939 he visited Spitsbergen with the Swedish-Norwegian-British palaeontological expedition. After some years of service overseas during the Second World War he joined Operation "Tabarin", the forerunner of the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey, and served as geologist at Hope Bay in 1946–47. He was a good traveller, with exceptional enthusiasm for his work, which was careful and accurate. On his return he rejoined the British Museum (Natural History). Unfortunately his work on the palaeobotanical material he had collected was not complete at the time of his death. v. E. F.

LEONARD EDMONDSON DRUMMOND was born at Winnipeg in 1880 and died in Edmonton on 17 January 1953. He was educated in Winnipeg and studied mining and mechanical engineering at Queen's University, Kingston, where he graduated in 1902. He specialized in coal mining and, after gaining experience in Nova Scotia and

Pennsylvania, worked for a time in British Columbia and Alberta. Drummond settled in Edmonton in 1913 and was one of the first to realize the mineral wealth of northern Canada. He became an ardent promoter of northern development and organized the Alberta and Northwest Chamber of Mines, of which he was secretary-manager from 1935 until his death. During this time he was largely responsible for organizing the supply of miners and stores for the mining settlements in the District of Mackenzie. He also represented the federal Department of Resources and Development in Edmonton, and was responsible for keeping that department in touch with developments in northern mining.

The Right Reverend ARCHIBALD LANG FLEMING, first Bishop of the Arctic, was born at Greenock on 8 September 1883 and died at Toronto on 17 May 1953. He was educated at Greenock Academy and worked for a time in the drawing office of Messrs John Brown and Company. He was then sent to study naval architecture and marine engineering at Glasgow University and in 1906 entered the scientific department of his firm. It was at this time that he noticed an appeal in the press for Anglican missionaries to the Canadian Eskimo. This prompted him, at the age of twenty-five, to give up a promising career as a naval architect and to enter Wycliffe College at Toronto. Many years later he attributed this decision to an incident during his childhood: one of his sisters who had visited Dundee described to him an Eskimo she had seen there, and mentioned that there was only one missionary in the whole of Baffin Island.

Fleming himself first visited Baffin Island in 1909, three years before he took orders. For a time he worked in Toronto and later became rector of St John's, New Brunswick. He resigned from that post in 1926 to become Archdeacon of the Arctic, and was consecrated first Bishop of the Arctic in 1933. It was Fleming who built up the organization known as the "Fellowship of the Arctic", with 3000 members in Great Britain, Canada and the United States. For many years, until his retirement owing to ill health in 1949, he travelled widely by ship and in later years by aircraft throughout his diocese, which covered a land area of more than 1,200,000 square miles. He described his experiences in letters to the Fellowship of the Arctic which he published in *Arctic News*.

Fleming endeared himself to the Eskimo as a spiritual guide, counsellor, philosopher and friend. Although he was hampered by shortage of funds and, more especially in later years, by lack of volunteers, he established new missions, residential schools and hospitals in his diocese. His deep sense of his calling is shown in such books as *Dwellers in the arctic night* (London, 1928) and *Perils of the polar pack* (London, 1932), and in his contributions to *Arctic News*.

FREDERICK SWAN LAWRENCE was born on 9 October 1875 and died on 27 June 1952. His youth was spent at the remote settlement of Fort Vermillion on Peace River. He studied mechanical engineering at Purdue University and in 1907 and again in 1909 was engaged in exploring and mapping the area between Fort Vermillion and Lesser Slave Lake. He became a vigorous advocate of the development of natural resources for the improvement of living conditions in northern Alberta, and helped to establish the experimental agricultural station at Fort Vermillion in 1907. Lawrence strongly supported the establishment of a domesticated reindeer industry in northern Canada and, late in life, unsuccessfully sought to promote the introduction of domestic reindeer into Labrador.

Professor WILHELM MEINARDUS was born on 14 July 1867 and died on 28 August 1952. He was a geographer who, under the influence of G. von Neumayer and

W. Köppen, specialized in maritime climatology. He later taught at Berlin, Bonn and Göttingen, where he became Ordinarius für Geographie.

Meinardus was responsible for preparing the very detailed meteorological reports (Bd. 3, 1913, and Bd. 4, 1923) of the German Antarctic Expedition in the *Gauss*, published in the series entitled *Deutsche Südpolar Expedition, 1901-03* (Berlin and Leipzig, 1905-31). It was in the volume published in 1923 that he first drew attention to the existence of what has since been called the "antarctic convergence". He later wrote a comprehensive description of antarctic climatology entitled "Klimakunde der Antarktis" published in W. Köppen and R. Geiger, *Handbuch der Klimatologie* (Bd. 4, Teil U, Berlin, 1938). Meinardus was also interested in geomorphological studies and contributed the section entitled "Arktische Böden" to E. Blanck's *Handbuch der Bodenlehre* (Bd. 3, Berlin, 1930).

HARRIE H. NEWCOMB was born on 14 June 1872 and died on 18 September 1952. He joined the Army Veterinary Department of the British Imperial Forces in South Africa during the Boer War and gained much experience of the care of horses during shipment. After the end of the war he was appointed veterinarian to the Ziegler Polar Expedition of 1903-05, which was stranded in Zemlya Frantsa-Iosifa after the *America* was crushed in the pack ice in November 1903. He had to deal with an outbreak of glanders among the ponies, and succeeded in controlling the disease for many months, although most of the animals finally became affected. After his return to Canada, Newcomb worked for a time as a prospector for asbestos in Quebec. During the First World War he again served as a veterinary officer.

HANS RUDOLF JOHANNES EMIL NIELSEN was born at Qaersut in West Greenland on 19 March 1898 and was killed in a traffic accident in Copenhagen on 4 September 1951. As a young man he made a strong impression on Knud Rasmussen, who appointed him manager of the trading post at Thule when he was only twenty-three. He remained there when control passed to Grønlands Styrelse until he was transferred to Egedesminde in 1941 owing to ill health. In the following year he was transferred again, this time to Godhavn, and was a manager there at the time of his death.

Nielsen had great influence at Thule over a period of twenty years. He was largely responsible for successfully introducing the Eskimo there to European civilization, and at the same time preserving much of value in their old mode of life. He will be remembered by many people in this country for his unflinching kindness and sound practical advice to the expeditions which visited north Greenland while he was at Thule.

Major CHARLES ROBERT EUSTACE RADCLYFFE died in July 1953 at the age of eighty. He became a regular soldier in 1893, and during long periods of leave travelled as a roving sportsman in the arctic regions. Some of his experiences are described in *Big game shooting in Alaska* (London, 1904).

Canon HENRY ARTHUR TURNER died at Pangnirtung in Baffin Island on 21 April 1953 at the age of fifty-one. Like his brother, the late Canon John Hudspith Turner, he volunteered as a young man for arctic service. He first went to Pangnirtung in 1928 and, apart from a period at Port Harrison from 1937 to 1940, served there until his death. He was an outstanding Eskimo linguist and devoted much time to the translation of the Scriptures for the Eskimo.

VLADIMIR IVANOVICH VORONIN, the well-known Soviet icebreaker captain, died in October 1952 at the age of sixty-two. The son of a fisherman, he went to sea at an early age. His first command in arctic waters was the icebreaker *Sedov*, in which he

took part in the search for Umberto Nobile in 1928. In 1929 and 1930 Voronin provided transport in the *Sedov* for expeditions to Zemlya Frantsa-Iosifa and Severnaya Zemlya. In 1932 he was in command of the *Sibiryakov*, the first vessel to pass the whole length of the Northern Sea Route in one season. He next commanded the new icebreaking freighter *Chelyuskin* during her disastrous arctic voyage of 1933–34. His later commands were the *Yermak*, 1934–38; the *Stalin*, the first Soviet-built icebreaker and flagship of the Soviet icebreaker fleet, in 1938; the whale factory *Slava* in the Southern Ocean in 1946–47; and then again the *Stalin*.