

## OBITUARY

BELMORE BROWN was born in 1879 and died in New York in May 1954. He spent most of his life in Alaska as a hunter, explorer, prospector, artist and collector, and was widely known as an authority on the forests of North America. During the Second World War he was consultant and lecturer on arctic training and equipment to the United States and the Canadian forces.

S. DOBBS, who served with Sir Douglas Mawson's *Aurora* Expedition, 1911-14, died on 13 February 1955.

MATTHEW ALEXANDER HENSON was born of Negro parents in Maryland, in 1866, and died in New York on 10 March 1955. At the age of twelve he ran away to sea and was fortunate enough to serve under a benevolent captain who gave him a wide education. He met R. E. Peary in 1887, and for twenty-three years served the explorer with singular devotion, accompanying him on all but one of his arctic sledge journeys and saving his life on more than one occasion. Henson was a man of great practical resource and became an expert in arctic travel, finally being chosen by Peary to be his companion, with four Eskimo, on the last stage of the journey to the North Pole in 1909.

Professor ADOLF SEVERIN JENSEN was born on 23 May 1866 at Slangerup in Zealand and died on 29 August 1953. In 1906, with the geologist P. Harder, he investigated the problems of former climatic changes in West Greenland in the Disko Bugt area. In 1908 and 1909 he was the leader of the *Tjalfe* expedition to the coast of West Greenland, the results of which were of basic importance for the later development of the fisheries there. From that time until shortly before his death Jensen who, from 1917 to 1937, was professor of zoology at the university of Copenhagen advised the Danish Government on fishery problems affecting Greenland.

HANNES GYSBERT NORDHOEK was born on 15 April 1894 and died on 24 February 1953. He served on Danish vessels plying between Norway and Greenland from 1918 to 1952. In 1924 he was first mate in the *Godthaab* when she sailed to north-east Greenland in search of the *Teddy*, and he was acting master of the same vessel during Lauge Koch's expeditions to north-east Greenland in 1929 and 1931. From 1932 to 1939 Nordhoek was master of the *Sværdfisken* and after the war he commanded the *Disko* and the *Umanak*.

ODAQ, the last of the four Eskimo who accompanied Peary and Henson on the final stage of the North Pole journey in 1909, died at Thule in May 1955. After 1909 he served several Danish explorers and was finally given a house at Thule and a small pension by the Danish Government.

Orlogskaptajn EIGIL RIIS-CARSTENSEN, the distinguished Danish hydrographer, died on 19 April 1953.

He was born in Helsingør (Elsinore) on 16 July 1892. He entered the Royal Danish Navy as a boy; in 1923, as second-in-command of the *Islands Falk*, he visited Greenland and Iceland. He was trained as a hydrographer at "De internationale Havundersøgelers Laboratorium" in Copenhagen and in the hydrographic

survey ship *Dana*. He undertook hydrographic investigations off West Greenland in 1925 and 1926, and in 1928 led the *Godthaab* Expedition which made oceanographic investigations between Greenland and Arctic Canada. He was also commander of the *Godthaab* when she served as expedition ship for Lauge Koch's Expedition to East Greenland in 1930. He was promoted captain in 1932, and, for a time, served as ice pilot in the Nanok fur company's motor-schooner *Gefion* in East Greenland waters. He was commander of the survey ship *Hjemdal* from 1936 to 1938, when Disko Bugt was charted.

Riis-Carstensen resigned on 31 October 1940, and was subsequently appointed head of the Danish Søkartarkiv's (Marine Chart Archive) second department.

Among his published works are "The Godthaab expedition 1928: report on the expedition" (*Meddelelser om Grønland*, Bd. 78, Nr. 1, 1931) and "The Godthaab expedition 1928; the hydrographic work and material" (*Meddelelser om Grønland*, Bd. 78, Nr. 3, 1936). His wide experience of Greenland waters was invaluable for the production in 1948 of *Den grønlandske Lods I* (Greenland Pilot) of which he was the editor.

FRANK WILBERT STOKES was born in Nashville, Tennessee, and died in New York on 14 February 1955, at the age of 96. He accompanied R. E. Peary to Greenland in 1892 and again in 1893. On the latter occasion he spent fourteen months painting in a studio at Bowdoin Bay. In 1901-03 he accompanied Otto Nordenskjöld's antarctic expedition, and in 1926 took part with Amundsen and Nobile in the flights of the airship *Norge*. In 1909 he completed a large series of murals of arctic subjects for the American Museum of Natural History.