

**Father Eric Norman Bromley Burrows, S.J.**

It is with a grave feeling of loss that we mourn the death of a distinguished Assyriologist, Father Burrows, in a motor accident on 23rd June.

He was born in 1882 and educated at Felsted (where he was in Gepp's House from May, 1897 to July, 1902), and Keble College, Oxford (1902–1905), becoming a Catholic in 1904 after taking his B.A. degree, and entering the Society of Jesus in 1905. His peculiar flair for learning Oriental languages was to make him one of the best Assyriologists in England, and in this pursuit he betook himself to the Near East (in 1912) to the French University at Beirut, where he could study these tongues both living and dead. Subsequently (in 1917), after being ordained at St. Benno's in Wales, he was sent to the Biblical Institute at Rome, where he was able to devote himself still more to what was to be his life-work.

He was one of those fortunate Orientalists who make opportunities to study their science in the field as well as at home. In 1924–5 he was a member of the Weld and Field Expedition to Kish, and in 1926–30 of the British Museum and University of Pennsylvania Expedition to Ur of the Chaldees under Sir Leonard Woolley. To the results of this latter expedition he contributed a large volume, his work being on the archaic texts, and herein he presents an admirable series of neatly copied tablets with a table of 420 early signs. He was also a contributor to the *Journal* of this Society.

Personally he was a most charming and most modest man, and one has only to read his work on the archaic Ur texts to realize what a scholar has been lost by his death. Had he been spared, there is little doubt that, having now settled himself in the saddle, he would have gone on producing similar excellent works for another decade at least. Assyriology has suffered a grave loss.

R. CAMPBELL THOMPSON.

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