

OBITUARIES

Sir Atul Chatterjee

Sir Atul Chatterjee, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I. was born on 24th November, 1874, and died at Bexhill on 8th September, 1955. From the Presidency College, Calcutta, he won a scholarship to King's College, Cambridge, and headed the list in the Indian Civil Service in 1896. In 1917 he became Revenue Secretary to the Government of the United Provinces and in 1919 their Chief Secretary. In 1919 he represented India in Washington at the first International Labour Conference, thereafter inspiring many reforms in factory legislation and in 1927 being elected President of the 10th International Labour Conference. In 1925 he was appointed High Commissioner for India in London, when he reorganized the office and persuaded Lord Reading to authorize the erection of India House, Aldwych, from designs by Sir Herbert Baker. On retirement from this post he was appointed a member of the Council of India. In 1942 he returned to England as Adviser to the Secretary of State for India, an appointment he held till 1947. Problems of labour and economics were his chief official concern. But an interest in Indian culture led to his collaborating with a fellow United Provinces official, W. H. Moreland, in writing *A Short History of India*. He also wrote *The New India* (1948).

Sir Atul became a member of the Society in 1915, for 1939–1941 and 1947–1950 was a member of its council and for 1942–1946 and 1951–3 a Vice-President. His charm of manner, great administrative experience, and instinctive impartiality made him a colleague valuable and esteemed.

After the death of his first wife, Nina Mukerjee, Sir Atul married Dr. Gladys Broughton, O.B.E., D.Sc., Barrister-at-Law, to whom the Society extends its respectful sympathy.

John Hamilton Lindsay

Born in Glasgow on 13th March, 1882, John Hamilton Lindsay was the son of the Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin Lindsay, Principal of the United Free Church College in Glasgow, and the brother of Alexander Dunlop Lindsay, Master of Balliol College, Oxford and subsequently Lord Lindsay of Birker.

Educated at Glasgow Academy and the Glasgow University, where he obtained the degree of M.A., with first class honours in Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, he passed the Indian Civil Service after the competitive examination of 1904 and arrived in India on the 4th December, 1905. After a novitiate in district appointments

in Bengal, he became in 1918 Magistrate-Collector of Khulna district and in 1925 Secretary to Government in the Education Department. His early retirement in 1930 was unexpected, as he had developed a distinct flair for educational work, and he was a fine example of the conscientious and idealist administrator.

The appointment of his son, Thomas, to a post in Shanghai, led him to study the Chinese language and culture, and he was the first European to receive the degree of M.A. at London University in Chinese Archaeology in 1938. In 1944 he was appointed to the Universities China Committee in London, and was elected its Chairman in August, 1945. He was an excellent Chairman, and ever zealous in the interests of the Chinese students sent by the then Government of China to Great Britain. No one regretted more than he that political changes in China stopped the flow of competent young Chinese into British Universities and technical institutions.

Lindsay joined the Royal Asiatic Society in 1929, and served as its Hon. Treasurer for six years from 1943, when his talent for finance had full scope in the matter of municipal rates and covenanted subscriptions.

Known to his intimates as "Jim", he had a practical as well as a generous mind. He was always ready to help others. Gardening was perhaps his chief hobby. He died in 1955, leaving in Croydon a widow who had shared his tastes, and a son in Hong Kong. The Society desires to offer to them its respectful sympathy.

JOHN CUMMING.

The Presentation of the Universities' Essay Prize to Mr. Michael N. Teague

In presenting the prize Sir Ralph Turner observed that the first four years of life were often held to be of prime importance in determining one's character and interests. Certainly the winning of the Society's prize for an essay on "The Rise and Fall of Portuguese Colonial Activities East of Suez" by Mr. Teague went to corroborate the theory. For not only had he been born in India but his first nurse had been a woman of that Portuguese possession, Goa. The subconscious influences round Mr. Teague's cradle had perhaps been brought to the surface by his recent visit (with an Oxford University expedition) to another Portuguese possession, Angola.

In congratulating the prizewinner (an undergraduate of Worcester College, Oxford), Sir Ralph hoped that his interest in the East begun in infancy, reawakened in early manhood, and encouraged by the winning of the Society's Universities' Essay Prize might continue in future years.