

Obituary

John Lavers Lloyd

The death of Mr John Lloyd on 4th April moved the members of the Association gathered at Liverpool for the Annual Conference a week or so later. Conference members had become accustomed to his annual report as the Association's Treasurer from April 1972 to the Autumn of 1975 and to his characteristically direct recommendations as he planned to keep the Association's financial position secure despite the difficult national economic circumstances.

Born in 1910, he was educated in Monmouthshire and at the University College of South Wales. His first appointment was at Hutton Grammar School. He then taught at Eckington Secondary School before becoming the senior mathematician at Hemsworth Grammar School. A year as deputy headmaster at Leeds Central High School led on to his first headship at East Cowes Secondary Technical School from 1953. Local educational reorganisation obliterated his post and he moved north again as headmaster of Blyth Grammar School, Northumberland in 1956. It was here that his distinguished service to education as a headmaster and mathematician bore fruit and was rewarded when he was made an O.B.E.

He was an active and lively member of the Newcastle Branch of the Association and was their President for a number of years. In 1963 he began his contact with the School Mathematics Project. His school, together with others in the region, was a pioneer school and John Lloyd was the principal organiser of the SMP in-service courses at Ponteland for many years. To the end he was engaged on work for the SMP.

He was recognised by colleagues as a man of principle and sincerity, and was respected and admired by all who knew him. He was forthright and frank, but bore no grudge against those who disagreed with him. Those of us fortunate to count him as a friend recognised a personal bond that was as steady as a rock. I shall value his contribution to my life as will former pupils and those countless colleagues and students both here and abroad who have benefited from his skills as a headmaster, mathematician and teacher.

The Mathematical Association has been well served by John Lloyd, and to his wife and family we offer our sympathies.

GRAHAM MERLANE

King Charles I School, Kidderminster DY11 6RT

Two root two in a bar

"PAUL BUNYAN: Can you handle figures?"

JOHNNY INKSLINGER: Think of an irrational number and I'll double it." From W. H. Auden's libretto for Benjamin Britten's opera *Paul Bunyan* (per Brian Bailey).