

OBITUARIES

Compiled by J. E. LOUSLEY.

EDMUND BROWNE BISHOP (1884-1947) was born on 23rd September, 1884 in the village of Bradpole, Dorset. He was of good yeoman stock and markedly celtic both in features and temperament, a fact of which he was always proud as well as of being a West Country man.

Owing to the early death of his father, his mother was left to support three children on very insufficient means.

The two sons, of whom Edmund was the elder, were destined for the Civil Service, and the family came to London for this purpose when both were very young men. This period of his life was always spoken of as one of considerable struggle.

The younger brother died early, but Edmund rose to a responsible position in the Service, and some fifty years ago went to live at Guildford. He remained in this district at various addresses in Guildford and Godalming for the rest of his life, being joined later by his sister, Mrs C. L. Wilde, who died in August 1941.

Both brother and sister were well known figures in the district, Mrs Wilde serving for some time on the Local District Council. Both shared the love of natural history and both were connected with various natural history clubs in the district.

Edmund was a prominent figure in the London Natural History Society, of which he was President from 1921 to the end of 1924. It was at about this time that he retired from the Civil Service.

His principal hobbies were Archaeology and Botany and in his later years most of his time was given to the latter. He was for many years a member of this society, of the National Trust, in which he took a great interest, of the Commons and Footpaths Preservation Society and of the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings. In 1923 he was co-opted to the Executive Committee of the West Surrey Society and appointed Honorary Warden of the Hydon Ball sub-committee, a work in which he also took a great interest.

It is for his work on the genus *Rosa* that he will be best remembered; both he and Mrs Wilde had a most thorough knowledge of the genus, and their joint work on the Roses of Bedfordshire appeared in *B.E.C. 1938 Rep.*, 84, (1939).

His rose herbarium, consisting of over 3000 sheets of *Rosae* of the British Isles, he left in his will to me. As I was on the point of leaving the country, I did not feel justified in denying students access to the herbarium, which is enriched with copious notes, and I, therefore, decided to present the herbarium to the British Museum for the use of everyone, and it is now at Cromwell Road.

For a long time he and Colonel Wolley-Dod kept the official Census of the *Rosae* of the British Isles and I now have the book containing all the recognised records.

Like me, there are many botanists who will miss Edmund Bishop's kindly help in determining specimens and the encouragement he always gave.

A. E. A. DUNSTON.

E. B. Bishop's general herbarium has been divided between the British Museum (Natural History) and the London Natural History Society. The latter also received his books and certain manuscripts. A more detailed appreciation of his work appeared in the *London Naturalist* for 1947.

J. E. LOUSLEY.

HARRY JAMES GODDARD (1864-1947) died at his home in Salisbury on 15th August 1947 at the age of 83. The son of James Pond Goddard, a farmer of Huntingford, near Gillingham, Dorset, he was a very kind, loveable character, keenly interested in country matters and proud of the Dorset flavour in his speech.

In 1916 he became Staff Botanist at Dunn's Farm Seeds, Ltd., Salisbury, where his advice was much sought by local farmers. He was regarded as an authority on clovers and the agricultural values of grasses. His life's work was gathered together in "Grasses of Great Britain," a large bound volume containing specimens of more than 200 grasses which he completed in 1936 and presented to his firm.

Mr Goddard contributed to the second edition of Mansel-Pleydell's *Flora of Dorset* (1895) and to the *B.E.U. Reports*. He was a member of the Society from 1911, and a note in *B.E.U. 1918 Report*, 418, (1919), records that he had rescued John Ralfs' herbarium from being used to wrap up groceries. A considerable part of this collection he gave to me. Other notices will be found in *Salisbury & Winchester Journal*, issue of 22nd August 1947, and *The Times* for 15th September 1947.

B. WELCH.

Mr C. E. Hubbard sends the following additional note:—"From boyhood days he was keenly interested in the wild flowers of Wessex, and gradually acquired an extensive knowledge of the Hampshire, Wiltshire, and Dorset floras, which was not only utilised by his firm, but also by numerous correspondents in search of material and information. He contributed many specimens from these counties, especially grasses, to the Kew herbarium, and also a portion of John Ralfs' herbarium which he had rescued from destruction. After compiling his first (folio) volume of British grasses, he prepared a second, nearly as complete as the first, which was bound and presented to the Salisbury, South Wilts and Blackmore Museum. A copy of the printed index, with references, etc., to the above work is at Kew. Specimens collected by Mr Goddard were selected by Philipson as the type of *Agrostis stolonifera* L. var. *stolonifera* ecas *calvicola* Philipson (1937, *Journ. Linn. Soc., Bot.*, 51, 98).

J. W. LONG (1864-1948). Mr J. W. Long of Hillside, St John's Road, Newport, Isle of Wight, passed away suddenly in July 1948, after a slight operation.

He was a Founder Member of the Isle of Wight Natural History Society, in which he took a keen interest. He was a constant contributor of records to the Exchange Club.

Mr Long retired from the Civil Service in 1926. This enabled him to devote himself to his hobby of plant-collecting. His chief interest centred in the alien flora of Britain and the banks of the Medina at Newport provided a favourable habitat for collection and observation, as refuse from the docks was regularly dumped there.

His car enabled him to extend his plant-hunting to other localities, both on the Island and the Mainland. He was an enthusiastic and keen-sighted collector and took endless trouble to verify his identifications. His herbarium has been presented to the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, by Mrs Long.

Being of a very retiring disposition, he took little part in discussions at the I.W. Natural History Society meetings, but many a collector will remember with gratitude his unflinching help and kindness.

HILDA DRABBLE.

THE REV. THOMAS STEPHENSON, B.A., D.D. (1855-1948). The death of the Rev. Dr T. Stephenson at the ripe age of ninety-two years marks the loss of one of those stalwarts among Wesleyan ministers who distinguished themselves not only in their vocation, but also in the ranks of critical field botanists.

Few who were privileged to know him in his later years would realise that this man of fine presence and high character was a nonagenarian. The circuit system of his ministry involved periodical change of residence and environment. In his case it seems to have provided opportunities for extending his knowledge of British botany in the field.

He was born at Brackley in Northamptonshire but changed his residence frequently in his early years. Before entering the ministry he was a schoolmaster at Wycliffe College (Stonehaven), Trowbridge, and York. After this he was trained at Richmond College, Surrey, and was ordained in 1895. He also acted as Assistant Tutor at the College in Latin, Greek, and Hebrew, to his advantage in the description of species. While he was a botanist of wide interests, including mosses and hepatics, fungi, fresh-water algae and lichens as well as flowering plants within his scope, his leading contribution to published botanical records lay in his study of the British orchids. As volumes of the *Journal of Botany*, and the *B.E.C. Reports* bear witness, he took great interest in the critical examination of two groups of these, the *Dactylorhiza* group of the genus *Orchis*, and the genus *Epipactis*. He published a series of over twenty papers over the years 1918-1942, most of

them appearing in the *Journal of Botany*, which contributed materially to the knowledge of the groups concerned.

The revision which was involved resulted in the recognition of three new British species, *Orchis purpurella* T. & T. A. Stephenson, *Epipactis vectensis* (T. & T. A. Stephenson) Brooke & Rose and *Epipactis dunensis* (T. & T. A. Stephenson) Godfery.

His study was not confined to the British Isles. In connection with his studies of the geographical distribution of the Dactylorchids he went to France, Spain and Algeria with the assistance of grants from the Royal Society.

In his later years, when resident at Torquay he took an active part on the Editorial Committee of the Botanical Section of the Devonshire Association in the preparation of the first volume of *Flora of Devon* (1939) and subsequently collected data for Devon Mosses in collaboration with the late G. T. Fraser for the proposed second volume of that work. He was elected an Honorary Member of the Devonshire Association in 1943.

Mention must also be made of the valuable work he did for the Botanical Section of the Torquay Natural History Society which he joined in 1934, contributing papers on British Orchids to its *Transactions*, joining the regular botanical excursions in the Torquay District in season, and helping in the collection, determination and display of local plants for the botany table in the Museum. He left Torquay in 1941 to reside with his son at Aberystwyth, giving to the Torquay Natural History Society his collection of orchids and foreign plants (770 sheets). Returning to Torquay in 1944, he succeeded Mr E. Milton as chairman of the Botanical Section of the Society, contributing in that capacity papers on "Some rare and interesting orchids" and "Some biological problems."

At the age of 90 he took an active part in a botanical excursion to Bradley Woods, arranged by the Botanical Section of the Devonshire Association, climbed the wooded limestone outcrop, read a summary of a botanical paper by H. W. Pugsley at the request of the author, and demonstrated specimens of flowering plants and fungi he had gathered at Torquay.

His final efforts included a note contributed to *The Naturalist* (April-June 1946) describing a hybrid between *Senecio squalidus* and *S. vulgaris* var. *erectus*, with drawings by his daughter, Miss Mary Stephenson, who was a lecturer on biology at the University College of the South-West, Exeter, before her marriage. He proposed the name \times *Senecio nitidus* Stephenson for this. Failing eyesight and diminishing strength led to his moving to Hindhead, Surrey, where he died on April 15, 1948.

I am grateful to his son, Professor T. A. Stephenson of Aberystwyth, with whom he collaborated in much of his research work on Marsh Orchids, for assistance in preparing this appreciation.

F. A. BROKENSHIRE.

LIST OF BOTANICAL PAPERS PUBLISHED BY DR T. STEPHENSON.
(Based on a list supplied by his son.)

- 1918 : A New form of *Helleborine viridiflora*, *J. Bot.*, **56**, 1-4.
 1920 : A New Marsh Orchis, *J. Bot.*, **58**, 164-170.
 1920 : The Genus *Epipactis* in Britain, *J. Bot.*, **58**, 209-213.
 1920 : The British Marsh Orchids in Relation to Mendelian Principles, *J. Bot.*, **58**, 243-7.
 1920 : The British Palmate Orchids, *J. Bot.*, **58**, 257-62.
 1921 : *Orchis latifolia* in Britain, *J. Bot.*, **59**, 1-7.
 1921 : *Epipactis latifolia* in Britain, *J. Bot.*, **59**, 33-39.
 1921 : The Forms of *Orchis maculata*, *J. Bot.*, **59**, 121-8.
 1921 : *Epipactis viridiflora*, *J. Bot.*, **59**, 205.
 1921 : *Orchis praetermissa* and *O. purpurella* (in Holland), *J. Bot.*, **59**, 234.
 1922 : Hybrids of *Orchis purpurella*, *J. Bot.*, **60**, 33-35.
 1923 : *Orchis praetermissa* Druce, *J. Bot.*, **61**, 65-68.
 1923 : The British Forms of *Orchis incarnata*, *J. Bot.*, **61**, 273-78.
 1924 : The British Dactylorchids (in collaboration with Col. M. J. Godfrey), *J. Bot.*, **62**, 175-8.
 1925 : Some French Marsh Orchids, *J. Bot.*, **63**, 93-7.
 1927 : The Flora of Asturias, *J. Bot.*, **65**, 70-74.
 1928 : Dactylorchids in France and Great Britain, *Bull. Soc. Bot. de France*, **75**, 481-95 (reviewed in *J. Bot.*, **67**, 79-81, by E. G. Baker).
 1928 : Southern Marsh Orchids, *J. Bot.*, **66**, 97-102.
 1928 : Orchid Hunting in France, *B.E.C. 1927 Rep.*, 493-498.
 1928 : Preservation of Herbarium Specimens, *J. Bot.*, **66**, 123.
 1928 : *Epipactis dunensis*, *J. Bot.*, **66**, 273-4.
 1930 : The British Palmate Orchids, *J. Bot.*, **68**, 151.
 1930 : Sur quelques plantes nouvelles ou peu connues de l'Algérie orientale (in collaboration with Prof. R. Maire), *Bull. Soc. d'Hist. Nat. de l'Afrique du Nord*, **21**, 48-50.
 1930 : Notes on *Orchis purpurella*, *B.E.C. 1929 Rep.*, 203-4.
 1931 : Dactylorchids of North Africa, *J. Bot.*, **69**, 145-150; and 177-180.
 1931 : The Flora of Algeria, *J. Bot.*, **69**, 305-9.
 1934-5 : What is *Orchis latifolia*?, *Trans. Proc. Torquay Nat. Hist. Soc.*, **7**, 27-32.
 1937 : Two Varieties of *Orchis purpurella*, *B.E.C. 1936 Rep.*, 355-7.
 1937-8 : Spotted Orchids, *Trans. Proc. Torquay Nat. Hist. Soc.*, **7**, 259-62.
 1938 : *Epipactis rubiginosa*, *J. Bot.*, **76**, 56.
 1939 : *Flora of Devon, Phanerogams, Vascular Cryptogams, Charophyta*; (Dr Stephenson acted as Assistant Editor for this volume, and was responsible for the sections on Orchids, *Euphrasia*, etc.).
 1942 : A New Hybrid Dactylorchis, *J. Bot.*, **80**, 104.
 1942 : Dactylorchids in Cardiganshire, *J. Bot.*, **80**, 77.
 1946 : A New Senecio Hybrid (*S. squalidus* × *S. vulgaris* var. *radiatus*), *The Naturalist* (1946), 137-8.
 1946 : *Linaria purpurea* (L.) Mill. var. *rosea* var. *nov.*, *The Naturalist* (1946), 138.