

## OBITUARIES

MAUD DORIA BRINDLEY died suddenly in Cambridge on April 3, 1941. She will be remembered by those interested in the polar regions chiefly for her journey down the Yenesei with Miss Czaplicka, the Polish anthropologist, in the summer of 1914. Miss Haviland, as she then was, made some remarkable ornithological studies at Golchika, and her book, *A Summer on the Yenesei* (Arnold, 1915), must have reminded many readers of Seebohm's enthusiasm and energy. She also wrote *Forest, Steppe and Tundra* (Cambridge, 1926), a work in which she supplemented the known ecological facts with her own observations in these regions.

B. B. R.

MAJOR LACHLIN TAYLOR BURWASH died at Coburg, Ontario, on December 22, 1940, at the age of 66. He worked for twenty-four years in the service of the Canadian Government, and retired from the post of Arctic Commissioner in 1932 as one of Canada's foremost authorities on the Arctic. His interest in the development of mining projects first took him to the Arctic; he staked the first claim in the Yellowknife River country, and was consulting engineer for Chicago interests at Klondyke when the famous gold rush started in 1897. He became Government Inspector of Mines at Klondyke and mining engineer of Yukon Territories, and was appointed Secretary to the Ontario Department of Highways in 1920 and 1921. In 1923 he became technical adviser to the Department of the Interior in matters pertaining to the Arctic.

In the years 1925-26, 1928-29 and 1930 Burwash was sent to make a general survey of the coastline from Aklavik to Chesterfield, and to report on mining possibilities. In 1926 he was the first white man to cross Baffin Island. He wintered twice on King William Island, and became interested in reports held by the Government about the Franklin Expedition and in tales of the position of wrecks which he heard from the Eskimos. In 1930 he travelled by air to King William Island and Boothia Peninsula. It was at this time that he found the Franklin relics of rope, harness, naval broadcloth and tent fabric between Lady Franklin Point and Victory Point, now preserved at a departmental museum in Ottawa. As a result of his own investigations and of the reports of earlier explorers and of the Eskimos he reconstructed a map showing the route of the *Erebus* and *Terror*. This is contained, with a report of his extensive journeys from 1925 to 1930, and his observations on the coastline and the Eskimos, in *Canada's Western Arctic* (Ottawa, Department of the Interior, 1931).

F. J. GILLIES was killed in a motor accident on June 2, 1941. He was Chief Engineer of the *Aurora* during the five cruises of the Australasian Antarctic Expedition of 1911-14 under the command of Sir Douglas Mawson. Gillies not only looked after the engines but also assisted with the deep-sea work by the invention of a sounding device which was used successfully throughout the expedition. He was again Chief Engineer on the Ross Sea relief expedition in 1916. Captain J. K. Davis writes: "I have lost a good shipmate and the

Antarctic fraternity is poorer with the passing of one of those who, while essential for the success of the enterprise, was heard little of when he was about his job on the *Aurora*."

Lieutenant-Commander WILLIAM MALLEY, who died in February 1941, was an able-seaman in H.M.S. *Alert* of Sir George Nares' Expedition of 1875-76. He wintered with the ship on the north coast of Grant Land and was a member of the relief party under Lieutenant May sent to meet Aldrich's Western Party. Malley is believed to have been the last surviving member of the expedition after the death of Admiral Sir George Le Clerc Egerton in May 1940.

Professor Sir ALBERT SEWARD, F.R.S., the distinguished palaeobotanist, died on April 11, 1941. He was Professor of Botany at Cambridge from 1906 to 1936, Master of Downing College from 1915 to 1936, and Vice-Chancellor of the University from 1924 to 1926. He was knighted in 1936 in recognition of his scientific work, and he held countless offices in the scientific world.

Sir Albert's interest in polar work was focused more closely by his expedition to West Greenland in the summer of 1921. His help to the Scott Polar Research Institute as first Chairman of the Committee of Management has been mentioned in the Foreword of this issue (p. 398). Among his many publications are, *A Summer in Greenland* (Cambridge, 1922), and a paper on Antarctic Fossil Plants ("*Terra Nova*" Reports, 1910-13, Geology, Vol. 1, No. 1, 1914).