

any, botanists of the present century who have such a knowledge of the flora of a country so extensive as Australia. He had special knowledge of the genera *Acacia* and *Eucalyptus*, and the endemic plant assemblages peculiar to the island continent. He contributed to the *Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales* eighteen papers dealing with the local development of the flora in various districts. Of the twenty-nine papers he contributed to the *Journal of the Royal Society of New South Wales*, thirteen detailed his observations on the growth and development of *Acacia* seedlings. This work he developed systematically and aimed at completing descriptions of the seedlings of ten species each year. He had dealt with one hundred and thirty species in the papers already published, and, having discussed the commoner species, was beginning to find it more difficult to obtain well-authenticated seeds of the more uncommon species. Cambage was also keenly interested in the degree to which species of plants exhibited a preference for certain types of soil. His general ideas on the subject were indicated in his presidential address to the Linnean Society of New South Wales in 1925. Another topic on which his many observations made him competent to speak with authority was that of the origin of the Australian flora, and this he developed in his address to the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science at the Hobart meeting less than a year before his death.

Keen interest in the earlier explorers resulted in some valuable contributions by Mr. Cambage to the work of the Royal Australian Historical Society. His knowledge of bushcraft, perfected by his experience in surveying, caused him to delight in attempting to follow, step by step, some of the journeys of the explorers, for he was scarcely ever so happy as when he had, from some random observation in an explorer's diary, been able to prove just where the explorer must have been when the entry was made.

Mr. Cambage was a personality that will be sadly missed in scientific circles on account of his high principles. He possessed, to a rare degree, those qualities of tact, moderation, charitable judgment, and geniality which made him beloved by all his colleagues—many an awkward moment in the counsels of scientific societies has been safely negotiated by his tact. Only once in many years have I known him seriously perturbed, and then, in his usual tactful way, he set out to overcome the source of his perturbation with such success that few indeed knew anything about it.

A. B. WALKOM.

#### MRS. D. H. SCOTT.

By the death of Victoria Henderina Scott, which took place quite suddenly at her home at Oakley, Hants, on Jan. 18, the Linnean Society loses one of its earliest women-fellows, and botany a keen and loyal supporter. Mrs. Scott was elected a fellow of the Linnean Society in February 1905, following the grant of the supplemental charter which removed the sex distinction. Her active

interest in the Society's work was illustrated by an exhibition, shortly after, of a series of animated photographs, taken by the kinematograph, showing opening and closing of flowers, and other plant movements. Until recent years she was a frequent attendant at the meetings of the Society, and in 1911 gave a lantern exhibition of a new species of the fossil genus *Traquaria*. Communications on plant fossils and other subjects were also contributed to the *New Phytologist* and the *Annals of Botany*. In the preface to the second edition of the "Studies in Fossil Botany" (1909), Dr. D. H. Scott acknowledges the help of his wife in the preparation of some of the illustrations; and a similar service had been rendered in his "Introduction to Structural Botany" (1894-96).

Mrs. Scott also shared her husband's general botanical and scientific interests. We recall the International Botanical Congress at Vienna in 1905, to which they were delegates, the annual meetings of the British Association, where they were supporters of Section K, and of the South-Eastern Union of Scientific Societies, of which Dr. Scott has been president, in addition to the various activities of scientific societies and other functions in which they participated. Many botanists, at home and overseas, will recall the gracious hospitality of Dr. and Mrs. Scott at their charming home in Hampshire, and the interesting garden which Mrs. Scott loved to show to her guests. She will be greatly missed, and not in botanical circles only, for she had wide interests.

DR. WILLIAM JOHN BOWIS, whose death occurred on Jan. 25, was born in Nottingham in 1881, and entered the employment of Sir Jesse Boot in 1897, being engaged in the firm's analytical laboratories. From 1903 until 1905 he worked under Prof. A. Werner at the University of Zurich, and took part in Werner's researches on the co-ordination compounds of cobalt, receiving the Ph.D. degree in 1905. He afterwards returned to industrial work, and was largely responsible for the development of the soap and perfumery business of Messrs. Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd., of which he became a director in March 1909. During the War he took a large part in organising the production of gas masks in Messrs. Boots' factories, and was made an O.B.E. in 1919. Dr. Bowis was a man of great ability and genial disposition, and the loss created by his death will be greatly felt.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Mr. T. H. Blakesley, for several years honorary secretary of the Physical Society of London, on Feb. 13, aged eighty-one years.

Dr. J. E. Eddison, emeritus professor of medicine in the University of Leeds and a former president of the Leeds Literary and Philosophical Society, on Jan. 27, aged eighty-six years.

Mr. Victor Plarr, librarian of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, since 1897, on Jan. 28, aged sixty-five years.

Sir Bertram Windle, F.R.S., professor of anthropology in St. Michael's College, University of Toronto, on Feb. 14, aged seventy years.