

OBITUARIES

Edward Harold Hayes

EDWARD HAROLD HAYES, who died at Tref Elury, St. Asaph, on December 4, aged eighty-six, was an able and well-known teacher of mathematics in Oxford between 1878 and 1920. A son of the Rev. William Hayes, sometime vicar of Stockton Heath, he went to Eton in 1867 and was in a Dame's house, Miss Drury's, and a pupil of the Rev. F. St. John Thackeray. He went to Balliol in 1873 as a commoner, but after his first class in Mathematical Moderations and winning the Junior Mathematical Scholarship he wore a scholar's gown.

After first classes in Mathematical Finals and in Physics, Hayes was elected in 1878 a fellow and lecturer of New College, became a tutor in 1886 and senior tutor in 1901. He gave up teaching in 1920 but remained a fellow until 1934. After his retirement he lived first in Hertfordshire and then at St. Asaph.

Hayes was an excellent colleague both as a fellow and as an examiner, and he took an active part in the mathematical teaching of Oxford. His teaching was careful and methodical, and all his pupils were well taught and some achieved distinction. He regularly attended the meetings of the Mathematical Society and produced some elegant results. For some time he was secretary of the Association of Mathematical Lecturers, before the days of sub-faculties. As an examiner in the Schools of Mathematics and of Physics he took the utmost care in framing questions and in checking results and was a first-rate judge of men's work.

When he went to New College, there were only twelve resident fellows; he shared in its growth under Wardens Sewell and Spooner, and was an efficient and able member of the College staff, and liked by all his colleagues. He took an interest in all College business but shrank from University affairs apart from mathematics; thus in 1895 he declined to be nominated as proctor. He had married Isabella, daughter of T. M. Marriott and had a son and two daughters and was very happy in his married life. Hayes's good temper and sense of humour had won him good friends at Balliol, and his story of their advice when he went to be interviewed by the New College dons as a candidate for their fellowship is characteristic. "Say nothing against the Alps to Hereford George, or against the higher education of women to Alfred Robinson, but you may say anything that you like to Spooner." Spooner would have enjoyed that story.

When Hayes retired, his colleagues parted from him with affection and respect, as from one whose humour and good sense they knew they would miss for many a day.

Mr. Heywood Sumner

WE regret to record the death of George Heywood Maunoir Sumner, artist and archæologist, which took place on December 21 at the age of eighty-seven.

Sumner was a 'local' archæologist of the best type. His accuracy as a field worker and his meticulous attention to detail in recording the results of his observation with pen and pencil has rarely, if ever, been surpassed. His activities were directed mainly to the study of Cranborne Chase, of which he appreciated to the full the natural advantages that had attracted the settlement of early man, and the New Forest, which he knew in intimate detail both as a centre of natural beauty and wild life, and as a storehouse of relics of early and simple forms of social life in Britain. His book on the "Ancient Earthworks of Cranborne Chase" (1913) was accompanied by fifty maps and plans, and has been regarded by competent critics as setting a new standard in accuracy and detail for the archæologist. The same qualities for which his work on Cranborne Chase was notable were also to be observed in his survey of the Wiltshire Grimsditch, of which he published a large-scale plan, correcting an erroneous description accepted for more than a century, and the survey of the British settlement of Gussage Cow Down, which covered an intricate and obscure area of more than a square mile.

While it would be going too far to say that Sumner's work reached a limited circle only, his preference for 'local' societies, such as the Hampshire Field Club, or the Bournemouth Natural Science Society, and his aversion from any form of self-advertisement, rendered his work less widely known than it should have been before the publication in 1917 of his "Earthworks of the New Forest", in which not only did he add fifteen new earthworks to the list of those already known, but also recorded his now famous discoveries of the kilns and pottery of the 'New Forest' ware of Roman age. Here Sumner's work marked a new departure, and stimulated an interest in the work of the local potter in Roman Britain which has proved eminently fruitful in archæological study.

Sumner's further publications were a guide book to the New Forest, which has been regarded as the best ever written, and "Local Papers, Archæological and Topographical, Hampshire: Dorset and Wiltshire", containing much local lore and valuable material of archæological interest.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

Mr. Eliot Howard, a well-known ornithologist and author of "The British Warblers" (1907-14), on December 26, aged sixty-seven.

Prof. Robert Howden, emeritus professor of anatomy in the University of Durham, aged eighty-four.

Prof. D. Robertson, professor of electrical engineering in the University of Bristol, on January 8, aged sixty-five.

Prof. J. H. Smith, formerly professor of engineering in the College of Technology, Belfast, on December 24.