

OBITUARY

AUBREY DUNCAN MACKENZIE who was born on 3 January, 1895, died on 21 March, 1962.

After completing his general education at State School and High School in Victoria, Australia, he received his practical training first by pupilage with the Public Works Department, Victoria, from 1913-15 and then under the late George Kermode, M.I.C.E. from 1919-20.

Subsequent to training he carried out engineering surveys and investigations for roads, bridges, swamp and land reclamation, harbour works, piers, wharves, breakwaters, moles, navigable waters, public park development, flood protection and river improvement works, all in the State of Victoria. He joined the Public Works Department of the State of Victoria in 1912 and from 1934-1939 was the Chief Engineer, Engineer in charge, Ports and Harbours and Vice-President of the Victoria Marine Board. From 1938-40 he was Commissioner, Country Roads Board and from 1940-60 Chairman of the Melbourne Harbour Trust.

He was a member of a Board of three appointed by the Government of Victoria to report on oil tanker berthage in the River Yarra, Melbourne, and was Chairman of a Board of three appointed by the Government of Victoria to report on foreshore erosion throughout the coastal length of Victoria. He was appointed by the Government of Victoria to value engineering improvements on race courses compulsorily closed by legislation and was Engineer and Trustee of the St. Kilda Foreshore Trust.

During his long period of service to the State of Victoria Mr Mackenzie also held office as Chairman of the Permanent Committee, Australian Ports Association, Chairman of the State Shipbuilding Board, Chairman of the State Tourist Committee, Chairman of the Omnibus Advisory Board, Honorary Engineer, St. Kildare Foreshore Trust and Melbourne Cricket Ground Trustees, and Chairman of the Civic Olympic Information Committee.

Mr Mackenzie was elected directly to full membership in 1935.

He is survived by his widow, a son and a daughter.

CAPTAIN EDWIN PERCY RICHARDS who was born on 9 September, 1873, died on 14 November, 1961.

He was educated at Warwick School and served his articles under his father, the late Edwin Melville Richards, A.M.I.C.E., Borough Engineer of Warwick. He then served for three years as an engineering assistant to George Bell & Sons Ltd, mostly on main drainage at Manchester, Glossop, Newbury and Rochdale Valley. He next returned to local government service first in the Borough Engineer's Dept., Rochdale and then at Southend-on-Sea until 1901, when he became one of the senior engineers and personal civil engineering assistant to the late Edward Sandeman, M.I.C.E., on the Derwent Valley Scheme covering Sheffield, Leicester and Nottingham Corporations and the Derbyshire County Council.

He served three years, 1908-11, with the City of Madras and was City Engineer in 1911. During this time he designed and patented several valuable appliances connected with Indian main drainage. In 1912 he became Chief Engineer to the Calcutta Improvement Trust where he served until the outbreak of the first World War.

On the Trust's behalf he toured engineering and town-planning works in Europe and published a 400-page report on the condition, improvement and town planning of Calcutta.

During the war he served in the Gordon Highlanders and the Leicestershire Regiment and saw action in France.

After the war he took up an appointment as Chief Engineer and Deputy Chairman to the Singapore Improvement Trust, where he was responsible for the ordnance survey of the island and for the major schemes of town-planning and development carried out in the 1920's.

On his return to the United Kingdom in 1927 he became a consulting engineer.

Mr. Richards was a notable mountaineer and a lifelong member of the Swiss Alpine Club and the Ski Club of Great Britain. He made the first ever ascent of the Dom on skis in 1928 and at the age of 75 he once again climbed the Matterhorn.

He was elected directly to the class of Member in 1912.

DR CARLO SEMENZA, who was born on 9 July, 1893, died on 30 October, 1961.

Dr Semenza, who was educated in Milan, graduated from the University of Padua in 1919 and was appointed Assistant Engineer with the "Società Adriatica di Elettività", with whom he remained throughout his career in a position of increasing responsibility—at the time of his death he was one of its Central Directors and Director of its Hydraulic Construction Department.

He was responsible for the construction of 20 dams and the same number of hydro-electric schemes, as well as more than 250 km of galleries. Among his mentionable works are the dams of Santa Lucia di Isonzo, Lumiei, Pieve di Cadore (one of the first and largest arch-gravity dams), Val Gallina, Pontesei, Barcis, Pian di Fedaiia and finally the 265 m high Vajont dam (the highest arch dam in the world). Dr Semenza did not confine his activities to Italy; he was responsible for the Kurobe dam, Japan (the largest dome-dam in the world), Dez dam, Iran, and the La Soledad, Santa Rosa and El Novillo dams in Mexico. In the field of power stations the most outstanding are those of Soverzene and Somplago. At the time of his death he was the United Nations technical assistant expert for hydro-electric problems in Yugoslavia. Dr Semenza wrote a large number of technical and scientific papers which have been published in many countries. A memorial volume containing his collected papers was published by the Società Adriatica di Elettività, Venice, in 1962. He participated extensively in national and international congresses, as well as in conferences of a non-technical nature.

He was awarded the Telford Gold Medal in 1953 and the Rickey Medal of the A.S.C.E. in 1957.

In 1954 he was conferred with an honorary degree in engineering by the Technische Hochschule, Munich and in 1959 by the Polytechnic of Milan.

Dr Semenza was also Vice-President of I.S.M.E.S. (Experimental Institution for Models and Structures), a member of the consulting committee of "ELC-electroconsult", Milan; Vice-President of the Italian Committee of the International Commission on Large Dams; President of the Technical Commission and a member of the Central Technical Committee of the Technological Section of A.N.I.D.E.L. (Italian Association of Electrical Industries).