

OBITUARY

JOHN BRASS, who was born on 4 February, 1879, died on 2 December, 1961.

He was educated at the Royal Grammar School, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and commenced his practical training as a mining pupil under Col. W. C. Blackett, at the Charlaw & Sacriston Collieries, Durham, in 1894.

From 1897 he was Mining Surveyor and Draughtsman with the Charlaw & Sacriston Colliery Co., and in 1900 he was appointed Assistant Manager to Mr S. Hare at the Murton Colliery, Durham. In 1903 he received the Silver Medal of the Royal Humane Society for his services in rescue work when the Sacriston Colliery was inundated. He became in 1903, Manager of the Primrose Main Colliery Co., Barnsley, and transferred to the Houghton Main Colliery Co., as Manager in 1905. He became successively General Manager and Director, Managing Director, Vice-Chairman and, after the nationalization of the mines, Chairman and Managing Director for part of the period prior to the liquidation of the company in 1955.

During the 1914-18 war he held the rank of acting-Major of the 13th York and Lancaster Service Battalion (Barnsley), later becoming Divisional Commander of Special Police for the Staincross Division of Yorkshire, and was military representative on three tribunals.

Mr Brass read several Papers before the Institution of Mining Engineers, and for his services to the Institution was the recipient of the Medal of the Institution as well as the Peake Gold Medal of the Midland Institute of Mining Engineers for his devotion to its objects and interests. He was President of the Midland Institute from 1923-25, and of the Institution of Mining Engineers from 1932-34. He was Chairman of many associations, including the South Yorkshire Coal Owners' Association, the Fuel Research Committee of South Yorkshire, the Coke Producers' Federation Ltd, the South Yorkshire Gas Grid Co. Ltd, and the Yorkshire Committee of the Physical and Chemical Survey of the National Coal Resources. He was also a member of many committees, including the Central Committee of the Mining Association of Great Britain, the Coal Mines Acts Committee, the Yorkshire Area Wages Board, the Mining Committee of the University of Sheffield, the Executive Board of the Midland (Amalgamated) District (Coal Mines) Scheme in 1930, the South Yorkshire Drainage Committee and the British Coal Owners' Research Association.

He was elected to Membership in 1934.

Mr Brass is survived by two sons.

WILLIAM HENDERSON, who was born on 28 July, 1885, died on 17 January, 1962.

He received his education at Harris Academy and High School, Dundee, and studied engineering at Dundee University until 1904. He underwent practical training with Mr J. H. Thompson, M.I.C.E., working for the Dundee Harbour Trustees, between 1902 and 1906. He was appointed Assistant Engineer in 1906 and worked on piling, dredging, and hydrographical survey projects until 1908.

From 1908 he was with the Nigerian Government Railways on survey, construction and maintenance work. He was engaged in the building of heavy