

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

earthworks, permanent way, bridges, culverts, stations and yards, and signalling buildings and foundations. He retired as Chief Engineer in 1928.

After 1928 he became interested in several estate development and building companies, becoming a Director of Broadlands (London) Ltd, and Queensbury Estates Ltd, and Managing Director of P. H. Edwards (Mill Hill) Ltd.

He became an Associate Member in 1911, and was transferred to full Membership in 1928.

Mr Henderson is survived by his widow.

JOHN CAMPBELL McCOLL MACLAGAN, who was born on 12 February, 1886, died on 14 February, 1962.

After a general education at Hillhead School, Glasgow, during 1891–1902, he received practical training under Mr John Alexander, M.I.C.E., at the firm of Barclay Curle & Co. Ltd, Glasgow, until 1907. He was appointed Engineering Draughtsman by the same Company, and stayed until 1909 when he took up a similar appointment with John Brown & Co. Ltd, Glasgow.

He returned to Barclay Curle in 1911 as a designer of large marine diesel engines, marine steam reciprocating engines and other plant, and remained until 1914. He moved to the North British Diesel Works Ltd, Glasgow, as Chief Designer engaged on equipping the works and on the design of large marine diesel engines. He became Head of the Technical Department in 1915 and was responsible for the design of large and small marine oil engines of various designs and for the control of the technical department of the company until 1925.

As Technical Manager, back again with Barclay Curle during 1925–28, he continued his work in the field of large marine steam and diesel installations.

The general management of Greenwood & Batley Ltd, came under his control in 1928, with departments for steam turbines, machine tools, electrical products, textile machinery, oil mill machinery, small arms ammunition, foundries and other industries. From 1931 he held the position of sole Managing Director of Greenwood & Batley Ltd, at Leeds, with works then at Abbey Wood, and later at Farnham, Yorkshire, and served as a director of their subsidiary company in Bradford.

Mr MacLagan's election as Associate Member took place in 1911, and his transfer to Membership in 1933.

He is survived by his widow and a married daughter.

GEORGE SMILLIE, who was born on 24 March, 1905, died on 8 March, 1962.

He was educated at Hillhead High School during 1911–23, and at the Royal Technical College, Glasgow between 1923–27, receiving his practical training during the latter period with Mr J. B. Brodie, M.I.C.E., Consulting Engineer in Glasgow.

From 1927–29 he was Assistant to the Chief Engineer in charge of arterial road construction between Edinburgh and Glasgow, and the realignment and widening of existing roads and bridges.

During 1929–32 he was engaged on the design and construction of roads and bridges for the Uganda Protectorate Public Works Department, holding the position of Assistant Engineer.

He returned to the Edinburgh–Glasgow road scheme for a short period in 1933, and later took up a post as Assistant to Mr T. H. M. Murray of the Wigtown County Council Roads Department.