

OBITUARY

SIR ATHOL LANCELOT ANDERSON, K.C.B., who died on the 7th June, 1955, was born on the 17th January, 1875.

He was educated at Cheltenham College, and was subsequently articled to Sir James Lemon, M.I.C.E. He later served under the Civil Engineer-in-Chief, Admiralty, at Portsmouth, Malta, Rosyth, Hong Kong, Simonstown, Jamaica, Heligoland, and at Singapore. He was appointed Civil Engineer-in-Chief at the Admiralty in 1934, and retired in 1940. He was made a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath in July 1939.

Sir Athol was a member of the Commission de Travaux of the International Commission of the Canal Maritime de Suez, and was Admiralty representative on Dover Harbour Board.

He was elected an Associate Member in 1900, and was transferred to the class of Members in 1913. He was elected Member of Council in 1936.

He is survived by two nieces and two nephews.

JOHN DEKEYNE ATKINSON, B.A., who died at his home on the 21st May, 1955, was born on the 2nd January, 1889.

Mr Atkinson, who was educated at Oundle and Cambridge, joined the Egyptian Irrigation Service in 1911, shortly after graduating. He transferred to the Sudan in 1915, and was henceforward concerned with a number of irrigation, pumping, and canal schemes. From 1929 to 1934 he was Director of the Hydraulics Section and of Hydraulic Research in the Ministry of Public Works, Egypt, engaged chiefly on advisory work relating to the Nile and the canal systems. From 1935 to 1939 Mr Atkinson held the post of Chief Engineer, Alexandria, and during the next two years was Chief Engineer, Iraq Irrigation Service. His last appointment was Director-General of Irrigation, Iraq, which he held from 1941 to 1946, when he retired.

He was author of the Handbook of Egyptian Irrigation (1934-35), co-author with A. D. D. Butcher of a Paper,¹ presented in 1932, on "The Causes and Prevention of Bed Erosion," and co-author with G. Cardiacos of a Paper² in 1945, "The Reconstruction of the Diyala Weir," for which he was awarded the Telford Premium. He was also a Member of the Société Royale de Géographie d'Égypte.

Mr Atkinson was elected an Associate Member in 1922, and was transferred to the class of Members in 1935.

ALFRED THOMAS BEST, who died at his home on the 16th May, 1955, was born on the 27th October, 1877.

He entered the family firm of Best & Sons, consulting drainage engineers in 1891, and from 1907 to 1910 was Deputy County Surveyor for Breconshire. In 1911 he became Designer and Assistant Engineer to the Port of London Authority, and in 1920 was appointed Chief Assistant Engineer of the British Petroleum Company. From 1925 onwards Mr Best was on the staff of Rendel, Palmer and Tritton, in the Harbour and Road Department. He became a Consultant of this firm in 1946.

His chief interest, on which he occasionally lectured, was in ports and docks, and

¹ Min. Proc. Instn Civ. Engrs, vol. 235 (1932-33, Pt I), p. 175.

² J. Instn Civ. Engrs, vol. 25, p. 22 (Nov. 1945).