

business and often disclaiming any actuarial knowledge, there can be no doubt that his actuarial training gave him a most useful background.

During the greater part of his business life, industrial assurance was under political attack, and he took a leading part in defending it by his work for the Industrial Life Offices Association and by giving evidence before committees of inquiry. He had a gift for leadership which was evident, and he was called upon to fill such posts as President of the Birmingham Insurance Institute during a Conference Year, Chairman of the Industrial Life Offices Association for nine years, and Chairman of the British Insurance Association; the latter was an unusual honour for a man living in the provinces or connected with an industrial assurance office.

Jefferson enjoyed entertaining and was a generous and thoughtful host. He was a founder member of the Denarius Club and was also a member of the Actuaries and Gallio Clubs. He leaves a widow and three sons, one of whom recently became General Manager of the Britannic.

K. J. B.

DAVID HOUSEMAN

DAVID HOUSEMAN, who died 7 December 1956, was born 30 April 1892, his father being the headmaster of the St Marylebone Grammar School. He gained an open scholarship to the City of London School, and on leaving school joined the staff of the London Life in January 1910. During the 1914-18 War he served with the York and Lancaster Regiment, attaining the rank of Captain; he was wounded twice and was mentioned in dispatches. In 1919 he qualified as an Associate of the Institute but later turned his attention to the law. Having been articled in 1920 to Mr A. E. Savill of Messrs Druces and Attlee he was admitted a solicitor in 1923 and returned to the staff of the London Life, of which he was appointed Secretary in 1953, after being for many years its Trust and Claims Secretary.

Though Houseman had not achieved his original goal, the Fellowship, he remained a loyal member of the Institute and read papers before it on *The new Law of Property Act* (in 1925) and *The Legal Aspects of Life Assurance Practice* (in 1931); for the former paper he received a prize from the Messenger and Brown Prize Fund. He took part in discussions at the Institute on various occasions and contributed several reviews to the *Journal*. For the last nine years of their publication he was joint author with Mr E. J. MacGillivray of the *Journal's* Legal Notes. His book, *The Law of Life Assurance*, is a worthy companion, albeit in a narrower field, to MacGillivray's *magnum opus*. He was a founder member and a past chairman of the Life Assurance Legal Society.

Houseman's was a delightful personality and his loyalty to his colleagues and his Company was of the highest order. His extreme modesty and the generous way in which he made his considerable knowledge available to all who sought his aid gained him a wide circle of friends and admirers in the world of life assurance. He possessed a whimsical sense of humour and his writings were often pointed by quotations from Lewis Carroll and Jerome K. Jerome.

F. H. W.