

## OBITUARY

Since the issue of the last number of this *Journal* the deaths have occurred of two honorary members of the Society, Mr Ralph Todhunter and Mr Alfred Henry. The great loss sustained by the Institute of Actuaries is no less felt by this Society, the members of which are greatly indebted to these great actuaries who have both done most important work for the Students.

In many ways there is much in common between their respective careers although they were very nearly a generation apart. Mr Todhunter had throughout his life engaged actively in the corporate life of the Institute and is known by all Students for his many contributions to the *Journal of the Institute of Actuaries* and for his work as Editor of that *Journal*. As official Tutor for Part 2 during the years 1897–1902 he was of very considerable assistance to a former generation of students, many of whom are now honorary members of this Society. But perhaps he is best known for the Text Book on Compound Interest, the preparation of which the Council entrusted to his care, a book with which not only every Actuarial Student is fully acquainted but many people outside the profession as well. This book is a pattern of what a mathematical text book should be, and, while remaining the standard work on the subject, has become a classic.

Mr Henry, who was aged 38 years only at his death, was very much in personal touch with students and their activities. In the early days of the Students' Society before the War, Mr Henry was a very active member contributing on many occasions to the Society's debates. In 1920 he was appointed to the Board of Examiners, of which he was Chairman from 1922 to 1925. During this post-war period he performed invaluable work for the Students' Society which owes a great deal of its present prosperity to the fact that he, as Chairman (1919–23), was in charge of its affairs during this difficult time.

On several occasions during this period he gave lectures to the Society on various parts of the syllabus for Part I of the Examinations and on these occasions Students attended in great numbers in the hope of getting some tips for the examination. Nor were they disappointed, for Mr Henry invariably had some most interesting facts to tell them, often illuminating his remarks by relating how previous Students had gone astray in the examination room and giving many hints which must have been invaluable to candidates. His knowledge of the mathematics required for an actuarial equipment peculiarly fitted him for the task, which he undertook at the request of the Council, of preparing a mathematical text book with special relation to the requirements of Actuarial Students. This valuable book, *Calculus and Probability for Actuarial Students*, and his contributions to *J.I.A.* and this *Journal* will keep his memory fresh, not only in the minds of present actuaries and students but also in the minds of many generations of students to come.