

OBITUARY

DR. ARTHUR BULLEID, L.R.C.P., F.S.A.

(Frontispiece)

DR. ARTHUR BULLEID, who died at his home, Dymboro, Midsomer Norton, Somerset, on 27 December, at the age of eighty-nine, will be best remembered as the discoverer of the Iron Age 'B' site known as the Glastonbury Lake Village.

Bulleid, who was by profession a medical practitioner, had an early opportunity of cultivating a taste for archaeology, and having read Keller's book on the Swiss Lake-dwellings, Munro's 'Lake Dwellings of Europe' and other works, he became imbued with the idea that remains of a somewhat similar nature were to be found in the swamps of central Somerset. So, in his rambles over the moors, he was on the look-out for possible sites, and he visited peat-cutting operations in the vicinity. A little later, he found the mounds about a mile north of Glastonbury, on the road to Godney, which raised a suspicion in his mind that they were artificial. Certain remains which turned up on mole-heaps settled the point, and Arthur Bulleid got into touch with Dr. Robert Munro and Sir W. Boyd Dawkins and other archaeologists. This resulted in the British Association forming a Lake Village Committee in 1893, and making monetary grants from year to year towards the work. The excavations, however, began in 1892 under the direction of Dr. Bulleid: they were found to be unique and became widely known.

In the same year, due to Bulleid's enquiries and his keenness, a flat-bottomed dug-out boat, 17 ft. in length, was recovered at some little distance from the lake village, and is now preserved in the Glastonbury Museum.

The first series of excavations extended until 1898; then there was an interval of six years, except for a comparatively small exploration conducted in 1902 by Mr. H. St. George Gray. Further operations were resumed in 1904 under the joint direction of Dr. Bulleid and Mr. Gray. This work was completed in 1907. In 1911, Vol. I of a large fully illustrated report in royal quarto size was published, followed in 1916 by Vol. II. Before the issue of Vol. I, Messrs. Bulleid and Gray began a long series of excavations in 1908 on the site of the neighbouring lake village at Meare, which is in two separate areas known as the West and East villages. Vol. I of the West village was issued in 1948, and Vol. II is now in preparation, and will include Dr. Bulleid's description of the dwellings and further chapters by Mr. St. George Gray on the finds, which are very numerous. The Meare exploration has continued season by season up to date except during the period of the two world wars.

Dr. Bulleid's archaeological interests extended beyond the lake villages, and he was a most careful, accurate and painstaking observer, and exceedingly pleasant to work with; he would go to any trouble to achieve satisfactory results. Moreover, he was a good draughtsman—so essential an attainment for archaeological work and especially in connexion with illustrating published reports. Bulleid was never happier than when working at the lake villages where he made many friends who appreciated his archaeological enthusiasm; and he took a great interest in excavations conducted by other people.

The writer of these notes, who spent many weeks of his life, from time to time, under Dr. Bulleid's roof, always found him kind and friendly, and of a decidedly hospitable nature.

For the *Proceedings* of the Society he wrote valued papers, notably 'The Chambered Barrows of North Somerset', 'The Ancient Trackway in Meare Heath' and 'The Shapwick Boat', and in collaboration with Dr. Wilfrid Jackson 'The Burtle Sand Beds in Somerset' (in two papers).

Bulleid was one of the very few remaining members of the Somerset Archaeological Society who joined in the last century, namely, in 1893; and he was elected a vice-president in 1924. He became a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London in 1896, of which body he was for some years one of the local secretaries for Somerset. He is survived by his wife and all his children—two sons and four daughters.

H.ST.G.G.

In addition to Bulleid's important archaeological researches there are other sides to his work and character which should not go unrecorded.

Besides being a country doctor, much beloved by the mining community at Midsomer Norton, Arthur Bulleid was essentially an artist-craftsman; and it is his imaginative sense and clarity of perception which are so well brought out in his approach to the technical and aesthetic problems dealt with in his various writings.

It is perhaps not generally known that his earliest venture was not in medicine but as a potter, going to Staffordshire for a year or so to be apprenticed to one of the big potteries before returning to Glastonbury Pottery to follow the trade. Here, wishing to enhance a small and somewhat sterile craft, he experimented with designs and glazes, but found the management obdurate to any form of enterprise. Frustrated by their attitude he broke with the firm in order to study and take up medicine. The training he underwent at the potter's wheel and at the kiln were all important in after-life to his understanding of the native British wares.

For a busy man with so many interests his output of drawings was considerable. Besides the published pen and ink line drawings, there exist other much more sensitive pencil sketches including the

originals of the Lake Village pottery forms. The essential character of these vessels, with their delicate and often intricate linear and scroll decoration, he was able to grasp and interpret with the ease of a born craftsman.

A more creative side to his make-up may be seen in a series of finely executed designs for wall papers and fabrics, which he carried out in his middle seventies about 1938 and 1939. Although they were never developed commercially owing to the intervention of the war, these brightly painted water colours exhibit not only a complete understanding of the fundamentals of surface pattern but considerable originality in their treatment.

They are based on natural flower, stem and leaf form, the most sensitive of all, perhaps, being a delicate design called 'the Glastonbury Thorn' in which the underlying theme has some of the characteristics of Celtic scroll work. This is fundamentally English pattern in its truest sense, strongly inspired by William Morris and the work of older craftsmen.

Dr. Bulleid will long be remembered by those who knew him best for that most precious of human gifts, humility of mind. With age and experience this early shyness matured into a philosophical diffidence which was quite charming, combining as it did with a rare beneficence that irradiated his whole personality.

W.A.S.

IVAN FITZROY JONES

IVAN FITZROY HIPPISEY JONES died on Wednesday, 19 March 1952, at the age of 65. He was educated at St. Mark's School, Windsor and Emmanuel College, Cambridge. He served in the Army during the first World War, and after being wounded and gassed, was invalided out in 1919 with the rank of captain. Until 1931 he taught mathematics at Wellesley House, Broadstairs, Haileybury College and in other schools. In 1939 he joined the R.A.F.V.R., resigning, as a flight-lieutenant, in 1945. His association with the Boy Scout movement lasted for more than forty years, during which time he accepted many offices of responsibility, including the secretaryship of the Taunton Association, and a county assistant secretaryship.

Although his over-riding interest lay in scouting and the youth movement in general, Mr. Fitzroy Jones's services were readily given to the cause of local historical research. He joined this Society in 1933, was elected to its Council in 1934, and was one of its honorary secretaries from 1945 until his death. The papers which he contributed to the *Proceedings* were 'Somerset Fairs' (additions), 1945, 'John Lane, Chancellor of Lichfield', 1947, and 'Aspects of Poor Law Administration, XVII to XIX centuries, from Trull Overseers' accounts', 1951. He was elected to the Council of the Somerset Record Society in 1949, and in the same year became a

co-opted member of the Records Committee of the Somerset County Council. At the time of his death, he had just completed for the Record Society a calendar of sixteenth-century Wills, the compilation of which he shared with Mrs. C. W. H. Rawlins, and a book on the Hippisley family. For some time, he had been working on a revised edition of Weaver's 'Somerset Incumbents', and had gathered much fresh material which remains in card index form.

Mr. Fitzroy Jones possessed a rare ability for working in detail and seeing in large. His neat system of filing and his gift for scientific analysis, which evoked great admiration, were perfectly suited to the collection and interpretation of historical information; and it is fortunate that a full life of service in other directions did not preclude the exercise of his powers in this field of research. There was in his character, however, a real modesty, which prevented him from realising that others could learn, and have learned, much from a study of his methods.

I.P.C.

MR. A. K. WICKHAM

MR. A. K. WICKHAM, for many years a valued member of the teaching staff of Eton College, died at his home there on Wednesday, 20 June 1951.

The head master of Eton writes:—

Kenneth Wickham was born in 1897, the son of the Rev. A. P. Wickham, then Vicar of Martock in Somerset, and he remained deeply attached to Somerset all his life with an intimate knowledge of its countryside and its churches. Educated at Winchester and New College, he came to Eton, after active service in the 1914-18 war, in 1924. At first a teacher of modern languages, he came to devote himself more to history, but he never abandoned his Italian division in 'Extra Studies', for many years one of the most stimulating experiences in an Eton education. His deep affection for English church architecture and the art of the Renaissance and his scholarly approach to these subjects infused his teaching and enabled him to influence many boys, particularly through the archaeological society which he founded. His strength of character and understanding of boys fitted him admirably to be a house master, and his home, especially after his marriage in 1943, became a centre of happiness and a source of wide culture in Eton.

Standing often in the ancient ways, a strong churchman, who looked for high standards and saw through pretentiousness quickly, he was yet as often found to be a supporter of changes and a vigorous champion of any cause he adopted. This combination, to which his charm of manner gave a singular individuality, the touches of impatience mingled with an always present sense of humour, his modesty and unselfishness, endeared him to his colleagues and his death marks the passing of one of the most distinctive figures in the last generation at Eton.

The Times.

A few days before his death, Kenneth Wickham received the first galley-proofs of his book on *Churches of Somerset*. This monograph is being published by Phoenix House and will be valued as a unique and comprehensive survey of ecclesiastical architecture in the county. Wickham was an enthusiast for the perpendicular period, and his scholarly and accurate approach to a subject, which throughout his life had been one of his greatest interests, enabled him to write a book of unusual quality. The illustrations, many of which are from his own photographs, are admirable. Those who knew him will recognize with pleasure characteristic personal touches and turns of phrase. All who read the book will find their appreciation of the beauty of our parish Churches quickened by his sincerity and devotion.

A.W.V-N.