

The results of his eclipse expeditions probably form his chief contributions to astronomical knowledge, but he will be best remembered for his untiring energy in the promotion of his beloved science. He had much to do with the formation of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, of which he was one of the two secretaries at its foundation in 1889. As a member of the Society he maintained an active interest throughout his life, and was elected President twice—in 1895 and in 1908.

A lasting memorial to his memory exists in the new Chabot Observatory. He was too active an astronomer to be content with a small instrument, and his continuous efforts secured in 1915 a 20-inch refractor for the observatory, which was at the same time moved to a favourable site on Leona Heights, East Oakland. Under his direction the new observatory was erected; many of the details as well as all the essentials being arranged by himself. For the last year of his life he was in ill-health, but although he presented his resignation it was not accepted. The great fire in California, in September last, swept near the observatory and probably hastened his death, which took place on September 20. He has left many friends behind him amongst all classes. Thousands will recall his inspiring lectures to them as boys and girls. Amateur astronomers recognised him as one of the greatest amongst themselves, while the keenness and wholeheartedness he carried into his work as a professional astronomer made him beloved by the astronomers of the great Californian observatories.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1892 February 12. J. J.

The Rev. S. RUNSIE CRAIG was born at Armagh on 1844 March 23. For thirty years he was rector of Moville, Co. Donegal. Here he erected an observatory and made observations, especially of the planet Mars. He took a keen interest in all branches of science, and was a member of several scientific societies. He retired on account of ill health in 1914, and resided afterwards at Upper Norwood, where he died on 1923 March 19.

He married twice, firstly, Anna Major, younger daughter of Thomas Major of Creggan, Co. Antrim, who died in 1901, and, secondly, Clara Mildred Latter, youngest daughter of Laurence Latter, who survives him.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1890 March 14.

IGNAZIO NICOLAS DRACOPOLI was born on 1887 December 6 at the Cap d'Antibes, France. He was educated at Malvern College and University College, Oxford. In the summer of 1908 he set out for Arizona, where he roamed about for several months, and then became a cowboy on the ranch of an old Frenchman, about forty miles from Tucson. He remained there until the summer of 1909 and then returned to his home in England. His experiences in Arizona had made him more anxious than ever to travel, and he immediately began to prepare for a trip to East Africa. He set out with his younger brother in the beginning of 1910 for Nairobi, where he did some big-game shooting.

With the desire to become a scientific traveller and explorer Mr.

Dracopoli joined the Royal Geographical Society and studied surveying under Mr. E. A. Reeves, the map curator of the R.G.S. He soon became proficient and started off for the Pinacate Mountains in the Sonoran desert, in Mexico. Here he made a map of the surrounding country, while his brother secured three specimens of the rather rare Sonoran mountain sheep.

In 1912 October, very soon after his return from Mexico, Mr. Dracopoli left England and again went to British East Africa. He went with the intention of exploring and mapping the country between the Lorian Swamp and the Indian Ocean, and to find out what happened to the River Vaso Nyiro after it entered the swamp. As that part of Jubaland was unknown, the natives unfriendly and dangerous, he had very great difficulty in getting permission to carry out his plan. However, he managed to do so at last, and, starting from Kismayu, on the coast, he crossed Jubaland and reached the Lorian Swamp from the east, which no white man had yet done. He suffered from severe illness and hardships of all kinds, but in spite of all difficulties he made an excellent map of the country through which he travelled, fixed the course of the Vaso Nyiro, and brought back much valuable information.

He described his journey in the Journal of the R.G.S., and was asked to give a lecture before the Society. He also published a book, *Through Jubaland to the Lorian Swamp*.

In the World Atlas, published by *The Times* in 1922, Mr. Dracopoli's map has its place. He was given the Bronze Medal of the Back Bequest, and elected a member of the U.S.A. Geographical Society.

A last expedition was made to British East Africa in 1914, and on August 5 of that year he was married. He immediately offered his services to the country of his adoption, for although of Italian descent, he had become a naturalised British subject shortly before the outbreak of the war. His health had been seriously impaired by his exploration of Jubaland, and he was unfit for the fighting forces. He was given a post in the R.A.F., first in England and later in Egypt, where his exceptional gift of organisation had full scope. He was awarded the M.B.E. for military service.

In the spring of 1919 Mr. Dracopoli returned to England and bought a house at Bishop Stortford, and went into business in the city.

He died on 1923 January 7 of a cruel disease, the seeds of which were sown during his hard journey to the Lorian Swamp. He left two sons.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1919 June 13.

ARTHUR HENRY FISON was born at Hendon in 1857. He was the son of a Congregational minister. Immediately after taking his degree he took up lecturing on scientific subjects. For twenty years as Oxford University Extension lecturer he addressed large audiences in all parts of the country. In 1912 he was appointed Secretary to the Gilchrist Trust. In this connection he visited in the spring of each year various districts of Britain to organise local lecture arrangements, and in the autumn and winter to deliver lectures. He early became one of the