

the Speaker appointed him President of the Parliamentary Mission to the new Baltic Republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, and he never ceased to take the closest interest in these countries.

During the Great War he served as honorary King's messenger with great distinction, and was knighted in 1918; his baronetcy of Goff's Oak was created in 1936, and as he was unmarried it now becomes extinct. In the course of his work abroad he was honoured by a number of foreign countries, and he held, among others, Orders of the three Baltic States to whose well-being he devoted so much of his time and interest.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1916 February 11; although keenly interested in astronomy, it was but one of his several scientific interests, and it is not surprising, in view of his busy and full life, that he made no contributions to the Society's publications.

HERBERT HEDLEY, the eldest son of Canon Hedley, was born on 1859 October 29 at Masham, in Yorkshire, and died on 1939 October 16. After obtaining scholarships for Eastbourne College and Trinity College, Cambridge, he read Mathematics, in which he graduated with brilliant distinction. On graduation his inclination led him to Auckland Theological College, Co. Durham, where he studied for Holy Orders. In due course he was ordained, and held in succession the benefices of Mickley (Ripon), Masham and Nackington; he also held foreign chaplaincies in Algiers, Valesme and Malaga. Eventually he retired to Hythe, where he acted for a short time as Assistant Curate to the Rev. Canon Galpin.

Hedley's interest in astronomy did not materialise until the later years of his life, but he devoted the last twenty years, including the time of his foreign chaplaincies, to astronomical studies, writing articles from time to time in different papers and attending the meetings of the Society. His greatest pleasure was in lecturing, and he used to travel about Kent or even further afield lecturing on his favourite interest; on several occasions he lectured on "Stars" at Eton College and other schools. When time permitted he spent long hours exploring the heavens with his 4-inch telescope, but his observations were always of a general rather than a specialised character. His interest in astronomy was divided with that in microscopic work, and his early studies in botany and biology afforded him a great field of exploration.

He married Margaret Inglis Cosgrave in 1889; she was his devoted companion for more than forty-nine years, predeceasing him by but a year. Their only son lost his life in the Great War, and he is survived by one daughter.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1926 February 12.

HENRY PARK HOLLIS was born on 1858 January 9. From Westminster School, where he received his early education, he went to Jesus College, Cambridge. He sat for the Mathematical Tripos and took his degree in 1880.

In November 1881 he became an Assistant at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, his being the first appointment to the Staff to be made under Christie, who had then but recently been made Astronomer Royal. Hollis remained at Greenwich until his retirement in January 1920, a period of service which went back to the time when Airy's influence still remained. In the course of his duties it was his good fortune to be called upon to carry out many different programmes of work, and he dealt with each with characteristic energy.

At the outset Hollis took his share in the routine observations made with the Transit Circle and Altazimuth instruments, and for a time had charge of the reductions. Later he became associated with Maunder and assisted him with the solar and spectroscopic observations. In particular, Hollis was responsible for the measurement and reduction of a number of solar photographs which had been handed over to the Royal Observatory in order to complete the record of past years. He was also engaged on the preparation of the *Greenwich Ten Year Catalogue* (1880) in connection with which mention may be made of a paper contributed jointly by him and (Prof.) Turner—then Chief Assistant—to the *Memoirs* of the Society, entitled “Comparison of the Greenwich Ten Year Catalogue, 1880, with the Cape Catalogue, 1880.” Hollis also contributed a paper to the *M.N.* (55, 71, 1895), “On a Comparison of some Places of Stars observed at Sydney with the Places of the same Stars as given in the Cape Catalogue, 1880.”

Between the years 1890 and 1910 a number of longitude determinations were carried out at Greenwich. Hollis superintended the reductions and was himself one of the observers in the two determinations of the difference of longitude between Paris and Greenwich made in 1892 and 1902, and also in the Killorglin longitude observations of 1898. From the experience gained in carrying out the work Hollis acquired an extensive knowledge of the theory and practice of the transit instrument, and a number of articles bearing on the subject were contributed by him to *The Observatory* magazine.

In 1896 Hollis was placed in charge of the work of the astrographic chart and catalogue. He took over at the time when the routine measurement of the catalogue plates began, and he continued to supervise the work until his retirement. During the years which he devoted to this task he had the satisfaction of carrying through to a successful conclusion the Greenwich portion of the undertaking, as evidenced in the four volumes published and the photographic reproduction of the chart plates.

Outside his official duties Hollis was deeply interested in his chosen science, and over a long period contributed valuable articles to the *English Mechanic* which were of the greatest interest and use to amateur astronomers. From 1893 to 1912 he was one of the editors of *The Observatory* and later became astronomical correspondent to *The Times*. For many years he compiled the astronomical data given in *Whitaker's Almanack*. He was author of *Chats about Astronomy*—a book addressed to the general reader—and wrote that part of the History of the R.A.S. covering the decade 1870–80.

Hollis joined the B.A.A. on its foundation, was a valued member of its Council, and served as President in 1908–09.