

Director of the Thompson Steam Shipping Co., and chairman of Petersen & Co., Ltd., shipowners. He was also an honorary Commander in the R.N.R.

Sir William Petersen will be remembered in connection with the provisional agreement with the Canadian Minister of Trade and Finance for a subsidised service of ships in the Transatlantic trade, and for the part he took in the discussions on Canadian freight rates.

In 1889 he married Flora M'Kay, daughter of Mr. George Sinclair of Aberdeen, by whom he had one son and three daughters. His son was killed in action near Ypres in 1914, and his wife died in 1918. He was created a K.B.E. in 1920.

Sir William Petersen wrote a good deal on shipping and kindred topics, and was interested in astronomy, though, apparently, without taking any active part in astronomical work.

His death occurred on 1925 June 12. He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1913 February 14.

Sir DAVID LIONEL GOLDSMID-STERN-SALOMONS, Baronet, was born on 1851 June 28. He was the only son of Mr. Philip Salomons of Brighton, and Emma, daughter of Sir Jacob Montefiore, of Sydney, N.S.W. Both of his parents died while he was quite young, and he was brought up by his uncle, Sir David Salomons, M.P., to whose baronetcy he succeeded in 1873. In the same year he gained second-class honours in the Cambridge Natural Science Tripos. He took up electrical engineering, and was a pioneer in lighting by electric incandescent lamps, taking out several patents for his inventions. For many years he served on the council of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, and held the offices of treasurer and vice-president of that institution. He was also one of the founders and a vice-president of the Royal Automobile Club, and served as a member of the jury for the French Government at the Paris Exhibition of 1900. His interests were very wide, and included astronomy, photography, aviation, and clocks and watches. He wrote extensively on electrical matters, and published a valuable monograph on Bréguet (1747–1823), the great French watchmaker and founder of the celebrated firm of that name. In this work and the supplement to it are included a large number of photographs of Bréguet watches, which Sir David had collected—perhaps the largest and most varied collection of its kind.

In 1874 he was called to the bar by the Middle Temple. He also undertook various public duties, serving at various times as mayor of Tunbridge Wells, as a magistrate and deputy lieutenant of Kent, and as High Sheriff in 1881.

In 1882 he married Laura Julia, daughter of the late Baron Hermann de Stern, by whom he had three daughters and a son. The latter was drowned when on active service in 1915.

Sir David does not appear to have taken any part in practical astronomy, but he was a generous contributor to the Society's Special Fund initiated by the late Col. Grove Hills.

He died on 1925 April 19 in a nursing home, after an operation.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1876 April 12.

Feb. 1926. *Hundred and Sixth Annual General Meeting.* 189

CHARLES BOUSFIELD SHAW was born at Hackney in 1847 June. He practised as a barrister-at-law for some years, but was obliged to abandon his practice owing to pressure of other activities, the chief of which was his occupation for fifty-seven years of the post of treasurer and secretary to the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution. He was a keen and active member of the Liberal party. His life-long interest in astronomy dated from his early intimacy with Colonel A. R. Clarke, R.E., F.R.S. He was a profound French scholar, and had a wide knowledge of French and English literature. He married in 1878 Eleanor Fanny, eldest daughter of Louis des Auges, who predeceased him. Mr. Shaw died at his London residence on 1925 December 13, and leaves two sons and one daughter.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1921 February 11.

WALTER ROBERT STOKES, the son of the Rev. Edward Stokes, a Wesleyan minister, was born at Barton-on-Humber on 1853 February 4. He lived for some time in Finsbury Park, North London, and was a company director interested in the piano and motor trades. He was during the war the president of the federation of cane and willow workers.

Mr. Stokes made a considerable study of astronomy, and delivered a large number of popular lectures on the subject. He died on 1925 August 4 from heart failure whilst bathing at Palm Bay, Margate.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1919 February 14.