

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1911 January 13. He died on 1958 December 14, leaving a widow, a son and two daughters.

F. J. M. STRATTON.

CHARLES WILLIAM DYSON PERRINS was born on 1864 May 25 of a family of retail chemists in Malvern who had amassed a fortune through the sale of their famous "Worcester Sauce". After an education at Charterhouse and Queen's College, Oxford, and four years as an officer in the Highland Light Infantry, Dyson Perrins joined the family business. He took an active part in the civic life of Worcestershire, being Mayor of Worcester (1897) and High Sheriff of Worcestershire (1899), and in education, being a Life Governor of Birmingham University and a member of the Council of Malvern College. By 1900, he had begun to acquire a collection of illuminated manuscripts and early woodcut books that was later to become unique among the private collections of Great Britain. His interests were varied, and he became a recognised authority on the making of Worcester china. Indeed, the preservation of this craft during the difficult between-war period was due to Dyson Perrins's benefactions. After World War II, his collection of books and manuscripts was sold to provide for the equipping and expansion of the Worcester china works. He was elected a Fellow of the Society in 1895 and with his death, on 1958 January 29, the Society has lost one of its few remaining personal links with the nineteenth century.

JOHN BENSON SIDGWICK, who died on 1958 July 13, was born in Scarborough on 1916 February 10 and was a great-great-nephew of Henry Sidgwick, the Cambridge philosopher. Educated at Clifton and Peterhouse, Cambridge, he was by nature restless and was slow in adopting any fixed profession. Further unsettling influences in his life were the outbreak of the Second World War, when he was 23 years old, and the untimely death of his young wife in 1944. In the course of his regrettably short life he found occupation, at one time or another, in a publisher's office, in newspaper work, broadcasting, running a nutria farm, working in a Chinese bakery and on a pearling lugger, and in hitch-hiking all over the United States and Canada.

Probably the most stable thing in his life was his love of literary work; and it is as a writer that he will chiefly be remembered by astronomers. In all that he wrote he managed to combine accuracy in detail with lucidity of expression, and his three popular treatises—*The Heavens Above*, *The Life of William Herschel* and *Introducing Astronomy* were well above the average standard of this class of book.

Amateur astronomers in particular will long be grateful to Sidgwick for two practical guides—*Amateur Astronomer's Handbook* and *Observational Astronomy for Amateurs*. His success in both these works is particularly remarkable for the fact that they must both have been written largely "from an armchair"; for, although he himself possessed a small telescope, he had never settled down long enough to accumulate the personal experience that many might have considered necessary as a preliminary to such an ambitious undertaking.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1943 March 12.

W. H. STEAVENSON.