

“Infinity is the place where things happen that don’t”. Advocating checks on arithmetical work, he was met with the objection that as we cannot check all methods, why bother to check any: his answer was immediate and devastating; “We can’t marry all women, so why bother to marry any” The Branches of the Association up and down the country will long remember his addresses, wherein points simply and clearly made were driven home by sharp strokes of wit

To know H-J was a tonic, a corrective to pessimism. The world became a simpler, brighter, happier place when he was present.

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T. A. A. BROADBENT

[*The following Oration was delivered At the Funeral by the Reverend L. E. TANNER.*]

I want to speak for a few minutes in honour of a good man and a great character, William Hope-Jones.

The sudden death, even of an elderly man, is a great shock to those that are left behind and our warm sympathy goes to his wife and family. Only last week he was riding his bicycle. Only last week he was rebuking me gently but firmly about a remark I made in a sermon about the right literature for the underdeveloped countries. But, if it had been his to select, this I feel would have been his chosen departing. The most striking thing about him was his vigour which never left him. His familiar booming voice which contributed so much to the Mathematics of Eton, later after retirement to Cranleigh and also to the hymns of this church, was a symptom of him. His favourite hymn was Onward Christian Soldiers. This service will end with this hymn, and as you sing it, you will experience a good deal of the man. With vigour went an outstanding alertness. Mentally he did not experience old age. He had a great interest and affection for this church and for the Anglican Church generally, though he could be irritated by it. For a time he was at Ridley Hall, but formularies made him impatient and he did not feel he could be ordained.

But Sunday by Sunday he sat in his pew underneath this pulpit, following the lessons in his Greek Testament, and at both Morning Prayer and Evensong, for recently he had been prevailed upon not to ride his bicycle into Guildford on Sunday mornings to the Society of Friends.

Though I would call him a staunch Christian, I would not describe him as an orthodox one. He was not an orthodox Anglican, nor, I feel, an orthodox Quaker. There was always something of the rebel

about him and he was confident of his own judgement, with a tremendous sympathy for the underdog and an affection for minorities. The good causes to which he contributed were legion, and the services which he gave to them. He worked energetically for the Eton Mission as Secretary and Treasurer, and later became interested in the Cranleigh School Mission and it was typical of him that his interest in these increased when school missions generally were passing through difficult times. He contributed a great deal to the Scout movement and gave it a song which is known throughout the world, "The National Anthem of the Ancient Britons" He had an active and generous interest in the Church Abroad, especially in the Melanesian Mission.

There are wide areas of his life over which we can have no knowledge at first hand. It is sixty years since he rowed for his college boat and ran for Cambridge. His closest friends are dead. The death of his first wife was a great blow to him, a person of charm, liveliness and outstanding common sense. How fortunate for him to have re-married with great wisdom and to have spent five such happy years with his second wife.

As a Mathematics teacher he was certainly one of the most distinguished in the country, and he had the patience and ability to make the subject live to those who were not specially gifted in that direction. Many will be grateful for his method of teaching the geometry of circles by bringing into form a cake, segments of which were finally consumed by members of the form.

As many will know he was at one time President of the Mathematics Association and a great deal of his thinking was in numbers. Some years ago I bought a new car—and when he looked at it for the first time he said "Your number is the square of the apostles multiplied by the number of verses in the Te Deum" It was, I confess, a fact which had escaped me.

There are many stories of his life as a Schoolmaster, some amusing, some moving. These I shall not mention. Many of you have your own memories, and no doubt tributes to this period and the earlier part of his life will be given elsewhere. Two things come clearly through the years, service and dedication to his job.

The present Dean of his college in an Essay on Eternal Life refers to the Roman Catholic service of *Tenebrae* which occurs in Holy Week. During the service a number of candles on a triangular shaped candlestick are put out one by one. The rest of the church is in darkness. Finally a single candle remains burning, and that candle the brightest of all. That light represents Christ the Light of the World when our other stars are dimmed.

There are many questions that must remain open and our faith does not suffer as long as we are convinced of the reality of that highest light. Very simply that conviction is that the final answer

to all our questions is our Lord, the Word made flesh, the Light of the World.

That, I believe, was the faith of William Hope-Jones.

Thanks be to God.

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INSTITUTE; JOINT COUNCIL, ASSOCIATION

A talk delivered at the Annual General Meeting of the Association in April, 1965, at Oxford.

BY T. A. A. BROADBENT

One of the most heartily abused sections of the community is that which is known by the anonymous and collective term of "They" "This road surface is very poor. *They* should see to it" "Prices are going up rapidly. *They* should do something about it". Very often, if we analyse these statements honestly, it is found that "They" should be replaced by "We"; we can cover up our own indolence or carelessness by blaming the mysterious "They".

There is a slight tendency to let this attitude creep into our professional affairs. If the syllabus needs altering, if methods need re-examination, "They" ought to do something about it; in fact, it is we who ought to do something about it, and the purpose of the Association is to provide us with a means to action. In that respect, the title of this discussion has got reversed. (I am a member of the Programme Committee, so I can say this without seeming to decry the labours of that austere and hard-working body.) We really should discuss what the teacher of mathematics can do and ought to do for the Association, for the Institute and for the Joint Council.

Professor Semple will be mainly concerned with the Institute and the Joint Council, and I will confine myself mainly to the Association; but perhaps the various domains should be clarified. The line of distinction between the Association and the London Mathematical Society, for instance, is clear: the London Mathematical Society is primarily interested in mathematical research, in the discovery and publication of new mathematics, particularly of recent years in pure rather than applied mathematics, and it is our premier research society. Here the Association does not compete. It is true, and is worth remembering, that some very distinguished research workers have first appeared in print in the pages of *The Mathematical Gazette*, for instance the late Prof. G. N. Watson; I hope we shall have more