

ALEXANDER MORISON McALDOWIE, M.D., graduated M.B., C.M., at the University of Aberdeen in 1875, and M.D. (1879). He was President of the Staffordshire Branch of the British Medical Association (1898–99); Vice-President, North Staffordshire Naturalists' Field Club; Consulting Physician, North Staffordshire Infirmary; late House Surgeon, Royal Surrey County Hospital; and formerly resident Assistant Surgeon, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary. Dr McAlldowie was the author of several medical works and of *The Birds of Staffordshire*, 1893. He was elected a Fellow of the Society in 1887, and died on 4th September 1926.

BERNARD LANGLEY MILLS, M.D. (Edin.), F.R.C.S.Edin., M.R.C.S. (Eng.), received his medical training at the University and Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and in Paris. He was Medical Officer to the Education Committee, Sheffield; Lt.-Col., R.A.M.C.; Specialist in Hygiene, served in No. 1 British Field Hospital, Tirah Field Force, and South African Campaign; in charge of X-rays, 17 Stationary Hospital, Middleburg, Transvaal; and Staff Officer, Army Bearer Corps, Western Command, India. He was the author of papers in the *Edin. Med. Journ.* (1886) and in the *Journal of the R.A.M.C.* (1909, 1910).

Lt.-Col. Mills was elected a Fellow of the Society in 1909, and died on 28th December 1925.

JAMES BURGESS READMAN, D.Sc., was educated at Glasgow Academy, and was first employed by the firm of Townsend of Glasgow, where he became familiar with the manufacture of various chemicals. Afterwards he went to New Caledonia to investigate the nickel deposits. On his return to Scotland he worked out a process for the extraction of nickel, and established works which were successfully carried on for some years. Dr Readman then came to Edinburgh, and attended a course of theoretical and practical chemistry with Mr J. Falconer King, the City Analyst, at Minto House. In the early eighties he became an alumnus of the University of Edinburgh and graduated B.Sc., afterwards establishing a laboratory in Edinburgh for research and consultation. He invented a new method of manufacturing phosphorus, patented in 1888, and this method, called the Readman process, is in universal use. Incidentally, he was the first to introduce the electric furnace into this country for manufacturing purposes. He also turned his attention to the manufacture of cyanide from atmospheric nitrogen, and evolved a process which was favourably commented upon by Sir William Ramsay and Sir Alexander Kennedy.

He was the author of a paper in the Society's *Proceedings*, vol. xiii, 1886, pp. 65–72, "Notes on the Chemical Composition of the Cobalt and Nickel

Ores of New Caledonia, with some Remarks on the Properties and Uses of Metallic Nickel, and Oxides of Cobalt," and of papers in the *Journ. Soc. Chem. Ind.* (1890, 1891, 1897), and in the *Trans. Scott. Soc. Arts* (1898, 1899).

Dr Readman was elected a Fellow of the Society in 1883, and died at Bradford-on-Avon in April 1927.

ADAM AIRD RANKIN was born on the 1st of May, 1880, and was from an early age destined for the teaching profession. He was first in his year at Dundas Vale Training College, Glasgow, and concurrently completed the full Arts Course at Glasgow University. From 1902 to 1904 he taught in Calton Public School, Glasgow; then, after a year at Washington Street School, he was appointed to Kent Road H.G. School, Glasgow, where, except for the war period, he worked for the remainder of his life. A natural and very capable teacher, he is remembered by his colleagues for his excellent influence on the *morale* of his school, and by his pupils for the individual interest which he took in each scholar. His educational activities extended beyond his class-room; for eight years he was in charge of the athletics of his school. From 1919 until his death he was Honorary Secretary of the swimming association in connection with Glasgow schools, and much of his leisure was devoted to this work. He also taught advanced continuation classes, for example for civil servants. There is no doubt that only Mr Rankin's premature death at the early age of forty-six prevented him from attaining a much higher place in his profession.

Mr Rankin, who was before the War an N.C.O. in the R.A.M.C. (Volunteers), enlisted immediately in the Royal Scots, gained the Aldershot Physical Training Certificate, and acted as Gymnastic Instructor at Glencorse for two and a half years. Later he served in Macedonia, and while there made a study of the climatic conditions, subsequently presented to the British Astronomical Association at Glasgow.

Mr Rankin was long connected with Broomhill U.F. Church, Glasgow, of which he was deacon and elder; he was a highly respected and indefatigable church-worker.

He was a member of the West of Scotland Branch of the British Astronomical Association for nearly a quarter of a century, was for many years on the Council of the Branch, and acted as Assistant Secretary and Vice-President. In addition to the paper already mentioned, he also read papers on "Comets" and on the "Planet Jupiter" (*Journal of the B.A.A.*, xv, 127; xvi, 54; xx, 20; xxx, 207-208).

Mr Rankin was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in May 1911. He died on 8th November 1926.

T. L. MACD.