

## OBITUARY

H. L. BRADFER-LAWRENCE, F.S.A.

Vice-President

Harry Lawrence Bradfer-Lawrence was born on 1 April 1887, and died on 19 October 1965. Throughout his earlier years, apart from service in the First World War, he practised as a land-agent in Norfolk, and was responsible for the management of several large estates. In 1935 he moved to Yorkshire, where he developed large brewery interests, and eventually became chairman of United Breweries Ltd. But he continued to maintain links with Norfolk, and frequently visited his friends in the county and the properties which he owned in the neighbourhood of King's Lynn.

During his years in Norfolk he contributed a number of articles to *Norfolk Archaeology*, in particular the two important papers in Vol. XXIII on the building of Raynham Hall, based on accounts and other documents preserved in the muniment-room. In 1932 he published his excellent *History of Castle Rising*, in which he was able to use the hitherto unexplored archives of the Howard family. The Howard papers also provided material for his article "Castle Rising and the Walpoles", which appeared in the volume entitled *A Supplement to Blomefield's Norfolk* edited by Clement Ingleby in 1929. This article traced in fascinating detail the manoeuvres by which the Walpoles, at the close of the seventeenth century, contrived to wrest the control of one of the Parliamentary seats for that borough from the unwary Howards. To the same volume he also contributed a second article, "The Merchants of King's Lynn".

He was a member of the Council of our Society while he lived in Norfolk, and continued thereafter as a Vice-President until his death. He was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1924, and was Treasurer from 1944 until 1964, during which period he managed the finances of the Society with conspicuous success.

He wrote little or nothing in later years, but continued to take a lively interest in all antiquarian matters, and to enlarge his remarkable collection of charters, manuscripts and books. He was a man of most genial and friendly temperament, and was always ready to make his collections available to those who sought his aid. Shortly before his death he expressed a wish that the Norfolk Record Society should receive such documents relating to the county as his representatives should determine. The precise extent of this benefaction remains uncertain at the time of writing; but it seems probable that his name will be added to the roll of outstandingly generous donors to the ever-growing public archives of Norfolk.

R. W. K.-C.