

OBITUARY

T. A. N. HENDERSON, F.S.A.

Theodore Arthur Newsam Henderson was born in Dulwich Village on 13th June 1906 and was educated at Forest Hill House School and, from 1918–21, at Dulwich College. After leaving school he worked with the Canadian Bank of Commerce both in London and in Canada for some years. In 1931 he married and left the bank to join his father-in-law at Hatchard's, the Piccadilly booksellers, as a junior partner.

During the 1939–45 war he served with the Auxiliary Fire Service and the London Fire Brigade, rising quickly to the rank of Leading Fireman and then Section Leader and Sub-Officer. Much of his service was at sub-stations in the Streatham area where he was then living. For a time, early in the war, he was attached to the Streatham Fire Station which received a direct hit during an air raid. Many of his colleagues were killed but he was uninjured. During the height of the *blitz* appliances from suburban stations would be moved into the City or anywhere in Central London that was being heavily attacked, and he was thus involved in some of the worst of the London raids. Later he volunteered for the Overseas Fire Brigade, but its services were never required.

His connection with the Society began in April 1931 when he joined and was immediately appointed Hon. Treasurer, a post which he held for the record period of 36 years. On completing 25 years of office, he was presented with the Society's Silver Medal, the ceremony taking place at the Centenary Meeting at Crosby Hall on 14th December 1955. Professor Grimes, then President, in making the presentation, spoke of the Treasurer's invaluable services and his sound financial administration over a difficult period. In 1947 he was appointed Hon. Treasurer of the newly-formed Sulloniaca Excavations Committee, and in 1949 he also became its Hon. Secretary. The name was changed to the North Middlesex Archaeological Research Committee in 1952, and in later years it was to a great extent his enthusiasm and devotion which held it together until its final dissolution. He was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1936 and a Vice-President of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society in 1949.

Returning to Hatchard's for a short period in 1945, he then transferred to J. & E. Bumpus Ltd., of Oxford Street, until it closed down in 1963. After a period with the Institute of Physics he joined Interscience Publishers, a firm which eventually amalgamated with John Wiley & Sons and moved to Chichester in Sussex. It was this move that brought about the severance of his active connection with the Society in 1967, though he continued to take the greatest interest in all its activities and was always to be seen at the Annual Conference of London Archaeologists. After moving to Chichester he became Treasurer of the Chichester Junior Museum Club and a member of the Chichester Museum Committee. He organised a visit by the Society to Chichester some years ago which was a most enjoyable occasion, and at the time of his death was helping to arrange another such outing in 1974.

He died at his home in Graydon Avenue, Chichester, on 2nd December 1973. Theodore Henderson will always be remembered by the colleagues who worked with him as a loyal and devoted officer of the Society which meant so much to him and which he served for a far longer period than any other Treasurer in its long history.

E.E.F.S.