

"FLOREAT KEW"

THE
JOURNAL
OF THE
KEW GUILD,
AN ASSOCIATION OF
KEW GARDENERS Etc.

PAST AND PRESENT.

September, 1931.

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FREDERICK SAMPSON SILLITOE, M.B.E.

MR. SILLITOE was born at Redhill, in the County of Surrey, in 1877 and his early horticultural training was obtained in the nurseries of Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons, at Crawley and later with Messrs. J. Veitch and Sons, at the Royal Exotic Nurseries, Chelsea. Having received such an excellent start, he decided to come to Kew and he commenced here on June 18th, 1900, being promoted to sub-foreman of the propagating pits on August 1st of the following year. His time while at Kew was spent in the tropical department, including the Orchids and it is not surprising that he desired overseas service.

Mr. Sillitoe was captain of the cricket club during the 1902 season and it was during that year that the practice pitch adjoining the Royal Mid-Surrey Golf Club was acquired and the small shelter erected. During the 1902-3 session of the Mutual Improvement Society, our President was joint Secretary with the late Mr. C. F. Ball.

In March, 1903, Mr. Sillitoe left England to take up the position as Superintendent of Gardens and Open Spaces at Khartoum, Sudan.

The history of the final overthrow of the Khalifa by Lord Kitchener, at Omdurman, in September, 1898, after the ravages by the Dervishes, following the death of General Gordon and of the Mahdi in 1885, is well known. The present Palace at Khartoum, the residence of the Governor-General, is erected on the site of that formerly occupied by Gordon and has grounds some eight acres in extent surrounding it. It was amid these historic surroundings that Mr. Sillitoe found himself. Always designated Superintendent of Gardens, his centre was at Khartoum, that while his mark was left at this city of the east, yet Sillitoe's name will always be associated with his later achievements at Port Sudan. From 1903 until 1927 his main interest was Khartoum. Always a difficult country to the horticulturist, owing to the intense heat, prolonged drought and one might say complete lack of a rainy season, the task of laying-out and maintaining open spaces, pleasure grounds, tennis-courts and the like, was one that often must have given rise to misgivings. Irrigation could only be carried on the whole year through by means of centrifugal pumps, drawing their supplies from the Blue Nile. Experiments were made, failures came, but undeterred Khartoum and its horticultural activities made progress. The following trees and shrubs were introduced and now add beauty to the well-kept streets and open spaces:—*Poinciana regia*, *Spathodea nilotica*, *Cassia Fistula*, *Bauhinia purpurea*, *Bignonia venusta*, *Quisqualis indica*, *Antigonum leptopus*, *Tecoma stans* and *Caesalpinia pulcherrima*, to mention but a few.

In 1917 His Highness the Sultan of Egypt bestowed upon Mr. Sillitoe the 5th Order of the Nile, in recognition of his valuable work at Khartoum.

Writing on September 30th, 1919, to the Editor of the *Journal*, the following lines will be re-read with interest from our President's pen. "In March last, I had the opportunity of going south with the Director of Forests on a three month's trip and thus two links of the "Kewite chain from Cape to Cairo" were joined for two months (referring to his meeting with T. Cartwright of the Forestry Department), at Kagulu. This part of the Sudan was formerly the Lado Enclave and was handed over to us on the death of the late King of the Belgians. It is some 1,200 miles from Khartoum, in a fine country. One goes by river to Rejaf and then by motor car to Jei and Kagulu and on to Aba in the Congo. During this trek, we made a collection of nearly 500 specimens for the Kew Herbarium and I trust that a few new species will be found amongst them. While there, the desire to call on the next "links" was great, again hundreds of miles south, in Uganda. They happen to be E. Brown, who was with me in the propagating pits in 1903 and R. A. Dümmer, whom I met in 1914.

The last time the Uganda and Sudan "links" were joined was in December, 1904, when who should walk in to see me, but Dawe, after his trek from Entebbe!"

These reminiscences serve to remind the younger generation of Kewites that friendships formed at Kew will stand the test of time and the desire is ever present, no matter where Kewites are situated, to keep in touch with Kew men, wherever they may be—the aim and object of our Guild in its entirety.

Readers must forgive this digression from the narrative, but to continue, Mr. Sillitoe was due for retirement and pension in 1927, but was prevailed upon to return for a further period to lay out and plant the Public Gardens of Port Sudan and to advise in other centres where improvements were desirable. Port Sudan is now one of the finest ports on the east coast of Africa; all the principal steamship lines calling regularly and the port deals annually with over 3,000,000 tons of shipping. Some 25 years ago, it was an unheard of, sandy waste. The whole district is of coral formation, the heat is intense and at certain seasons sandstorms are very prevalent, so that it cannot be called a "gardener's paradise." Other epithets have been freely given on occasion, but it was a matter for astonishment to note how quickly things could be grown. Within three months or so, the barren land produced lawns and flower beds! The grass most favoured is *Cynodon Dactylon*.

In 1927, it is gratifying to record, H.M. The King bestowed upon our President the honour of being appointed a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

In the winter of 1928, the late Dr. T. F. Chipp, the Assistant Director of our *Alma Mater*, was invited by the Sudan Government to visit the Sudan and advise the Departments concerned on matters relevant to Forestry and Horticulture and to Mr. Sillitoe was given the task of conducting and arranging the tour of the northern

portion of the country, embracing Dongola, Atbara, Khartoum, and thence up the blue Nile to Wad Medani and Makwar, where the mighty Sennar Dam has transformed the Gezira Plain into one vast cotton-growing area.

Several new species have been discovered by Mr. Sillitoe in the course of his travels and mention should be made of *Bonatea sudanensis*, a ground Orchid, found on the Red Sea hills at Erkowit, the home of the "Hadendoa" or "Fuzzy-Wuzzy" of Kipling and the interesting *Phyllanthus inflatus* in the Yei Valley.

Before Mr. Sillitoe finally left the Sudan in May, 1930, he had the pleasure of seeing two Kewites established at Khartoum, in Messrs. Robbie and Thorns, the former succeeding him as Superintendent at Khartoum. In Khartoum alone there are now some 140 grass tennis courts and a good golf course has been laid out on the desert with sand greens! and yet we read that in 1903, only two lawns for croquet had been put down and two more were in course of preparation.

On his return to England, a pleasant surprise awaited him, for he had been elected an Associate of Honour of the Royal Horticultural Society, being among the first thirty to be thus honoured. It was a matter of no small gratification to him to know that seven other Kewites, among them Mr. John Coutts, had been accorded this honour also.

Our President is still in the prime of life, being in the early fifties, and it is not surprising to learn that he is now acting as Horticultural Adviser to the Government of Malta. We can be sure that whilst in Maltā, his long experience in the east will be of untold value to the community at large, as well as to his particular department.

Golf and tennis are Mr. Sillitoe's chief relaxations and his wife is also an enthusiast, though the training and care of their little son, now occupies much of her time.

To endeavour to narrate further of Mr. Sillitoe's achievements would be but to embarrass him, but I would commend to readers of the *Journal*, the remarks by our late Assistant Director, at the 1930 Annual Dinner (see page 16), who spoke so fittingly in regard to him and his work.

E.G.D. 1931.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

THE Clarendon Restaurant, Hammersmith, London, W., was again the venue of the Annual General Meeting of the Kew Guild, on May 22nd, 1930, at 6-30 p.m. MR. JOHN COUTTS, the retiring President occupied the Chair and some sixty members were present.

The Chairman proposed that the Minutes of the previous General Meeting, having been published in the current issue of the *Journal*, they should, therefore, be accepted and passed as read. This suggestion was unanimously approved of.

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of the 1929 Meeting and the Secretary proceeded to read the Annual Report for the year 1929-30, while later the Hon. Treasurer presented the Balance Sheets and the various financial statements. MR. G. T. LANE, supported by MR. H. T. DAVIES, moved the adoption of the Report and Balance Sheets, which were unanimously agreed to.

MAJOR F. J. STAYNER, F.L.S., in the course of many interesting reminiscences, proposed the election of MR. F. S. SILLITOE, M.B.E., formerly of Khartoum, Sudan, as President of the Guild for the year 1930-31. MR. G. T. LANE seconded the resolution, which was put to the Meeting, with appropriate remarks by the Chairman (the retiring President) and carried with acclamation. MR. SILLITOE briefly responded and referred to the circumstances under which he had received the Secretary's cablegram inviting his acceptance of the honour (subject to the Annual Meeting's approval) and to which further reference is made in the course of the speeches following the Annual Dinner.

The Chairman then referred to the courses of lectures and the general curriculum of the present-day Student Gardeners while at Kew and voiced his opinion that it was generally recognised by the Student Gardeners that a change in regard to these was very desirable, as far as the circumstances peculiar to Kew as an establishment, permitted.

MR. E. HEWITSON, at the request of the Chairman, briefly outlined the endeavours of those chiefly concerned to have certain courses of Lectures now in vogue substituted by a more useful and practical series, and stressed the further point, that a revised form of leaving certificate should be considered. He suggested that a resolution passed at the Meeting embodying sympathetic reference to and supporting the younger Kewites in their aims would doubtless be of much assistance when the whole problem came forward for practical discussion with the "powers that be."

MR. H. T. DAVIES, spoke with regard to the fallacious system of awarding marks for lengthy notes written up after the lectures and mentioned that a final examination at the conclusion of each course would certainly give a better result, as far as ascertaining the value

of the course to, and the knowledge acquired by, the individual student. Some discussion followed, when helpful remarks were made by MESSRS. R. O. WILLIAMS, H. MAW, C. P. RAFFILL, R. R. HAYES and others. Finally MR. G. T. LANE, supported by MR. W. H. BARKER, moved that a resolution be submitted to the Meeting with instructions to the Secretary to pass this on at the earliest possible opportunity to DR. A. W. HILL, F.R.S., etc., in support of the aims of the Student Gardeners in regard to the revision of the Kew curriculum, in so far as certain lecture courses, etc., were concerned. Eventually the following resolution was approved by those present :

“That the Annual General Meeting of the Kew Guild desires to support the Student Gardeners employed in the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, in their efforts to secure improved courses of Lectures and Demonstrations with a direct bearing on present-day Horticulture, and further endorses the opinion that the certificates awarded would be of more value if awarded on the results of definite examinations at the conclusion of courses, instead of being given for notes written up following each lecture.”

MR. HEWITSON thanked the Meeting for its ready assistance and said how much the present-day Student Gardener would appreciate the interest displayed in their well-being by the older generation of Kewites.

A vote of thanks to MR. COUTTS for his services as Chairman of the Meeting and for the interest he continued to show in Kew men in all parts of the world, and in particular the assistance he is ever ready to afford the younger generation, brought the Meeting to a close.

THE ANNUAL REPORT, 1929-30.

THE Committee have much satisfaction in submitting for consideration and approval the Annual Report for the year 1929-30. It will be noted that all accounts are made up to and including May 5th, 1930.

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Clarendon Restaurant, Hammersmith, W.6, on May 23rd, 1929, at 6-30 p.m. ; Mr. W. Hales, A.L.S., occupied the Chair in the absence of the retiring President, Mr. W. N. Sands, F.L.S., and approximately 50 Members were present. The business was purely formal and Mr. J. Coutts was unanimously adopted as President for the year 1929-30. The Meeting was followed by the Annual Dinner, when Mr. J. Coutts presided over an attendance of 109 Members. Both these gatherings are reported on fully in the 1930 issue of the *Journal*, which has been circulated among Members.

The Members of the Committee who retire are :—Messrs. J. Coutts, W. H. Johns, W. W. Pettigrew and D. Tannock.

The following have been nominated to fill the vacancies thus created :—Messrs. L. Stenning, W. C. Ibbett, J. Richardson and A. F. Baker. Messrs. E. Hewitson and J. H. Stewart have been elected to represent the Sub-foremen and Student-gardeners respectively. Mr. C. P. Raffill has consented to be nominated as Hon. Treasurer ; Messrs. A. Edwards and W. M. Campbell are recommended as Auditors for the ensuing year.

Mr. E. G. Dunk has, for the eighth successive year, agreed to fill the office of Secretary-Editor, having been first elected to the office in May, 1923, and Members are reminded that their co-operation is essential if the high standard of the *Journal* is to be maintained.

The 1930 issue of the *Journal* is the final number of the fourth volume, and in consequence of the necessity of preparing an Index, there has been some unavoidable delay in publication. The Committee feel justified in asking forbearance at the lateness of its appearance.

The Committee have also to point out that owing to the failure of Members to pay their subscriptions it has been necessary, in order to bring out the present number, to secure additional advertisements. This has been rendered possible only at the expenditure of considerable time and effort on the part of the Secretary. The Committee have issued an appeal with the *Journal* to Members who are in arrears, urging them to pay their subscription or to become Life subscribers and thus relieve the Secretary and Committee of anxiety.

The cost of the 1930 issue of the *Journal* has yet to be met, together with certain miscellaneous expenses. The receipts for the period 1st May, 1929, to 5th May, 1930, amount to £54 17s. 5d., and the expenses to £17 12s. 6d.

The Committee takes this opportunity of bringing to the notice of Members the Watson Memorial Educational Fund, and the need for further support being received for this praiseworthy object. It has been possible, as reference to the balance sheet will show, to make a partial refund of fees to two young Members who have gained the National Diploma of Horticulture, recently. The Benevolent Fund is in a stronger position than formerly, but should a call be made on its resources at some future date, the need for continued support will then be apparent and it is felt that Members should subscribe generously to enable a sufficient sum to be invested against any eventuality.

Since the publication of the 1930 *Journal*, we deeply regret to record the death of the veteran horticulturist, Mr. William Higgin, which took place on March 16th, at the age of 90, at his home at Gilling, Yorkshire.

May 12th, 1930.

A. D. COTTON,
Chairman of Committee.

BALANCE SHEET—as on May 5th, 1930.

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from 1928-29 A/c.	73	10 1	Secretary's Postages and		
Life Subscriptions ...	18	0 4	Incidentals ...	2	10 0
Annual Subscriptions (including arrears, etc.)	4	19 0	Hon. Treasurer's Postages...	0	2 6
Advertisements 1929 <i>Journal</i>	11	12 6	Secretary-Editor's Honorarium	15	0 0
Advertisements 1930 <i>Journal</i>	4	17 6	Balance at Bank ...	109	15 0
Dividend on £300 5% New South Wales Stock—less tax	12	0 0	Cash in hand ...	1	0 0
Dividend on £26 6s. 3d. 5% War Stock	1	6 2			
Bank Interest	2	1 11			
	<u>£128</u>	<u>7 6</u>		<u>£128</u>	<u>7 6</u>

CAPITAL ACCOUNT, as on May 5th, 1930.

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Thomson Bequest ...	92	8 6	£300 New South Wales Stock (1935-1955) at par...	300	0 0
233 Life Subscribers of £1 at two-thirds full rate	155	6 8	£26 6s. 3d. 5% War Stock (1929-1947) at par	26	6 3
210 Life Subscribers of £2 at two-thirds full rate	280	0 0	Journals in Stock (valuation)	15	0 0
			Valuation of Typewriter, after allowing for depreciation	7	7 0
			Balance at Bank and Cash in hand	110	15 0
			Liabilities over Assets	68	6 11
	<u>£527</u>	<u>15 2</u>		<u>£527</u>	<u>15 2</u>

MATILDA SMITH MEMORIAL PRIZE FUND.

as on May 5th, 1930.

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from 1928-29 A/c.	5	0 0	Presentation volumes for 1928 award	2	10 0
Dividend on £50 L.C.C. 5% Stock	2	10 0	Presentation volumes for 1929 award	2	3 3
			Balance	2	16 9
	<u>£7</u>	<u>10 0</u>		<u>£7</u>	<u>10 0</u>

CAPITAL ACCOUNT, as on May 5th, 1930.

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance of Assets	52	16 9	£50 L.C.C. 5% Stock value at par	50	0 0
	<u>£52</u>	<u>16 9</u>	Balance at Bank	2	16 9
				<u>£52</u>	<u>16 9</u>

WATSON MEMORIAL EDUCATIONAL FUND

as on May 5th, 1930.

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from 1928-29 A/c.	32	0 3	Refunds for expenses incurred in gaining National Diploma in Horticulture (i.e. examination fees, etc.):		
Donation:			Mr. W. C. Ibbett	4	0 0
Mr. F. G. Walsingham...	1	0 0	Mr W. G. Fry	4	0 0
Bank Interest 1929...		16 10	Balance	30	17 1
Dividend on £100 5% War Stock	5	0 0			
	<u>£38</u>	<u>17 1</u>		<u>£38</u>	<u>17 1</u>

CAPITAL ACCOUNT, as on May 5th, 1930.

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance of Assets	130	17 1	£100 5% War Stock value at par	100	0 0
			Balance at Bank	30	17 1
	<u>£130</u>	<u>17 1</u>		<u>£130</u>	<u>17 1</u>

BENEVOLENT FUND BALANCE SHEET as on May 5th, 1930

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from 1928-29 A/c.	65	12 6			Nil
Donations:					
Mrs. J. M. Dalziel	£5	0 0			
Mr. G. Catt	0	10 0			
Mr. L. W. Gardner	0	10 0			
		6 0 0			
Bank Interest 1929...	1	16 0	Balance	73	8 6
	<u>£73</u>	<u>8 6</u>		<u>£73</u>	<u>8 6</u>

DÜMMER MEMORIAL FUND.

BALANCE SHEET, as on May 5th, 1930.

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from 1928-29 A/c.	1	14 6	Purchase of Presentation volumes for best collection of British Plants, 1928	2	2 0
Dividends on 4% Funding Loan	4	4 0	Purchase of Presentation volumes and postage for best collection of British Plants, 1929	2	3 3
			Balance	1	13 3
	<u>£5</u>	<u>18 6</u>		<u>£5</u>	<u>18 6</u>

CAPITAL ACCOUNT, as on May 5th, 1930.

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance of Assets	62	11 3	Value of £70 4% Funding Loan (Purchase Price) ...	60	18 0
			Balance	1	13 3
	<u>£62</u>	<u>11 3</u>		<u>£62</u>	<u>11 3</u>

ANNUAL DINNER ACCOUNT, 1929.

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Sale of 108 Tickets at 7/-			109 Dinners at 6/6 each ...	35	8 6
each	37	16 0	Postages on Invitations, etc	0	17 6
			Fares and Incidental Expenses, etc.	0	6 0
			Pianist's Fee	1	1 0
			Balance to 1930 Dinner A/c.	0	3 6
	<u>£37</u>	<u>16 0</u>		<u>£37</u>	<u>16 0</u>

Compared with Vouchers, Bank books,
Stock Receipts, etc., and found correct.

C. P. RAFFILL Hon. Treasurer.
E. G. DUNK, Secretary.

W. H. YOUNG }
A. EDWARDS } Hon. Auditors.

12th May, 1930.



THE KEW GUILD DINNER, 1930.

THE Annual Dinner was held at the Clarendon Restaurant, Hammersmith, London, W., on Thursday, May 22nd, 1930, at 7-30 p.m., when Mr. F. S. Sillitoe, M.B.E., formerly Superintendent of Gardens, Khartoum, Sudan, presided over an attendance of 124 members. Darwin Tulips and Azaleas in varying shades were employed as table decorations and produced a pleasing and very desirable effect.

An excellent repast was served and the arrangements were a source of satisfaction to all concerned.

The Loyal Toast having been duly honoured, Mr. F. S. Sillitoe, M.B.E., proposed the Toast, "The Kew Guild." The following is a full report of Mr. Sillitoe's speech :—

"To find myself in this proud position of having been elected President of the Kew Guild and having to propose the toast of same, is indeed a great honour, for which I thank you most heartily. It was most unexpected and it may interest you to know where and how I received a certain telegram from our worthy Secretary, Mr. Dunk, containing these words :—" Committee earnestly desire you to accept Presidency."

"It was at Wadi Halfa, a small town on the River Nile, at the northern boundary of the Sudan, which one reaches after a two days' steamer trip from Shellal or Aswan. It was from here that Lord Kitchener commenced to lay that railroad across the Desert to Abu Hamid, that helped considerably to conquer the Khalifa and brought about these last 30 years of happiness and prosperity to the Sudanese after the final victory at Omdurman, in 1898.

"Now, Wadi Halfa, due to having a very keen and energetic Governor, held its second Flower Show in March, and as I was busy judging—in a temperature far higher than we are likely to see here this summer—a telegram was handed to me and, strange to say, I put it in my pocket unopened till the judging was finished, little dreaming what momentous news it contained.

"It needed a day or two to consider whether I could face this ordeal. Next morning I left for Port Sudan, the flourishing port on the Red Sea, where I have been making a garden ; a journey of 36 hours, so I had plenty of time to cogitate. From there the answer was sent and here we are doing our best, although there are many here of more experience and more capable of filling this chair.

"There is a saying, "A modest man never speaks of himself," but I am afraid you must allow me to become immodest to a certain extent, as the Sudan for the last 27 years has been the scene of my labours, my life's work, as it were, and have seen its capital, Khartoum transformed from desert and a mass of ruins to what has been described as a "Garden City." This is an exaggeration, as it is not a

Golders Green, Welwyn, or a Bournville, but there is at any rate an area (the Palace Gardens), which has been termed a miniature Kew and contains fine trees, lawns and flower beds. I cannot pretend to be able to talk on subjects as Kew Benevolent Fund, Educational Fund and other institutions.

"It is when one looks round this gathering or receives the *Journal* abroad—if this happened during working hours, I confess that neglect of duty immediately followed—that one realises what Kew men are doing in all parts of the globe. One feels proud to see one's contemporaries making their mark in the Colonies and, even more than that to see they hold their own in America. I hear Mr. Osborn is shortly crossing the Herring Pond; may he have an enjoyable trip and take our best salaams to all old friends there.

"Among this splendid gathering we have here to-night of Kewites and friends, are to be found Members from near and distant lands; to mention a few is permissible, I believe. Messrs. Best (Singapore), Melles (of the War Graves Commission, France and Belgium), Mustoe (Delhi), Leslie (Darjeeling), Thorns (Sudan), Williams (Trinidad), Everett (U.S.A.), Downs (Jamaica), Russell (Burmah) and last, but not least, Mr. John Gregory, truly designated "The Father of Kewites," who left Kew 64 years ago. No doubt you have noticed in the last Gardeners' Chronicle a list of names of those who have been presented with the Diploma of the Associate of Honour of the Royal Horticultural Society. Needless to say, you were delighted to see so many Kewites in that list. I believe I am correct in saying no less than seven of the 30 elected have been through Kew. Messrs. Page, Cooper, Coutts, Guttridge, Irving, Tannock and your humble servant. Meetings of this kind are apt to become mutual admiration societies as it were, but surely we are entitled to be proud of such a list.

"May I mention one instance of how Kew men move about and one knocks up against them from time to time and I sincerely trust that such rolling stones do gather moss, of an aureum species.

"Mr. Dawe was my nearest neighbour, or rather the next link in the African chain of Kewites in 1903. Dawe and I were together at Kew and after a struggle were equal first for the British Flora Collection. I well remember the two of us going up with Mr. Watson before the Director for the post in Uganda; he being senior man secured it and off he went to Entebbe. Little did I dream that six months later I should be sent to the Sudan.

"In 1904 he trekked through Uganda and down the Nile, some 1,500 miles and stayed with me for Christmas. We met again at Wembley Exhibition in 1924, where he was Commissioner for Sierra Leone and now he is Director of Agriculture in Cyprus, so again he is my nearest neighbour in the north. Stay; not quite correct, as Brown is back again in Cairo. I just mention this case to illustrate what versatile men have passed through Kew and doing grand work for the Empire.

"The arrival of the *Journal* also brings sadness, as one turns to the "In Memoriam" pages, to find old friends' names added to the list. In this last, we see the name of Dr. Burrell, who made a good many of us say "99," and Kett, who did much wonderful work on the War Graves Commission in the Near East. I had hoped to see him get up as far as Khartoum.

"The Sudan has figured largely in the Press during recent months, owing to the Egyptian question; otherwise, during the last 30 years we have gone along quietly and good work has been carried out—the foundations of a sound Government policy and the building of the great Senaar Dam, on the Blue Nile, for the irrigation of the Gezeri Plain. This is the triangular piece of land between the Blue and White Niles, that join at Khartoum. Some 300,000 acres are now under cultivation and producing the best cotton, Sakellarides.

"I do not suppose there is a finer example of irrigation in the world than this. What was before a vast barren area, swept by sand storms, except in the rainy season, when the people planted their grain—dhurra, a species of *Sorghum*—is now canalized as regular as the perforations of a sheet of postage stamps. The dam is $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles across and forms a reservoir upstream for 50 miles, containing 140,000,000,000 gallons of water, raised to a height of 50 feet, to enable it to flow into the main canal, 26 metres in width. The total length of all canals is 10,000 miles.

"I am afraid few people realise the immense size of the Sudan; it is larger than Scotland, although the Scots had and have a large say in the running of it, and they have done it well.

In the course of conversation, one hears such phrases as "I wonder if you ever see Mrs. X in Cairo?" 1,200 miles away and a $3\frac{1}{2}$ -day trip. Or, "My friend was out in Luxor last winter," 900 miles; as though Egypt and the Sudan were London and Brighton for a week-end trip. In reality it is a million square miles in extent, some of the provinces as large as France; governed by a mere handful of Britishers. The northern half is practically desert, inhabited by Arabs and it was here that I had the pleasure of showing Major Chipp round last Christmas twelvemonth, and, although an authority on the desert flora of Africa, can safely say that when he left the Sudan, we had shown him a few novelties, far more desert than he wanted to see, to say nothing of a real Sudan thirst, which if brought here, would compel me to say—put all your money into Brewery shares.

"To the south are the great Pagan Tribes of the Nuer, Shilluk and Dinka. Through the length of it runs the Nile, which in the course of the next few years will be harnessed still more and brought under control right up to the Great Lakes in Uganda. Even now schemes are in hand for building another great dam at Gebel Aulia and cutting a channel to drain that great swamp region called the Sudd, some 800 miles south of Khartoum. One cannot realise, until seen, some 300 miles of rank vegetation, stretching on either side

of the channel, just wide enough to take the steamer, consisting chiefly of Papyrus and Phragmites. Through this flows the great part of the Nile (the life-blood of Egypt), to be controlled at Aswan and other great barrages in Egypt. So one realises how keen the Egyptians are to be in control of these upper regions.

"So much for the Sudan, with its sun and sand, which I am very sorry to leave and to become, for a short time only I trust, one of the large army of unemployed.

"This is perhaps one of the drawbacks to Government posts in the tropics, where one retires before one feels it is really necessary. Still, I was surprised to learn from the Director that the present-day Kew men are not so keen on going abroad, and it is difficult to find the right men for such posts. They prefer Corporation appointments as Superintendent of Parks, Open Spaces and such morbid places as cemeteries. Personally, give me the sun and more agreeable climate. As long as one takes the necessary precautions and lives a steady life, most parts of the tropics are healthy.

"The Sudan at the present time has three Kewites; an old hand in Mr. Cartwright, Mr. Robbie, who will succeed me, and Mr. Thorns, his Assistant.

"Where a Kew man is in charge and vacancies occur, it is up to him to see another Kewite is appointed. I sincerely trust Kew will be able to produce suitable men should the Sudan want more.

"Of course, it is not all men, although capable at home, who are suitable for such posts. The native as a rule is amenable and quick to learn if managed in the proper way. Get a grasp of his language as soon as possible and make no mistake in thinking you know more about the seasons and conditions than he does. My head man was as fine a man as I shall ever meet. There are always two sides to a question, so put yourself in the other man's place and try to see his view of it. One gets liverish and rattled in the tropics, more so than here, and I am afraid the native generally feels the effects.

"A laughable instance of a young officer and the language problem was as follows:—

On parade he started "Ana sakram owi," broad smiles appeared on the men's faces. Again he repeated it; still more effect. What he really meant to say was "Ana zalan owi"—"I am very angry," but alas, he was saying "I am very drunk."

"Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to drink the Toast of the Kew Guild."

Following Mr. Sillitoe's remarks, an enjoyable programme consisting of popular sea shanties and solos, was rendered by a quartette from the Kew Parish Church Choir, under the very able leadership of Mr. L. J. Harding. This arrangement was a marked improvement on the programme of previous years, particularly so that it relieved

those concerned with arrangements of what has always proved to be the matter of concern at these annual functions. For half-an-hour prior to the interval we were entertained to a programme that was enjoyed by all on account of its variety. Prior to the usual interval of 45 minutes or so, Mr. Sillitoe presented the usual annual prizes, with appropriate remarks, as follows:—The Dümmer Memorial Prize, J. H. Saint. The Matilda Smith Memorial Prize, J. H. Turner. The Hooker Prize, R. H. Mason. The Kew Mutual Improvement Society's Prize, R. English.

Advantage was taken by the many Kewites present of renewing old acquaintances and making new friends and it is on occasions such as these that the true spirit of comradeship as members of the Kew Guild is manifest. Often the Kew Guild Annual Dinner is the only opportunity that presents itself to members to greet each other in person, but it is well known that correspondence with old-time acquaintances is well maintained by our members in whatever part of the world they may find themselves.

Following the interval, Major T. F. Chipp, M.C., D.Sc., Ph. D., F.L.S., F.R.G.S., rose to appropriately propose the Toast "Our President" and his speech was pronounced an excellent one by all present, and it is pleasing to be able to record it in these pages in its entirety, reflecting as it does the impressions of one who has been privileged to obtain first-hand information on the spot (so to speak) of the valuable work achieved by Mr. Sillitoe in the Sudan.

"It is my privilege this evening to propose the toast of our new President, Mr. F. S. Sillitoe. By the custom which has been followed for some few years, we have alternatively had a President from the home circle and then a President from overseas. It is inevitable, therefore, that when the latter event falls due our President must be to many of us but a name, for the very fact that he is chosen as a President implies many years of life overseas, during which generations pass through Kew who have no opportunity to meet him personally.

"Our new President can be known to only a few of you personally, and to many not at all. In the part of the world from which he has this month retired, however, it is very different and as inseparable as are the words of Sillitoe and Kew, equally so are the words Sillitoe and Khartoum.

"It was in the year 1903 that a young and tender plant, that had been nursed in the tropical department at Kew, was transported to Africa and planted at Khartoum. Little was it realised that that plant would grow and extend so that its branches penetrated to nearly every part of a country over 1,000,000 square miles in extent, and that in the fulness of time our President of to-day would have served longer than any of his contemporaries and have over a quarter of a century's service in Khartoum to his credit.

"Mr. Sillitoe went out to Khartoum to take over the charge of the Palace Gardens. This is a spot hallowed with memories of English Colonial history, for here it was in 1885 that Gordon fell, and nearby

at Omdurman across the river, the Khalifa was finally overthrown by Kitchener in 1898. It is a dreary country from which the vegetation has been almost entirely removed by the population in the course of the last few centuries. Unending flat expanses of sand, through which the Nile wends its way, with sandstone hills to break the distant view. Rainfall of some five inches a year ; intense heat for many months in the summer and subject to sandstorms which threaten to overwhelm and smother both plant and animal life alike.

" Yet under these desolate conditions our President has worked his way, and those who to-day wander over the beautiful lawns of the Palace Gardens under shady trees and palms, enjoying the borders and beds of beautiful flowering plants, realise what a debt is owed to the perseverance of Sillitoe. There was no one to whom he could turn for advice. Gardening under a burning tropical sun, in a desert waste, where every drop of water has to be supplied by irrigation, was not a subject which could be explained to him before he went there. By trial and error he gradually worked out what could be done, and his success was rewarded, in a manner most of us appreciate, by having additional duties entrusted to him. At the time when he quits the scene of his labours—namely this month—his charge, in addition to the Palace grounds, extends to those of 82 official residences in Khartoum, the grounds around 19 of the fine public buildings of that city, public spaces and thousands of roadside trees and included in this enumeration are 114 grass tennis courts, each of which has to be flooded every few days. Of late years also his activities have extended to other centres in the country and his work in producing pleasant lawns and beds of bright flowers in that steamy Red Sea port built of blazing white coral—Port Sudan—is a memorial to him which travellers to and from the Far East have so enjoyed for some few years.

" It is indeed gratifying to find that his services were publicly recognised in 1927, when he received the honour of being appointed a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

" His personality is a subject of which it is difficult to convey an impression to those who have not seen him in his work. His duties necessitated his entering the private gardens of official residences and it is on these occasions that he endeared himself to all with whom he came in contact. The many stories about him which every visitor to Khartoum heard on arrival, I cannot now repeat ; but there is one phrase with which he will ever be associated.

" It is the aim and object of most of us to try and beautify our gardens and many an official transported the choicest and rarest plants and shrubs and put them in his garden—a labour of love and carried out at much expense and trouble. Then one morning our friend accompanied by his inseparable cane, would come along and when the proud housewife would point out her latest treasure he might look at it and say " Yes," flick off its head with his cane and say " I will send you a much better one than that from my nursery."

How crushing is such a reply can be well imagined. On the other hand he could be more cruel. By trial and error, Sillitoe learnt what could be grown and what could not. Imagine then the despair of the amateur gardener when that terrible cane pointed to the newest introduction and the fateful words fell "that won't grow!" In course of time this phrase was echoed from end to end of the country, and then on one fateful day, not many years ago, our President was presented with a son and heir. With one accord the whole country lifted up its voice and said "that won't grow!"

"It is my pleasure to tell you that it did grow and is now doing well, and so to one of the most distinguished sons of Kew, who has carried the flag unaided and won through so splendidly on one of the most difficult and arduous tasks with which a Kew man has been called upon to deal, I ask you to rise and drink and to wish him many years of happiness with his wife and family.

The toast was accorded full musical honours and Mr. Sillitoe voiced his deep appreciation in the following words.—

"I beg to thank you most heartily for giving me such a splendid reception and Major Chipp for remarks that were far too eulogistic. I am indeed proud to hear them from him, as he is one of the few that have seen the results of my 27 years' work in the Sudan. In conclusion, I wish to sincerely thank our hard working Secretary, Mr. Dunk, who has made all the arrangements for such a successful evening, and may we have such another cheery evening next year.

"Gentlemen, I thank you."

Following the President's remarks, the artists comprising the quartette brought a very successful gathering to a close with a programme of well chosen songs and choruses and a little so-called community singing was indulged in to the delight of the younger and more lusty members of the assembly. The 1930 dinner will be remembered by all who were present as a really enjoyable social evening in every sense of the word.



A COMMENT.

As one who attended the last Kew Dinner, may I at the outset offer to Mr. Sillitoe my sincere congratulations on his very able speech and I think I am only voicing a very popular opinion when I say how very proud of him are his fellow Kewites.

Major Chipp's description of the enormous task so successfully carried out by our President leaves no doubt that Kew still produces the Empire builders, who have, ever since Kew became a training ground, blazed the trail which will ever be a monument to Kew and her example to all men, whether Kew or University trained.

Mr. Sillitoe, in his speech, did, however, strike one note, noticed by several, which I am inclined to think did not convey quite correctly his thoughts, or else it is that he is at present a little out of touch with conditions at Kew and the Home Country generally.

I refer to his remark on the number of Kew trained men who now take posts as "Parks Superintendents and that even more morbid job, Cemetery Superintendents." The former people will, I imagine, look to their own laurels, for they have a case par excellence, so that in these remarks I shall only touch very generally on their side, but as one of the aforementioned Cemetery Superintendents I feel I cannot let the remark pass without a slight protest.

I wonder if Mr. Sillitoe really realises how things have changed since his day? If I am instructed rightly, posts were then found by Kew for men desirous of going abroad, and even a choice was possible. Such a state of affairs in the days of the present students would, I imagine, have somewhat the same effect on them as the winners of the recent Irish Sweepstake must have felt, for I think they must have pinched themselves with a no uncertain pinch to make sure it was not a dream when presented with the huge cheques so easily come by.

Never a problem without a solution, and Kew men of the present decade have looked to other fields. In this they have been greatly assisted by the change that has come over the views of Municipal Authorities, who now demand highly skilled, and when possible, well educated men for their departments, where horticulture plays such an important part; by encouraging men of trained ability to take these posts they do much to beautify their town, and what is more, to attract others to their cities. Even our Cemeteries can here play their part, for it is, I think, acknowledged that our parks are becoming more and more the playing fields of the nations and our Cemeteries "Gardens of Rest," or as that grand old gardener, W. Robinson has expressed it, "God's Acre Beautiful."

I am getting a little ahead of my subject, and as I am desirous of debating with Mr. Sillitoe the cause and effect of the case, I will retrace my steps.

Shall we first of all examine the remark I made re the change that time has worked with the prospects of Kew men abroad? It is now. I think, a generally accepted fact that gradually but surely our chances, as individuals, to have the opportunity to make good abroad are lessening and many positions previously held by Kew men are now in the hands of university men. Also with our policy of Empire Building as a nation, and thus educating to our own standard of efficiency the natives of the various colonies, we have produced on the spot men with every advantage of race, speech and colour, and an entirely natural feeling that these appointments should go to men of their own race, trained in colleges and training grounds of their own countries. In support of this statement, I note the following remark from the Kew Journal of 1928, under the heading of "Kewites in India," i.e., "At present not less than nine posts formerly held by Kew men are now under the supervision of India trained men" and the writer speaks of this as an adversity directly or indirectly due to the Indianisation of the Service.

Personally speaking I should like to add that during my period at Kew only two or three men were placed in positions abroad, and unfortunately for others with ambitions in this direction, it was found totally impossible to place them. Many students can speak of disappointing interviews with the Curators and the Director, who, with all the willingness in the world to help, were, of course, quite unable to manufacture suitable appointments.

Ambition thus curbed has led us to seek other spheres and my remark re the changed conditions in the Home Country I should like now to enlarge upon. As I have already said, enlightened Councils now realise what an enormous asset to a town are its open spaces, and I think personally, with all due respect to Mr. Sillitoe's views, we in our way, as Parks and Cemetery Superintendents, also enhance the glory of Kew, for we take with us the example of our *Alma Mater*, and, shall I dare mention it, we at times are conceited enough to try to go one better, for often our Municipalities are prepared to spend and spend freely for result.

As an example, I will quote one Kew man who has, during the last two years, spent £20,000 for his Borough in the laying-out of new parks, and yet another town, I note, proposes spending £75,000 over a period of years on its Parks and open spaces to make them attractive.

Surely even Mr. Sillitoe will agree with me that the spending of these enormous sums should be in the hands of men who have been trained at such institutions as Kew, to plant wisely, with an eye to the future, and, I hope, to the glory of Kew.

I am wandering to the parks, however, for my case, but I will promise not to again encroach on their preserves, but confine myself to cemeteries, and, in doing so, will now try and prove that the parks do not get all the plums when the authorities find they have some money to spend.

Before I give any further figures, however, I will give a quotation from a speech made by a member of a City Council at a conference of Cemetery Superintendents and Burial Authorities held in Birmingham in 1925. This gentleman said: "When considering a New Cemetery it would probably be wise to engage an expert landscape architect who ought from experience to make the best layout of the natural position."

Surely, we have here a man who, when making an appointment for the laying-out of a town's new Cemetery, would be prepared to consider the claims of the Kew man, now debarred from so many Colonial appointments, and my experience is that many Kew men would be prepared to consider it, but more of that anon.

To get to figures again—one London Borough I know of has recently spent £60,000 to provide a Cemetery for its people worthy of the Municipality. No mean task surely, the laying-out of this place, for, by its ornamental gardens and decorative features, it will be attractive to the living as well as a resting place for the dead, and in my own case I do not think this figure will cover the expenses of my Council. Whether, in our personal views, we consider that this figure is excessive for a burial ground, does not enter into the argument; the fact that the Council is prepared to spend the money, and is willing to pay the skilled man to spend it judiciously, is all that need concern us here. So that I feel that from this point of view alone Kew men are justified in stepping into the breach.

There is, however, another side which calls for the highly skilled horticulturist, for by the success of it a matter of thousands of pounds income to the Council are at stake.

Most Councils have a system of taking on for a fixed sum per annum the planting of graves with flowering plants and shrubs, and so remunerative is this side of the work and the demand so great that it often means the employment of a large staff of gardeners to cope with the work. I have in mind at present a Cemetery in London (not the largest by any means) where there is an acre of glass, and the number of plants raised yearly is in the neighbourhood of 100,000, bringing in an income of over £500 annually. This man's bulbs order comes to £300 per annum, and it is a pleasure to be able to say that his Council evidently appreciate a Kew trained man, for a late Kew student is now their Superintendent.

When an authority has in view the filling of a vacancy in its Cemeteries Department there are many things it must consider when interviewing candidates. The man appointed must have a good standard of education, for this Cemetery Superintendent has often to handle many thousands of pounds in Burial Fees, so that careful book-keeping is essential, and at one Cemetery office I know of, now in a Kew man's hands, £14,000 was handled last year.

Next we come to the Records, these have to be accurately kept, for apart from the requirements of the public for general information, points of law often arise where the burial registers are the only

evidence available, and on the accuracy of these entries many thousands of pounds are often at stake. The Council concerned will also see that the man they choose is a well-spoken man, for the rich die as well as the poor, and the relatives who come to make the necessary arrangements have a right to expect to deal with men of culture and tact at a time when they are in perhaps the greatest trouble and sorrow they have ever known. In choosing this type of man they are wise, for by tactful dealing it is often possible for the Superintendent to sell sites amounting to hundreds of pounds. One Superintendent I know has some sites for burial uses in his charge for which his authority are asking £2,000, so it is evident that by beautifying their Cemetery the Council will in due course reap the benefit.

Yet another very necessary accomplishment is an elementary knowledge of surveying, which I now understand Kew provides, should the student wish, and last, but not least, he must have a knowledge of the burial laws, and these are amongst the most complicated of any of the country's laws.

So you see, the morbid Cemetery Superintendent has to be a man of many parts, and Municipalities generally are more and more realising that they are saving money by encouraging with suitable emoluments the right type of man, to organise and direct the department concerned, and in this sphere, on the word organisation, a lot depends. In a large Cemetery everything has to work with a clock-like efficiency to avoid mistakes, for apart from the pain to the relatives concerned, we all know what startling headlines the local paper can always make when an untoward incident occurs in a Cemetery.

That Municipalities are more and more realising just anyone is not suitable to do this work is borne out by the statement of the Mayor of one of our Provincial towns who said "The ideal man for the Supervision of a Cemetery must be a good organiser, have new ideas, and a deep human sympathy, coupled with a keen insight, and be ready to solve problems as they arise." Rightly or wrongly, I think that Kew provides the man who can carry out with success to himself and credit to Kew, any post where organisation plays a big part, and where his horticultural skill will enable him to leave behind him also a Monument, not made of stone, to Kew, even if it is in a Cemetery.

I am tempted here to mention the Imperial War Graves Commission in which Kew has played such an important part. It was my privilege to help lay out some of these war cemeteries under the supervision of Kew men, one of whom the King has been recently pleased to honour, and who shall say that their work does not enhance the glory of Kew. I cannot pass from this subject without reference to that very fine man, the late Robert Kett, who lost his life in Cairo in 1929, and perhaps I may be forgiven if I quote a passage from the very fine appreciation of him that appeared in

the 1930 issue of the *Kew Guild Journal*. Speaking of his work in the East, the author said "the magic transformation of the wilderness and desert places are his monument as are those homes of the dead in the battlefields of Flanders."

This man found his great life work in Cemeteries, and there is no man but who will pay him tribute if he but visits the Jerusalem resting place of our war dead, for, for all time that spot will speak with no uncertain voice of Robert Kett.

It might also be worth mentioning that annually a conference is held of Cemetery Superintendents and Burial Authorities, and to give some idea of the importance with which Municipalities now regard their Cemetery problems it is interesting to note that last year over 250 Councils were represented at a three-days' conference held at Nottingham, and I noticed several Kew men in the company.

Personally, I have now had eight years of Cemetery work, and have never regretted that when, on leaving Kew, an opening appeared in the Cemetery of a large Provincial Town and I took it, quickly to learn that Cemetery Management was not just work connected with funerals, but something that required very careful study to become proficient in. Some three years ago I was offered a position in charge of the Cemeteries Department of one of the London Boroughs, and I have not the slightest hesitation in saying that I find the work full of interest, and although I see the sad side of life in the course of my duties, I do not think it makes for morbidity, but rather it leads to a fine feeling for one's fellow-men. One bit of advice I should like to give to the present-day student, *i.e.*, study your botany, improve your practical horticultural knowledge by every means in your power, but do not neglect your general education, for the day is fast approaching when the man who has not matriculated will be definitely barred from entering the service of the various municipalities, either as Parks or Cemetery Superintendents.

In closing, I offer Mr. Sillitoe my humble apologies. If I have laboured the statement somewhat it has been done in an effort to show that having had to make our own fight, in the open market of skilled horticulturists, on new ground, we, as young men, are trying our best by raising the standard of the posts here, to assure positions for the Kewites of the future, for I hope the day is coming when Kew will fill the positions at home as it has in the past filled them abroad, by direct application.

To Kew itself I offer my grateful thanks for the opening up of a new life of interest to me, for a very happy time spent under her wings, and for the friendships made which will be golden throughout the many years which I hope are before me, and for that wonderful freemasonry which I find, without doubt, does exist when out in the wide, wide world when Kewite meets Kewite.

E.C., 1931.

THEY ALSO SERVE.

DIVERSE are the posts held by Kew men. Some knowledge of their versatility may be gained from a glance down the list of "Old Kewites" at the end of this *Journal*.

There are, however, many branches of horticulture with Kew men at their head, that are not mentioned in that list, and so Kewites let your Secretary know the particulars of the post that you occupy, so that fellow-members may, through the *Journal*, follow your career.

Students who leave Kew now-a-days have perhaps a larger variety of posts to choose from, than ever was known before. Of positions abroad, these vacancies are more scarce than of yore, but the balance is more than outweighed by the numerous branches of horticulture that have opened up in England.

Kew men are found in charge of most of the Parks Departments of Great Britain, some are Registrars of Cemeteries, Superintendents of Gardens at Mental Hospitals, and one that I know is laying-out Sports Grounds and beautifying parts of London for the Underground and London General Omnibus Co. There are two others in charge of the trees and shrubs belonging to a certain County Council whose idea is to beautify the country-side.

Ah! I hear you say, but surely some of these men are wasting their Kew training. Do you think so? Don't you consider that old England has a right to the benefits derived from Kew-trained men?

All honour to all past Kewites, who from time to time have taken up diverse ventures in various parts of the world. The results of the labours of these will ever be of benefit to mankind.

What of the present Kewite, however, is he not made of the same stuff, and given the same opportunities, would he not produce similar results? Are not these men also doing good in their own particular sphere?

It is, however, of the benefits derived by mankind from Kewites at the head of our Parks Departments, that I am chiefly concerned. Various local authorities throughout Great Britain have come to realise the value of parks and recreation grounds, and accordingly numerous Parks Departments have been formed during the past few years.

It is a noticeable fact that most of these are in the charge of Kew-trained men. Ever since the advent of Municipal Parks, Kew men have always been to the forefront in their management. There is no need to mention names, for we all know them, these men of vast experience, who have proved their worth to the British public which has been the means of fostering such confidence in the Kew trained man.

Returning to the later generation of Kew men in Parks, I will very briefly state their activities. From the horticultural standpoint there are many improvements. Ornamental trees and shrubs are taking the place of the privets and laurels that were considered good enough for many parks of the past. Rock gardens are being constructed, well furnished with various Alpines; Herbaceous borders are now collections of herbaceous plants. Rose and bog gardens are laid out. Bedding schemes are more varied and with great variety, and lastly, but not least, in many parks everything is labelled.

Through these means the general public are becoming increasingly interested in horticulture, and are asking more and more questions, and in their own gardens are trying to reproduce the same types of plants that they have seen in the parks.

Surely the cultivating of the love of Nature in the general public is work fitted for Kew men. There are also numerous people who ask botanical questions and then want to know more.

But what of recreation grounds? Each season thousands of school children enjoy games of every description—Tennis, Cricket, Netball, Football and Hockey, etc., are played on grounds prepared for them. Local football and cricket teams are now able to play their games on well-kept pitches, the result being that more and more teams are formed.

Tennis clubs use the parks as their headquarters. Municipal golf courses are increasing in numbers, and for those who like a less strenuous game, crown and flat bowling greens are found in most parks. Bathing pools are also coming to the fore in many boroughs.

In this way we have the Parks Departments assisting in the production of healthy minds and bodies, especially in the youth of the nation. Another side of the parks facilities, are the playing areas for children. Here one may see crowds of youngsters enjoying themselves in the fresh air, safe from the traffic of the roads.

Most large parks possess a bandstand, where during the summer months band concerts and pierrot parties give enjoyment to the thousands.

The various avenues and shrubberies now found in most towns are the result of the labours of their Parks Department, as are also the laying-out of gardens on the sea fronts of our coastal towns.

In this article I have dealt very briefly with the activities of young Kewites in the Parks, but I am sure that you will agree with me that these men are doing an important work, and the general public do express their appreciation of the skill and enterprise which characterises the men at the head of our Municipal Parks.

R.B., 1931.

RUNNING CLUB, 1930.

At a general meeting of the Sports Club, held on Tuesday, September 23rd, 1930, it was decided that the Running Section should amalgamate with the Football Club, and that the Hon. Secretary of the latter should attend to all matters connected with running.

Mr. E. Hewitson had been acting as Hon. Secretary for the running section, prior to the general meeting. It was resolved that the evening runs should serve as a method of training for the football club members, and that whenever possible inter-departmental runs should be arranged. There were some who were desirous of fixtures being arranged with other gardening establishments, but it was pointed out that the season was already somewhat advanced to get a definite fixture list together without adding confusion to the football section and its programme, and as it was further an essential factor that to arrange definite fixtures there must be a regular team available, it was resolved to abandon the idea for the time being.

Many of the enthusiasts of the 1929-30 season having left the Gardens, it was very obvious that their capabilities, interest and enthusiasm were greatly missed by those few stalwarts who remained at Kew. The future of the Running Club would appear, therefore, to be in the hands of new entrants to the Establishment.

To date, there have been no runs whatsoever, neither inter-departmental nor evening practises, though members are aware that permission has been obtained for practice runs in the Gardens (after the usual public hours) as in previous years. It is to be hoped, however, that football players will take part in evening runs as a means of training in view of the matches that have been arranged from January until the end of March.

T. LOMAS,

HON. SECRETARY,

FOOTBALL AND RUNNING SECTION, 1930.

CRICKET CLUB REPORT, 1930.

THE Annual General Meeting was held in the Library on the 1st April, 1930, when the following members were elected to hold office for the season: L. Stenning, Captain; R. E. Moore, Vice-Captain; S. A. Pearce, Hon. Secretary; Messrs. L. A. Lee and C. F. Coates, members of the Committee. In May, Mr. Moore resigned his duties as Vice-Captain (due to his accepting an appointment in South Africa), and at a special general meeting held in the Library on May 30th, 1930, Mr. W. Bates was elected to fill the vacancy.

A list of 26 matches was arranged, two of these being Sunday fixtures. The weather on the whole was fairly good, but we had several disappointments owing to rain, while the last match was a "complete washout" and made a very poor ending to the season.

We were also very unfortunate in having several matches cancelled, but it was chiefly due to our would-be opponents inability to muster a team that this happened.

It had been hoped that we should visit Edinburgh Botanic Gardens this season to repay their visit of the year 1929, but again we were disappointed, for after a considerable amount of correspondence with the railway company we were unable to obtain the necessary cheap excursion to enable us to make the trip, so that nothing could be done and the proposed match had to fall through. Needless to say, much to the regret of many members who had looked forward to the trip.

Of the 26 matches arranged, 20 were played, of these 10 were won, 7 lost, and 3 drawn. Although not quite such a successful season as 1929, we had some very good games and excursions, and the keenness of the members was maintained throughout.

The annual match "Staff v. Students" was played on Kew Green on June 4th and proved very enjoyable, the weather being perfect and not as was the case in 1929 when the match was played practically all the time in rain.

The Staff were Captained by Mr. Stenning in the absence of Mr. Hutchinson (who was unable to play owing to his departure for Rhodesia). The Students, who batted first, made a disastrous start, having the first two wickets fall when only one run had been scored. After a fine innings, however, by T. Lomas, who scored 23, the innings closed for the total of 62 runs, which was not so bad considering that only 36 runs were scored when the 8th wicket fell. Bowling for the Staff: Pateman 3 for 10, Sealy 6 for 26, Stenning 1 for 9.

The Staff commencing their innings, fared in a very similar manner to the Students, having the first two wickets fall when only two runs were on the board, but a partnership between Messrs.

Stenning and Coates made appearances brighter, but the scoring was slow and the innings closed for the total of 36. The chief scores were : Stenning 11, Coates 16. Bowling for the Students Arnold 4 for 12, Moore 4 for 24.

As in previous years, the teams were entertained to tea by the Director on the Lawn Tennis Courts enclosure, where Miss Hill was our genial hostess.

The game, which was keen throughout and the ideal weather conditions, made the afternoon very enjoyable, both for players and spectators.

Another match of which a description is necessary was played on Kew Green on June 28th, when Sutton's C.C. 2nd XI visited us. The visitors, who came early to look round the Gardens before the match, were entertained to lunch at the Rose and Crown Hotel, Kew Green, by members of the Staff and Club. After lunch the visitors were conducted round the gardens by Mr. Raffill and Mr. Stenning.

The match, which commenced at 3 o'clock, was very enjoyable, the weather being perfect, and after a very keen game, we ran out winners by 21 runs. Scores : Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, 79 ; Sutton's C.C. 2nd XI, 58. Our principal scorers were Stenning 23, Coates 15, W. Taylor 10. Bowling : Arnold 4 for 34, W. Taylor 7 for 16.

The teams were entertained to tea by the Director on the lawn of his house, where an excellent repast awaited us and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The matches with Cliveden and Wisley were also very enjoyable, and good games resulted in both cases. At Cliveden we were well beaten. Scores : Cliveden 157, Royal Gardens, Kew, 67.

The match with Wisley was played on Kew Green on May 31st, and resulted in a win for us. Scores : Kew 67, Wisley 46.

The results of other matches were as follows :—

Wins against :

Oakleigh C.C. (1) ; Chrysler Motors C.C. (3) ; Victoria Working Men's Club (1) ; Phoenix C.C. (1) ; Kew 2nd XI (1).

Losses against :

Rayleigh C.C. (1) ; Aldenham House Gardens (1) ; St. Mary's C.C. (2) ; Aldenham C.C. (1) ; Working Men's Club, Wandsworth (1).

Drawn games :

Aldenham House Gardens (1) ; John Innes C.C. (2).

Batting honours went to : C. F. Coates 67 *not out* scored against Phoenix C.C. ; T. A. Arnold 54 against John Innes C.C. ; H. Davis (Merton) 51 *not out* against Phoenix C.C.

Bowling honours: T. A. Arnold 6 wickets for 8 runs against Chrysler Sports Club and 6 wickets for 11 against Phoenix C.C.; W. Taylor 7 wickets for 16 against Sutton's C.C. and 6 wickets for 26 against Chrysler Sports Club.

The Bat presented by Mr. G. C. Stedman to the member who, in the opinion of the Committee made the best all-round performance of the season, has been won by Mr. T. A. Arnold with the following all-round performance: Batting—184 runs, average 16.72; Bowling—82.4 overs, 12 maidens, 163 runs, 45 wickets, 3.62%; Catches—7.

ROYAL GARDENS CRICKET CLUB, KEW.

BATTING AVERAGES, SEASON 1930.

Played over 5 Innings—					
Name.	Innings	Times not out	Most in an Innings	Total Runs	Average
H. DAVIS (Merton).....	6	1	51 not out	179	35.80
T. A. ARNOLD.....	12	1	54	184	16.72
C. F. COATES.....	8	1	67 not out	116	16.57
T. LOMAS.....	10	1	26 not out	92	10.22
L. STENNING.....	8	1	23	67	9.57
H. T. DAVIS.....	6	—	12	45	7.50
W. TAYLOR.....	14	1	19	81	6.23
J. TAYLOR.....	12	—	21	70	5.83
P. E. BOYCE.....	6	—	13	29	4.83
C. BATE.....	6	—	10	19	3.16
W. BATES.....	8	—	18	22	2.75
J. HAYDEN.....	11	2	9	19	2.11
G. R. WILLIAMS.....	6	1	5	10	2.00
A. WALBY.....	6	—	7	12	2.00
Played 5 Innings and Less.					
L. A. LEE.....	5	—	26	63	12.60
R. WING.....	5	—	27	63	12.60
R. YOUNGER.....	1	1	9 not out	9	9.00
C. MCGREGOR.....	1	—	9	9	9.00
R. MOORE.....	3	—	22	23	7.66
J. MANN.....	2	—	13	13	6.50
G. TAYLOR.....	2	1	5 not out	5	5.00
S. A. PEARCE.....	5	—	10	24	4.80
E. STONEBRIDGE.....	3	1	6 not out	7	3.50
A. FINDLAY-GUNN.....	3	1	3	6	3.00
A. EDWARDS.....	2	1	2	2	2.00
E. W. GALE.....	4	—	6	8	2.00
A. MILLER.....	2	—	4	4	2.00
A. WISEMAN.....	3	—	4	4	1.33
G. C. STEDMAN.....	1	—	1	1	1.00
J. SECKER.....	1	—	1	1	1.00

NOTE.—The above averages include the scores of 17 of the 20 matches played. It has not been possible to obtain the results of the other three matches from the teams played, owing to the loss of our own scoring book containing the results of the earlier matches of the season.

ROYAL GARDENS CRICKET CLUB, KEW.

BOWLING ANALYSIS, SEASON 1930.

More than 30 overs.

Name	Overs	Maidens.	Runs	Wickets	Percentage
T. A. ARNOLD.....	82.4	12	163	45	3.62
W. TAYLOR.....	104	24	185	27	6.85
R. WING.....	34	2	98	11	8.90
C. BATE.....	42	11	114	10	11.60

Less than 30 overs.

J. WILDING.....	2	—	4	2	2.00
L. A. LEE.....	10	—	38	8	4.75
J. HAYDEN.....	3	—	11	2	5.50
W. BATES.....	4	—	12	2	6.00
R. MOORE.....	11.5	2	39	6	6.50
G. C. STEDMAN.....	17	2	59	9	6.55
P. E. BOYCE.....	3	—	16	2	8.00
A. WISEMAN.....	8	—	18	2	9.00
H. T. DAVIS.....	20	3	68	5	13.60
H. DAVIS (Merton).....	9	1	38	2	19.00
J. TAYLOR.....	11	1	29	1	29.00

NOTE.—The above analyses are the results of the 13 matches played AFTER THE LOSS of the scoring book and it has not been possible to obtain the bowling analyses of the other matches played.

CATCHES—

Name.	No.	Name.	No.
J. TAYLOR.....	7	J. WILDING.....	1
T. A. ARNOLD.....	7	L. STENNING.....	1
L. A. LEE.....	4	S. A. PEARCE.....	1
C. BATE.....	4	E. W. GALE.....	1
J. HAYDEN.....	4	C. F. COATES.....	1
R. WING.....	3	E. W. STONEBRIDGE.....	1
W. TAYLOR.....	3	G. R. WILLIAMS.....	1
J. MANN.....	3	W. BATES.....	1
T. LOMAS.....	2	H. T. DAVIS.....	1

Highest Score for an innings, 164

Lowest " " " 28

Runs for—1,279. Runs against—1,139.

20 matches played

10 " won.

7 " lost.

3 " drawn.

(Signed) S. A. PEARCE,

Hon. Secretary.

Oct. 22nd, 1930.

munis, *Listera ovata*, numerous grasses and two species of *Geraniums*. We enjoyed an exceedingly good tea at the Jolly Farmer Inn, where a scrutiny of the visitors' book revealed the names of many Kewites who had patronized the Inn on rambles of other days.

Refreshed and rested, the party continued onwards to Cutmill Ponds where *Drosera rotundifolia*, *Erica Tetralix*, *Potentilla palustris*, *Eriophorum angustifolium* and *Utricularia minor* were found in abundance, while the parasitic *Cuscuta Epithymum* was found growing on *Erica cinerea*. The trip was an exceedingly enjoyable one, the weather ideal and the views from the Hog's Back calling forth comments of admiration from all who were present.

The whole day outing to Milford-on-Sea was once again under the able guidance of Dr. W. B. Turrill, and a party of 16 (including two visitors) left Kew by motor coach at 6.30 a.m. At Hartley Row (Hants.) a halt was made for refreshments, and while these were being prepared many specimens were collected in the neighbouring meadows. After this early "refresher" we continued our journey and reached Milford at 9.15. Collecting began immediately, and we followed the usual route along the salt marshes to Hurst Castle. Shortly after passing the Castle we partook of a picnic lunch, and such a trip in ideal weather could not have been complete without "a dip in the briny."

We returned along the shingle beach and botanized around some freshwater ponds and in adjoining meadows, before partaking of tea in the village of Milford. The usual maritime plants were found and collected, with the exception of *Geranium purpureum*, which was seen but not gathered, owing to its increasing rarity.

On the return journey, a halt was made at Romsey, when a visit was made to the historic castle. Winchester Cathedral was also hurriedly visited and proved a place of much interest. Kew was not reached until 11 p.m., when a tired but happy party voted the outing a very enjoyable one, to which the weather had been exceptionally kind.

For the evening ramble through the Queen's Cottage Grounds we were extremely fortunate in having Dr. O. Stapf as conductor, assisted by Mr. E. Nelves. On this occasion an unusual method of collecting was adopted. Members gathered their specimens and then Dr. Stapf not only named them, but explained in detail the distinguishing characteristics of the varied genera. In all 16 grasses were found, and other plants included *Linaria Cymbalaria* and *Tragopogon pratensis*.

It is gratifying to record the increasing interest that is being displayed in the British Botany Club, which interest is doubtless to be attributed to the annual award of the Kew Guild Dümmer Memorial Prize.

T. A. ARNOLD,

Hon. Secretary. 1930.

FOOTBALL CLUB ANNUAL REPORT.

SEASON 1929-30.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Sports Club held in the Library during April, 1929, the following were elected as officials of the Football Club for the season 1929-30: Mr. Hewitson, Capt.; Mr. McGregor, Vice-Capt.; Mr. Lomas, Hon. Sec.; Mr. Rudd, Committeeman; the full Committee consisting of the above together with the Hon. General Secretary, Mr. Arnold, and the Chairman, Mr. Edwards.

During the summer there were the usual doubts as to whether the Club would be able to run and fulfil its obligations, in view of this it gives me great pleasure to state that the Club played all the 16 matches arranged except one, which was cancelled owing to adverse weather conditions, and on the whole has had a very successful season in every way.

At the beginning of the season the Committee decided that, as far as possible, it would be their intention to select the best team for every game, but at the same time to try and give all those who were interested in the Club and willing to play a game whenever possible; in this respect it is worthy of note that 28 members have turned out during the season.

Mr. Younger has turned out for every match; Messrs. Hewitson, McGregor and Moore for 14; Mr. Stedman for 13; Messrs. Coales and Arnold for 11; and Messrs. Lomas and Findlay-Gunn for 10.

Of the 15 games played, 10 were at home, of which 6 were won and 4 lost; 5 away, 2 of which were won and 3 lost, making a total of 15 played, 8 won, 7 lost, 39 goals for 30 against.

The highest goal scorer was Mr. Pearce with 6; whilst Messrs. McGregor and Coales scored 5 each; and Messrs. Boyce and Gordon 4. Mr. Gordon having the distinction of scoring his 4 goals in one match.

For the away games visits were made to Hyde Park, Wisley, Farnham Chase, Cliveden and Aldenham.

Nearly every match was very keenly contested, which has made the season hard and strenuous from a playing standpoint, happily serious injuries have not been common, though the Club lost the services of Mr. L. A. Lee through an accident to an old injury in his leg in the first match of the season.

In every game the Gardens have put up a good show, with the exception of the match with Cliveden at home, when on this occasion we were undoubtedly over-played and outclassed, losing by 6-1. Our best displays have been against St. Luke's (home) 2-1, Wisley (away) 2-1, Farnham Chase (away) 7-1, and North Sheen Athletic (home) 1-2.

The visits to Wisley, Farnham and Cliveden were very enjoyable, the matches being well fought on each occasion, after which we were entertained to tea by our opponents.

At Aldenham we lost 3-2, though leading at half-time by 2-0. After being used to a fairly respectable pitch in the Old Deer Park, we were badly handicapped at Aldenham by the state of the ground, which was simply a quagmire, however, our opponents certainly deserved their win for the terrifically fast pace they set up in the second half, such proving too much for us to cope against on the heavy ground.

Naturally we have had our share of ill-luck during the season, notably on the occasion of our game with Hyde Park (away), Kew Assoc. (home), and North Sheen Ath. (home) when adverse decisions lost us these games, after we had had by far the best of the match from a football standpoint. It seems strange that against the latter team at home we gave by general consent our finest display of the season, playing fast, clever football for the whole 90 minutes and against a team who, at that time, were in the running for honours in the Richmond League, and though again leading at half-time by 1-0 we lost in the end 2-1, by goals very strongly open to question.

These incidents of ill-fortune are noted here just to show that with that little bit of luck that counts in football, our record for this season, though good now, would have been much better.

I don't think the game with Cliveden (away) will ever be forgotten by Kew men who took part in it. The night before the match we had all been to the Annual Social and Dance, which did not finish till 1 o'clock a.m. The effect of the evening's enjoyment upon the football team was very soon in evidence when the game started the following day, after 15 minutes' play the team had "shot its bolt"; the dancing and "light" liquid refreshment of the Annual had taken its toll! Though we lost this game 3-1, in view of the above and the fact that we had only 10 men in the second half (Mr. Moore having to retire through receiving a rather nasty cut on the mouth in a heavy accidental collision with an opponent) it was a fine performance to hold off the fast moving Cliveden team during the period and keep the score as it was at half-time, 3-1. Though every man played for all he was worth, and it is not the practice to single out individuals, this game will be long remembered for the excellent goal-keeping of Mr. G. Stedman for Kew. In the second half he stood between Cliveden and a dozen goals, giving a brilliant exhibition of goal-keeping and showing wonderful anticipation, which was loudly applauded by the Cliveden team and spectators when the match was over, being freely admitted to be the finest exhibition seen on that ground.

It has been pleasing to note throughout the season that, though the eleven playing has always been different there has been definite evidence of the team spirit, every player has given of his best and worked hard for the team. There have been times naturally when

some of the team has had off days ; this is not to be wondered at considering the heavy programme of lectures throughout the winter, also duty and other calls on players' time.

During the season the Club have lost the services of a fine supporter in Mr. Jarman, who has taken up an appointment in America. At all times he was only too pleased to act in any capacity he could, as player, linesman or referee ; in the latter role he turned out many times. Messrs. Rudd, Hildyard and Boyce also have gone, three others who were always ready to turn out, or do what they could for the Club.

Since the end of the season and during the summer we have lost three really good players in Messrs. Moore, McGregor and Stedman, who turned out regularly and played many fine games for us during the season. There is only one note of regret in what has been a successful season, and that is the very poor support from the rest of the Gardens, who could not even come along to Old Deer Park where we play our home matches.

To those few regular supporters, however, who have followed us at home and away fixtures, the Committee offer their sincere thanks for their moral support, as also to all the players, who in some cases have turned out at times unsuited to themselves, and to those who in any way have assisted the Club in any capacity.

T. LOMAS,

Hon. Secretary. 1929-30.

SWIMMING CLUB REPORT, 1930.

At the Annual General Meeting held in the Library on April 1st, 1930, the following members were elected to hold office for the season : Captain, E. Hewitson ; Vice-Captain and Secretary, B. J. Moran ; Committee Members, A. Wilson, L. A. Lee, and A. Findlay-Gunn.

The 1930 Swimming Season, although not so successful as the 1929 session in so far as the number of members, was nevertheless a very enjoyable one. Swimming practices commenced early in the season, and many members were to be found at the Richmond Baths on Friday evenings.

Later in the season, practice was started in the Thames and a good attendance was recorded on most evenings. Although the weather was fairly warm, the water was cold, and at first it was deemed advisable to swim only short distances. As an additional precaution, Messrs. Robinson and Davis were in attendance on all practice nights with a boat.

As the season advanced, the whole mile course was swum a number of times, and by the date fixed for the race, the entrants had become fairly proficient.

The Annual Mile Championship was held on Tuesday, July 29th, and this year a new course was decided upon, that from Richmond Lock to Isleworth Gate. Messrs. C. P. Raffill and A. Edwards acted as judges, and Mr. J. Mingay as time-keeper. There were ten entrants for the race, but unfortunately Gordon, Hoare and McKenzie were unable to start. Owing to some misunderstanding with the authorities the swimmers had to wait for some time on the bank for the launch to take them to the starting point, and with a cold wind blowing they were chilled before they entered the water.

A fairly clean start was made, and Findlay-Gunn and Hayden shot ahead immediately. At the Isleworth Ferry, on the bend of the river, Gibbins forged ahead to take the lead, which he kept until the end. At times, however, both Findlay-Gunn and Hayden drew up near to the leader, only to fall back again, and at the end a sharp struggle ensued between these two swimmers for the second place, which the former secured by one second.

The times and placings were as follows :

1st	B. C. Gibbins	..	..	15 mins.	
2nd	A. Findlay-Gunn	..	..	16	1 second
3rd	J. Hayden	..	..	16	2 seconds
4th	B. J. Moran	..	..	16	30
5th	E. Hewitson	..	..	16	32
6th	L. Wilkins	..	..	17	15
7th	F. Folk	..	..	18	

The Annual Swimming Dance was held in the Kew Pavilion after the race, when Mrs. Chipp kindly distributed the prizes to the first three and the Silver Challenge Cup to the winner.

B. C. Gibbins was made Secretary when B. J. Moran left Kew at the end of the year.

B. C. GIBBINS,
Hon. Secretary.



THE LECTURES, 1929-30.

- Physics and Chemistry.** Lecturer, Dr. P. Haas. 25 Lectures. Maximum marks, 100. Highest aggregates: J. E. Goldsmid, 90; R. Moore, 88; L. G. Atkins, 85; T. Lomas, 85; P. Montgomery, 85.
- Plant Pathology (Fungi).** Lecturer, Mr. A. D. Cotton, F.L.S. 25 Lectures. Maximum marks, 250. Highest aggregates: J. H. Turner, 230; W. Porter, 225; A. S. Wilson, 221.
- Genetics.** Lecturer, Dr. W. B. Turrill, M.Sc., F.L.S. 10 Lectures. Maximum marks, 100. Highest aggregates: R. E. Moore, 100; J. H. Turner, 100; H. R. Cocker, 99; H. M. Holloway, 99; L. G. Atkins, 98; W. Porter, 98.
- General Botany.** Lecturer, Mr. V. Summerhayes. 36 Lectures. Maximum marks, 270. Highest aggregates: J. E. Goldsmid, 259; R. E. Moore, 255; T. Lomas, 249.
- Soils and Manures.** Lecturer, Dr. Richardson. 10 Lectures. Maximum marks, 100. Highest aggregates: W. Porter, 96; J. H. Turner, 96; A. J. Brown, 91; A. S. Wilson, 90.
- Advanced Systematic Botany.** Lecturer, Dr. T. A. Sprague, F.L.S. 20 Lectures. Maximum marks, 100. Highest aggregates: W. Porter, 95; J. H. Turner, 95; S. A. Pearce, 89; A. J. Brown, 87; J. Parsons, 87.
- Geology.** Lecturer, Dr. H. H. Thomas. 10 Lectures. Maximum marks, 100. Highest aggregates: A. F. Gunn, 100; J. H. F. Saint, 100; L. G. Atkins, 90; J. D. Gordon, 90; T. Lomas, 90.
- Plant Pathology (Insect Pests).** Lecturer, Dr. Munro. 10 Lectures. Maximum marks, 100. Highest aggregates: A. S. Wilson, 84; J. Parsons, 82; C. Bate, 81; W. Porter, 81.
- Physiology and Ecology.** Lecturer, Dr. W. B. Turrill, M.Sc., F.L.S. 12 Lectures. Maximum Marks, 100. Highest aggregates: R. E. Moore, 100; L. G. Atkins, 99; J. E. Goldsmid, 99; J. H. F. Saint, 95; R. W. Younger, 95.
- Economic Botany.** Lecturer, Mr. W. Dallimore. 20 Lectures and Demonstrations. Maximum marks, 150. Highest aggregates: J. H. Turner, 150; A. S. Wilson, 145; S. A. Pearce, 141.
- Plant Pathology (Fungi) (1930).** Lecturer, Mr. A. D. Cotton, F.L.S. 25 Lectures. Seventeen students attended and the following obtained distinction in this course: J. E. Goldsmid and R. H. Mason.
- Physics and Chemistry (1930).** Lecturer, Dr. P. Haas. 25 Lectures. E. W. Gale obtained distinction, while 27 students attended the course.
- Economic Botany (1930).** Lecturer, Mr. W. Dallimore. 10 Lectures. Thirty-seven students attended this course to the satisfaction of the Lecturer.

THE MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.
1929-1930 SESSION.

THE Annual General Meeting was held in the Garden Library on September 9th, 1929, when Mr. Coutts presided over a moderate attendance of sub-foremen and student-gardeners. The Chairman emphasised the valuable advantages offered by the meetings of the Society, and expressed the hope that all members would enter freely into the discussions following the reading of papers, etc.

Mr. Coutts accepted office as Chairman for the session 1929-30, while Mr. A. Edwards was elected Vice-Chairman; Mr. J. Stewart was appointed Hon. Secretary, with Mr. E. Hewitson as Assistant Hon. Secretary; Messrs. W. Porter, T. Lomas and B. J. Moran were elected as members of the Executive Committee.

During the session 22 meetings were held, and no difficulty was experienced in persuading members to read papers; 20 lectures of the series being given by the students themselves.

The Director gave the session an excellent beginning with a very interesting talk on "Plant Wanderings," while later in the season Dr. T. F. Chipp related, to a very full gathering, his experiences in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, illustrated by an excellent series of lantern slides.

All the papers read before the Society proved that the speakers had an intimate and practical knowledge of their respective subjects, many of which touched on matters which had not been discussed at meetings in previous years. A glance at the syllabus will show the wide range of subjects discussed.

The average attendance, while being lower than in previous sessions, was 27.5, while members entering into discussions averaged nine per meeting.

Mr. Coutts watched over the deliberations of the Society throughout the session, and it is of interest to record that this is the 18th consecutive session during which he has held office. His advice and help on all occasions, with his readiness to explain many points at some length, proved very valuable indeed to all members.

The Hooker Prize was awarded on the unanimous vote of the members to Mr. J. H. Stewart, and the Society's Prize to Mr. E. Hewitson.

During the summer months an outing was arranged as in former years, the venue being Hyde Park, where the party, under the able leadership of Mr. T. Hay, M.V.O., V.M.H., the ever-popular Superintendent, visited the Propagating Department.

J. H. STEWART. 1930.

SYLLABUS.

1929.		
Sept.	9—Annual Meeting and Election of Officers	
Oct.	14—"Plant Wanderings".....	Dr. A. W. Hill, F.R.S., etc.
"	21—Birmingham Botanic Gardens.....	Mr. C. Bate
"	28—Sweet Peas and Roses under Glass...	Mr. T. Lomas
Nov.	4—Kirstenbosch Botanic Gardens.....	Mr. Holloway
"	11—Vine Culture.....	Mr. Lake
"	18—New Zealand Flora and some of its Peculiarities.....	Mr. Jones
"	25—Earthworms.....	Mr. Goldsmid
Dec.	2—Alpines.....	Mr. Parsons
"	9—Tomatoes.....	Mr. Pinnion
"	16—Roses.....	Mr. Robinson
1930.		
Jan.	6—The Anglo-Egyptian Sudan (*).....	Major T. F. Chipp, M.C., etc.
"	13—Hardy Fruits.....	Mr. Burton
"	20—Melons.....	Mr. Montgomery
"	27—Aquatics (*)	Mr. Cocker
Feb.	3—Peaches and Nectarines	Mr. R. W. Younger
"	10—The Construction and Care of Lawns, Tennis Courts and Bowling Greens	Mr. E. W. Studley
"	17—The History and Evolution of the Honey Bee.....	Mr. Richardson
"	24—The Cultivation of Mushrooms.....	Mr. L. Atkins
Mar.	3—The Culture of Carnations and Mal-maisons.....	Mr. Mann
"	10—Potatoes.....	Mr. R. E. Moore
"	17—Landscape Architecture.....	Mr. A. Findlay-Gunn
"	24—Rock Garden Construction.....	Mr. Davis
"	31—Annual Report.	

* Lantern Lecture.

KEW NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GARDENS DURING 1930.—During the year under review, 950 separate consignments of living plants, seeds, grafts, etc., were received at the Gardens. This number is the highest recorded in the history of the Gardens. Special mention should be made of a notable collection of Orchids, chiefly *Dendrobiums*, collected in Nepal, India, and which were the gift of H.M. the King. The Arnold Arboretum continue to send large consignments of trees and shrubs, either as plants, cuttings, grafts or seeds, and consignments this past season have been more varied and in greater numbers following Mr. Osborn's visit to the United States during the summer months. An unusually fine collection of native plants was received in excellent condition from Dr. L. Cockayne, of Wellington, New Zealand, while a smaller, yet interesting, collection was received earlier in the year from Mr. A. V. Giblin, of Hobart, Tasmania, these resulting in the re-introduction to the Kew collections of several interesting plants from the Southern Hemisphere. Singapore Botanic Gardens successfully shipped four wardian cases of plants, chiefly exotic ferns, including *Platycerium Ridleyi*, *P. biforme* and *Ophioglossum pendulum* to Kew, where

these are now thriving. Mention, too, should be made of a remarkable collection which was received from the Munich Botanic Gardens of ferns and stove plants, including *Platynerium* spp. and *Dischidia* spp. new to the Kew collections.

A notable collection of plants collected in the Union of South Africa by Mr. J. R. Long, of Port Elizabeth, was brought home by Mr. J. Hutchinson on the conclusion of his South African tour. It is pleasing to record that Kewites generally, in all parts of the world, continue to take a lively interest in the introduction of plants as additions to, or to supplement, the ever-increasing Kew collections.

VISITORS to Kew during the coming months will note the complete reconstruction of the Economic Houses, on the site of the old houses which were demolished by H.M. Office of Works during the past summer and autumn. The new structure is built entirely of Teak, neither steel nor iron has been employed in its construction; it is 9 ft. longer, 18 ft. wider and 6 ft. higher than the original houses, and it is anticipated that plants will be able to be grown to dimensions such as they would obtain under natural conditions. The building has been divided transversely into two sections, the larger for tropical subjects, the smaller for more temperate plants. Central beds have been prepared and in these the larger species will be accommodated. The glass partition separating the range of houses from the Victoria Regia House (No. 10) has also been removed.

Running the entire length of the new house, and on its Southern side, is an annexe, 78 ft. in length, and having a width of 8 ft., which is to be used for the cultivation of *Pelargonium* species which were formerly housed in the Cape House (No. 7). The aspect of the new house is more desirable for the cultivation of such subjects, as facing South more direct light will be available during the winter months.

Other features, which may not be available to the notice of the ordinary visitor, are two sunk span-roofed pits which have been built in the Melon Yard to replace the old lean-to frames. These pits are each 80 ft. in length and 10 ft. in width, and they will be used to house bedding plants, which will now be able to receive attention such as was not possible when the old frames were in use, particularly during frosty weather.

The extension to the Rock Garden referred to in last year's *Journal* (Vol. IV, pp. 779-780) has now been completed, while during October the section wherein *Primula* species in particular are planted, was rebuilt, drained and fresh soil put down. In the newly-built portion of the Rock Garden a narrow stream has been made which now practically encircles the central portion, and will enable a greater variety of marsh and waterside plants to be grown. The weather conditions during 1930 were very favourable to plant life, and the newer portions of the rockery already have an established appearance.

The Pagoda has been re-painted with its usual pillar-box red and blue, while the metal spire-like structure which crowns it has been gilded.

The usual repainting has been carried out on the various green-houses, etc., requiring attention, while the interior of Museum 1 has been re-decorated.

Visitors, generally, to Kew will view with much apprehension the enormous new gasometer which overshadows the Palace and the end of the Broad Walk ; in fact it is difficult to escape from the dark-looking monstrosity. There is, perhaps, one ray of hope and satisfaction, for it is learned on the highest authority that the powers-that-be at Kew are to have something to say in deciding the final painting of the present blot on the landscape. Kew and the district are, however, not alone in possessing this unwanted neighbour, a vast container already exists at Richmond, while Southall and Harrow, to mention a couple of other places, have had them erected on the premises of the Gas, Light and Coke Co. Still, it is presumed that this is Progress !

THE IMPERIAL MYCOLOGICAL INSTITUTE have moved their headquarters from the two old Georgian Houses at 17 and 19, Kew Green, to a spacious and imposing building in Ferry Lane, immediately behind the Herbarium. An interesting feature of the new building is the carving on the key stones over the first floor windows which typifies the work which is carried on within the building itself.

IN THE 1931 NEW YEAR HONOURS LIST, the Director was appointed a Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George. We extend to Sir Arthur our congratulations on the honour thus bestowed upon him in recognition of his services to Kew and the Empire generally.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, during 1930, was 1,544,212—an increase of 374,312 persons compared with the previous year. The greatest monthly attendance was during June when 381,160 visitors were registered ; the highest Sunday record was 50,433 on June 8th, while the figures on June 9th were 92,450, a record single day attendance. The lowest monthly attendance was during December, when 17,596 visitors entered the Gardens, the smallest Sunday attendance was on February 2nd with 828 visitors, and on November 28th only 15 persons passed through the turnstiles.

On Students' days 65,100 persons paid for admission or were admitted as ticket-holders ; on other week-days 790,767 visitors were recorded, making a total week-day attendance of 855,867 persons. On Sundays 688,345 persons passed through the turnstiles.

On Students' days nearly 5,000 school children visited the Gardens in addition to those who entered as ordinary visitors on free days. The charge for admission of invalid chairs was abolished on October 1st. On non-paying days a chair, occupant and attendant are now admitted free, and on Students' days the total charge is 6d. (for the occupant), the chair and attendant being admitted free; 8,928 perambulators were admitted by payment in addition to the many season ticket holders. Up to and including September 30th, 1,185 bath chairs were admitted on payment, and more than 20,000 camera tickets were issued.

STONE SEAT IN KEW ARBORETUM.—Enquiries are from time to time made as to the stone seat among the beech trees towards the Southern end of the Gardens. The seat, which was placed in the position it occupies in February, 1904, was presented to Kew by a group of friends of the late Miss Cassell, who was for twenty years Lady Superintendent of the College for Working Women. It was provided as a memorial by past and present students of the college, to express their sense of Miss Cassell's unique personality. "That it should be a resting-place in sight of sky and trees in such an altogether beautiful place as Kew, and within reach of working Londoners, seems, in accordance with her life spent in working for the working poor, what she would like," is a sentence which occurs in a letter on the subject, written by Mrs. Maclehose, at whose instance the memorial was erected, to her brother, Mr. G. Macmillan. In the same letter Mrs. Maclehose says: "We should like some motto or words carved on it, but no obviously memorial words—no names."

The actual inscription (from Robert Browning) is:

Life—the gift

Let us take hands and help this day we are alive together

Look up on high and thank the God of all.

The designer was a Mr. L. A. Turner.

COMPLETE SETS OF THE KEW GUILD JOURNAL.—Should any member of the Guild be desirous of acquiring a complete set of the Kew Guild Journals (1893 to 1931 inclusive), a letter addressed to the Secretary, stating what is offered for these, will receive immediate attention. It should be pointed out that the early numbers are now practically unobtainable, and a complete set is often much sought after. Enquiries have often been made for these, but the opportunity of securing the complete series seldom arises.

FUTURE ISSUES OF THE KEW GUILD JOURNAL.—The Secretary-Editor takes this opportunity of requesting members to send in articles and notes of interest for inclusion in future issues. Reminiscences of Kew in former years will be especially welcome.

The co-operation of all members is essential if the standard of the *Journal* is to be maintained, and it is very desirable that contributions should be as varied as possible. Items of interest from home as well as overseas will be equally acceptable. Four volumes of our *Journal* have now been completed and the fifth now commences with the present number. Kewites make it your business to assist the Secretary-Editor in his task of compiling the issues of the future! If you have previously submitted something of interest, do so again; if you haven't (and there are a great many in this category!) sit down and write something now, it may be the means of renewing "auld acquaintance."

KEW METEOROLOGICAL NOTES, 1930.

1930	Rainfall in Inches.	Temperature.	
		Maximum.	Minimum (on grass)
January	2.65	60°	20°
February	0.52	51°	19°
March	1.43	61°	16.5°
April	1.96	69°	22°
May	3.05	74°	29°
June	1.59	83°	30°
July	2.15	82°	38°
August	2.44	95°	34°
September	2.41	82°	35°
October	0.98	67°	23°
November	3.86	58°	17°
December	1.95	53°	22°
Total Rainfall ..	24.99	—	—

The weather during 1930 was very favourable to plant growth out of doors, generally speaking, though January was ushered in with severe gales. The spring was unusually mild and free from severe frosts, and, with the exception of hot and dry periods in June and August, the weather generally was inclined to be showery during the summer. A cool spell prevailed during the third week of July. At no period, however, did the Kew lawns present a parched appearance, and the crop of hay gathered in the Gardens was quite up to the average. The autumn months were not cold or stormy. Fogs were not prevalent so much during November, but December had many more than usual, often very dense, too.

ERNEST HENRY WILSON

(IN MEMORIAM).

The man who learned to read God's writing on the earth
 From East to West, from pole to pole, from shore to shore,
 Now takes a well earned rest, on Nature's kindly breast,
 Encircled by her loving arms forevermore.

He who has known this great wide world of ours
 (No mortal ever knew it so well as he)
 Its artistry of forest, fruit and flowers
 Now sees it from across the unknown sea.

Gay, tender-hearted and clever,
 Witty and terse to the end,—
 Thanks we should render forever,
 Thanks to have had such a friend.
 Bright be the blossoms about him,
 Soft be the singing of birds ;
 We who have known him to love him,
 Loved him too deeply for words.

WALTER GARDNER KENDALL

WEDDING BELLS.

-
- Mr. Kenneth E. Toms to Miss Dorothy Rogers King, at Cheddar,
 Somerset, on March 22nd, 1930.
- Mr. L. Durchasek, to Miss Grace Ellard, at Lynn, Mass., U.S.A.,
 on June 29th, 1930.
- Mr. Wilfred C. Ibbett, to Miss Catherine M. Fields, at St. Mary's,
 St. Neots, Hunts., on July 27th, 1930.
- Mr. William G. Rutter to Miss Ruby N. Hewett, at St. Edmund's
 Church, Assington, Colchester, Essex, on September 8th,
 1930.
- Mr. Jack Cheek to Miss Elise M. Warren, at Emmanuel Church,
 West Dulwich, on November 22nd, 1930.
- Mr. Hedley H. Jarman to Miss Nelly Johns (of Kew), at St. Paul's
 Church, New York, U.S.A., on November 29th, 1930.
- Mr. Ernest W. Studley to Miss Gill, at Holy Trinity Church,
 Twickenham, Middlesex, on March 14th, 1931.
- Mr. James Robbie to Miss Margaret J. Abercrombie, at Balmoral,
 N.B.
- Mr. George W. Page to Miss Phyllis Parker, at Leeds, Yorks.

KEWITES AS AUTHORS.

THE COMPLETE BOOK OF GARDENING, with Messrs. J. Coutts, A. Edwards and A. Osborn as joint authors, is yet another publication by Messrs. Ward, Lock and Co., Ltd., that can very rightly be described as a standard work. The wide, practical knowledge of its authors needs no commenting upon in these pages, and the wide field covered in the course of the volume's 768 pages, is such as to be of great value even to the man-in-the-street as well as to the professional gardener. Published at 15/- (net), the cost is within the reach of all, and no garden enthusiast should be without this veritable encyclopædia of the horticultural world.

To attempt to describe at length the many sections would occupy considerable space, and reference can only be made to a few of them. Commencing with garden planning, tools and appliances, general operations, soils, manures, draining and levelling, garden construction, propagation, flower gardens, bedding plants, cultural methods, and other important subjects are dealt with at length. Later chapters are devoted solely to sections on trees and shrubs, climbing plants, rock gardening, water and marsh gardens, hardy ferneries, and the wild garden. The humble window-box has its own chapter, and plants suitable for ordinary indoor home cultivation are not neglected. Frames, hot-beds, and the greenhouse call for special reference and their outstanding value is specially referred to.

An extremely useful section of the work, occupying more than 220 pages, is described as an A.B.C. of Plants, referring as it does to the detailed cultural methods, with descriptions of well-known varieties, etc., of nearly 700 flowering plants, ornamental and flowering shrubs and trees.

The kitchen and herb gardens are treated in detail, and fruit culture, too, under varied conditions has its section. Diseases, pests and remedies, as well as insect friends, are discussed at length, and the many practical hints are worthy of attention.

The legal problems of gardening are given a special chapter, contributed by Mr. F. G. Underhay, Barrister-at-Law, and herein one may be much enlightened on points such as, What are fixtures? Nuisances, Right of Trespass, etc.

A gardener's calendar is not overlooked, and a very full index concludes a work that reflects much credit on the knowledge of its authors, and the care taken in its compilation. Throughout, the volume is profusely illustrated by 16 colour plates by well-known artists, and 80 pages of photographic illustrations of the principal gardening operations, flowers, shrubs, fruit, vegetables, insect friends and foes, etc.

The whole work is invaluable as a book of reference, is comprehensive, practical and wholly up-to-date.

(The Complete Book of Gardening, by J. Coutts, A. Edwards and A. Osborn, published by Messrs. Ward, Lock and Co., Ltd., London, price 15s. net, 768 pages, 16 coloured plates, 80 pages of photographic illustrations).

(E.G.D.)

Those who reside in our towns would be well-advised to procure the useful little handbook "THE TOWN GARDEN," by Mr. Richard Sudell, the Hon. Secretary of the National Gardens Guild, which is published by Messrs. Ward, Lock and Co., Ltd., London, at the nominal price of 2/6. The handy volume contains many plans and photographs, together with lists of plants and trees, and many useful chapters are devoted to problems that often confront the town dweller.

WHERE THEY ARE AND WHAT THEY ARE DOING.

DR. T. R. SIM, F.L.S., who left Kew in January, 1879, writes from Pietermaritzburg, Natal :

" I have lately received the *Journal* of the Kew Guild and see that it contains the notices of the passing of two of my old masters, Sir W. T. Thiselton Dyer and Mr. Wm. Falconer, and also my old friend, Mr. Harry Holley, of Queenstown, South Africa, and my lifelong friend, Mr. James Leighton, of King Williamstown. I myself am getting now to be one of the few " real old ones " of the Kew fraternity, and so I must expect to hear of old friends passing one by one. I am sending you by this mail the September, 1930, number of the " Subtropical Gardener," which contains a sketch of my life history, which is correctly recorded except the statement that I spent my early Natal life in Durban. I never resided there, though I had much to do with the town, indeed, my residence of 28 years in Natal has all been in 'Maritzburg, and I expect will always be now, for I am 72 years old, and have been a rheumatic invalid for some years. I have been 42 years in South Africa and a good deal has happened in that time, though being non-political I have kept out of the liveliest parts of it.

My recollections of Kew are still very pleasant, though I belonged to the period when it was purely botanical rather than inclined to be horticultural. I was there, I believe, when Sir W. T. Thiselton-Dyer was in charge, at least I have recollections of him personally and with his coat off, too, pruning the trees and shrubs in the Economic House. We had a Mutual Improvement Society even in those early days, and I still treasure a letter of thanks on my resignation from the office of Hon. Secretary, signed by the then Chairman, Mr. W. Fox. I do not know whether or not that is the Society which still exists, but it had an auspicious commencement in those early days. When I left Kew I went to America, where I was under Falconer, Dr. Asa Gray, Dr. Goodale and Dr. Chas. Sargent at the Harvard University Garden, Cambridge, Mass., and was afterwards employed privately by Mr. O. W. Peabody, of Boston.

Concerning my life out here, it was mostly in the service of the Government, formerly in Cape Colony and later in Natal, while some time later still I served for a short period in the Mozambique Province of Portuguese East Africa, but since 1908 I have been a private nurseryman, dealing solely in timber tree transplants, only

retiring from active business when too infirm to take charge of it longer. I have seen the Eastern Cape Colony, as well as Natal, transformed from bare pasture lands into thriving forest in many parts, and in other areas changed from grasslands into wattle or sugar plantations. Kew men were in high demand when I came out, and even to-day still are, though there is an air of "self-supply" becoming more and more prevalent in this, as in other professions, and a Kew man has now to show his ability and assert his knowledge immediately on arrival to hold his own. The universities have much to do with this state of affairs, turning out as they do, larger numbers of trained young men than the country is ready to absorb. This, however, is a state of affairs that rights itself as time hurries on. When I arrived here, one had to be everything, and to know everything, and to do everything, but now-a-days knowledge is much more specialised, and the demand in South Africa is for young gardeners who are specialists in landscape work, and who, at the same time, are able and willing to maintain their individuality in any position. Municipal posts are generally secured and are usually well worth keeping despite the many short-comings of individual members of the various councils. Nurseries are almost entirely managed by the owners and one man, too many are not wanted in South African horticulture. The Forestry Departments train their own men, who have to begin right at the very beginning. Thus, South Africa is not now so sure a stand for Kew men as it was, and still the man who knows enough soon finds his level, especially if he can afford to hang out a little or only to show what he can do.

I was at Chiswick under A. F. Barron, but was recognised as going to Kew later and so was allowed the use of the Board room even then. We had as lecturers, Sir J. Hooker, Mr. Oliver, Mr. Baker, Mr. N. E. Brown (still to the fore in the botanical world), Mr. Whipple, and one or two others. George Nicholson was everybody's friend, though he was under Mr. John Smith, the Curator. The whole of the present staff is new since my day, and even out here many who arrived before or after me have "passed on,"—to mention only French, Bean, Holley, Leighton, and others. I still occasionally see Wylie, Marriott, Newberry, Mr. and Mrs. Kidd, and others not too far away. If often seems to me the one defect of the Kew Guild *Journal* is, that it does not give annually a list of those members who are already dead, when they died, and where. As an example of the need for this, I quote my desire to know whether a certain Kewite of renown still visits India annually, yet on consulting the current issue of the *Journal* I find no trace of him and have to trace back issue by issue only to find he has been dead several years and his good work gradually forgotten.

(*Editor's Note.*—This matter has often been considered, but to do that which is desired thoroughly, a list would have to be compiled embracing all known Kewites who have died not only during the 39 years of the existence of the Kew Guild, but during the history of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, as an Establishment, altogether a formidable undertaking, a rough estimate which I would put the list to comprise some 300 or more names! Each volume contains an index and should any details be required by members in general of any particular Kewite whose name has dropped out of our Directory I shall be pleased to supply such details as are available from past issues.—E.G.D.).

I had a visit lately from Mr. A. D. Cotton and one from Mr. J. Hutchinson, and in the past, Dr. E. H. Wilson, all of whom I was glad, indeed, to see, and from whom I received first-hand information regarding Kew. As I have said, I am no longer fit to go wandering over the veldt and through forests as I used to do, nor to return visits from overseas visitors, or even out-of-town callers, and though it is an enjoyable life, thinking in the past and what has been done, and to see this country going ahead as it is, yet I can only regret that I am no longer physically capable of taking part in that advance."

(N.B.—Readers will read Dr. Sims' reminiscences with gratitude for the chance of a peep into the past, and will echo the desire so often expressed for more experiences from the pens of the older generation of Kewites wherever they may now be enjoying their years of peaceful retirement.—*Editor*).

MR. F. W. SMITH, who was well-known to Kewites of the early nineties, continues his interest in hybridising. Some years ago, when living in Weybridge, he raised many fine *Delphiniums*, but since his return to France he has paid considerable attention to breeding *Freesias*, of which he has some 30,000 in cultivation. Some idea of his success may be gauged from the fact that in 1930 he was awarded the Gold Medal at Cannes for his exhibit of *Freesias*, and this year he gained a *Prix d'Honneur (Object d'Art)* for his favourite flowers at Nice.

We heartily congratulate Mr. Smith on his successes. Kewites and others wishing to obtain *Freesias* from Mr. Smith should communicate with him at Les Ixias, Cap d'Antibes, A.M., France, for he is able and willing to dispose of many good varieties, either by the dozen or hundred, at quite reasonable prices.

MR. KANICHIRO YASHIRODA, who left Kew in May, 1926, is now engaged in a nursery business in Japan. He is able to offer fresh and reliable seeds collected in Korea and Manchuria and rare Japanese plants. Large quantities of seeds have been sent by him recently to Denmark, Austria, the United States of America, as well as to clients in the British Isles and elsewhere. Kewites who are interested would be well advised to get into direct communication with him at the following address: Messrs. K. Yashiroda, Ltd., Tonosho-Kyoku, Kagawaken, Japan.

MR. STANLEY ARDEN (1900) writes from Adelaide, South Australia:

Allow me to thank you for the *Journal*, and to compliment you on an excellent issue. I have found it full of interest and is "as cold waters to a thirsty soul." My address will be as before for the next two or three years, and afterwards, I hope, somewhere in the Old Country. Should you know of any Kewite who is contemplating trying his luck in Australia at the present time, remind him of "Punch's" advice to those about to marry, "Don't." With greetings to all old friends, and a big cheerio to the Kew Guild.

Important Notice—Wanted!!

The 1930 issue of the *Journal*, Vol. IV, No. XXXVII, was sold out almost immediately after publication and copies were sent out as usual to all Life Subscribers and Annual Subscribers whose addresses were known. It is feared, however, that some who desired to obtain this issue have been unable to. The cost of obtaining a reprint of the issue was prohibitive, and the Secretary would be glad if any members not requiring the number for future reference would notify him of their willingness to return the issue in consideration of payment for the same. Any member who did not receive a copy through oversight, other than Life Subscribers, should notify the Secretary, who will endeavour to obtain any seemingly surplus copies there may be for disposal.

THE KEW GUILD BLAZER BADGE.—Members desiring to acquire badges can obtain them either from the Secretary, The Kew Guild, 197, Kew Road, Kew, Surrey, or from Messrs. Griffiths, McAlister, Ltd., 10 and 10a, Warwick Street, Regent Street, London, W.1, providing that a remittance for 5/1½ is sent with the order. Enquiries for the official blazers should be addressed direct to the firm in question.

FIVE YEARS AFTER.

FIVE years is not a large fraction of our allotted span, and yet so much may happen in one's life in that short time. Many Kewites, I believe, regard the period immediately following their stay at Kew as the most critical. In fact, many of them spend a good deal of their rather limited spare time in discussing what they would like to do on leaving, and so on. I have debated this knotty problem with many of the stalwarts of my day; in fact, it always seemed the most interesting topic, even including the inevitable girls and the football cup final. Whatever may have been my opinion then, I am now convinced that it is the five years after which count so much, and not what one does immediately one takes off the blue apron.

Fifteen or 20 years ago the training of the average Kewite came to an abrupt end immediately he left Kew. It is so very different to-day. Now Kew is only part of our initial experience, a stepping stone to another phase of our training. In the nineties (the good old days!) Kewites were apparently older, perhaps more experienced than those of the present day. Certain it was that they were considered more able, for many of them went straight into the higher administrative posts both at home and abroad. They were the finished product, inasmuch as the training of anyone in our profession can be considered finished.

Now that is all changed. The average Kewite of to-day seeks further experience and training, and in only a few cases does he take posts similar to those taken by former Kewites. Many of these posts, of course, are no longer available, our most serious

competitor, the Public School and University trained man having scored over his more practical but less polished rival. This, of course, refers chiefly to posts abroad, but not altogether. Moreover, a new factor is arising—the Ministry of Agriculture Scholarship holder. These young men, having had a year or two's training at a University, in addition to sound practical experience, will, I am sure, prove serious rivals for available posts both at home and abroad. Faced with this keen competition, what is the present-day Kewite to do? I hesitate to attempt to answer such a question, and yet the problem is not insurmountable. Some men will obtain scholarships, and so will have an advantage over most of their competitors. A few, no doubt, will still go overseas. Personally, I have never been attracted by the apparently high salaries paid to men in the tropics, particularly to those hardy souls who have to labour truly after their own living in such delightful spots as West Africa. Nor am I envious of the dollars to be made even in Uncle Sam's country. A visit to the local talkies is enough to put one off that misguided land "Oh Yeah" !

There remain the posts at home. These may be classified into two groups: public service and private garden and nursery administration. The latter is the less important, partly because openings are fewer, but chiefly owing to lack of security. A head gardener may lose his job through no fault of his own, at any time. As I write comes the news that two large private estates are being partially closed, Melchet Court and Clivedon, with the inevitable dismissal of staffs. Can we wonder at young men forsaking this type of work for the comparatively secure posts under public authorities? I think not. The nursery trade is but a little better. There are labourers in Park Departments who are receiving considerably more in wages than the average nursery foreman, to say nothing of other advantages enjoyed by the former. I would not venture to suggest that the majority of public park labourers are in any way overpaid, but I am quite sure that in actual value for services rendered, nursery foremen earn at least three times as much. For those Kewites with capital there is doubtless money to be made in the nursery trade, but I should imagine that Kew men with capital are about as numerous as hardy flowers in January.

Now let us think for a moment, as the parsons say, of the posts available in public service. The one bright spot of our profession. Opinions differ, but I am convinced that it is here that the Kew man should definitely come into his own. We hear a good deal about competition; of the thousands of young men thirsting after jobs as Park Superintendents and so on, and yet we have only to note the men who actually obtain the available posts to see the opportunities that are waiting for the really well trained and qualified man. If Kewites are willing to obtain the necessary experience and qualifications, there should be no difficulty in securing posts, provided, of course, that they are prepared to wait. That is, perhaps, the hardest part of all. Four months in the Parks' Department of a London Borough convinced me that this

waiting period is a very dangerous one. If the prospective Parks Superintendent spends his time wisely by acquiring all the practical knowledge possible, and by studying for various examinations such as the N.D.H., this period of waiting will be a profitable one. "Heaviness may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." If, on the other hand, this time is wasted in "riotous living," it will doubtless ruin for ever the young man's chances. Thus it is that the five years after Kew are so important.

From my own brief experience I am sure that if Kewites, on leaving, will concentrate on obtaining more experience, instead of applying for any sort of job that comes along, they will eventually reap a far greater reward.

In addition to this experience, a qualification such as the N.D.H., is indispensable. Its possession, plus experience of the right type, with ordinary common sense and fair personal qualities, should definitely place the Kew man, with his institutional training, far ahead of his competitors.

We Kewites must not be content to live on tradition, or wait for some kind friend to assist us. The opportunities for promotion will be sure to occur. Let us see that we are ready to take them.

WILFRED C. IBBETT. 1931.

A KEWITE IN PERSIA.

As I am in the unenviable position of being the only Kewite in Persia, I ventured to write a short article from this part of the world in the hope that it would prove of interest to Kewites in general and more especially to those who are familiar with Middle Eastern conditions.

It was with mixed feelings that I relinquished my post at New Delhi (that vast and wonderful garden city, of which "the half has never yet been told"), to take up a position with the Anglo-Persian Oil Company at Abadan, near the Persian Gulf.

The town of Abadan has sprung up with mushroom-like rapidity during the last few years and, consequently, is only shown on very recent maps. It comprises the old native village of Abadan, the Oil Refinery (probably the largest single refinery in the world, occupying an area of about two square miles and employing 16,000 men), and the staff bungalows, etc., which increase in numbers as the refinery develops. It stands on the East bank of the River Shatt-al-Arab, which is the confluence of the Rivers Euphrates and Tigris, and is about 40 miles from the river mouth. It has a population of 680 Europeans and 35,000 "natives," who are roughly 50 per cent. Arabs and the remainder Persians. The river at this point forms the boundary between Persia and Mesopotamia. The mean annual rainfall is six inches, which occurs from November to April. The winters are cool and bracing, and the summers very hot and arid.

Two miles in a north-easterly direction, the River Bamashir flows peacefully on to the Gulf, and eight miles westward the River Koran flows into the Shatt-al-Arab, feeding the Bamashir on its way. Thus Abadan stands on an island, a flat expanse of salty clay only a few feet above sea level. Unlike the majority of eastern rivers, these streams are deep, wide and slow-moving bodies of water, suggestive of power and wealth, and the "natives" had taken full advantage of these features by planting up the banks thickly with date palms (*Phoenix dactylifera*) for many miles, in days gone by. In the shade of these palm groves, one finds mulberries, peaches, apricots, vines, figs, apples (in name only), *Cordia Myxa*, *Zizyphus Jujuba*, etc. Natural flora is almost non-existent.

I have not had an opportunity of visiting northern or central Persia yet, but from all accounts it is a totally different country compared with the south, in that it is mountainous, comparatively cool and possessed (in certain localities) of quite a "respectable," if not luxuriant, flora.

In the capitals, I understand, remains are still to be seen in various stages of decay, or semi-preservation, of the Old Mogul gardens which originated in Persia, and were later reproduced in Northern India. The following extracts from "Gardens of the Great Moguls," by C. M. Villiers Stuart, is of interest :

"But it was from the North, from Central Asia and Persia that the splendid garden traditions were introduced into India, taking root there under the various Mohammedan conquerors and developing into a native style which culminated in the beautiful Kashmir gardens, built by the Mogul Emperor, Jahangir and his Persian wife, the Empress Nur-Jahon."

"Nearly two centuries later, in Persia and Turkestan, the art of building irrigated gardens was very fully developed and had behind it an ancient history and long unbroken traditions. Japan is always thought of as the country where flowers and gardens play the largest part in the national life and arts, while the parallel case of Persia is almost forgotten. This is not surprising when one reflects that in Japan, garden-culture flourishes as a living art whose results are apparent to every traveller, while in Persia, years of warfare and misgovernment have left the old gardens neglected and almost inaccessible."

Apparently, garden craft is one of the many arts which, sad to relate, have been entirely lost by a decadent nation. One wonders with what feelings these great Mogul builders would view the bungalows and gardens of our modern eastern cities !

The oil "fields" are about 150 miles up-country in a north-easterly direction. I visited them twice last spring by car, when the surrounding country was at its best. The first hundred miles was made over flat desert, relieved only, where water is available, by fields of corn, among which I was surprised to see "wild" Gladioli growing. The last fifty miles traversed barren mountains from 2,000 to 3,000 feet in height, "barren" except for grass and wild flowers which were a source of real delight and surprise.

The mountains continue towards the north, east and west, as far as the eye can see, and one came suddenly upon homely wild flowers. To mention the most common, I saw Poppies, Anemones, Larkspurs, Celcias, Anchusas and Gentians, and according to local gossip many others abound. For a few weeks only the hillsides are thus brightened, then the flowers fall as the summer comes and burns the land into one unending dusty expanse.

The salt of the plains is here replaced by gypsum, and the water problem is great, but in spite of all difficulties, the Oil Fields' community have achieved much in the culture of flowers and vegetables. Almost every bungalow has a garden of some description. When one considers that these people are removed 150 miles from civilisation, even as we know it in Abadan, one can only admire and praise their keenness and tenacity. They have formed a Horticultural Society, and hold annual flower and vegetable shows. Little did they suspect at the time of my visit, that millions of locusts were soon to settle around them and devour the fruits of their season's labours!

To return to Abadan and my duties there, where we employ chiefly Arab labour. The Arabs are born cultivators in a primitive way, and more loyal and obedient than the Persians. In the early days (1927-1928) it was hard work to achieve any results at all, a matter of absolute pioneering where decorative gardening was concerned. Gradually we are breaking down barriers and overcoming difficulties, and progress becomes more rapid as year succeeds year. Our greatest difficulty is that the soil is saturated with salt and often water-logged two feet below the ground level. Salt is generally removed by continual flooding and washing, but occasionally whole areas have to be excavated and new soil substituted—rather a costly undertaking, even on a small scale. Our next difficulty is the time and expense incurred in introducing new subjects, the majority of which have been obtained from Northern India. Mowing machines and miscellaneous tools are imported annually from England.

It is not unpleasant, whilst reviewing the work of the last three years' to recollect that nearly 150 bungalow gardens have been constructed and maintained in Abadan and outlying districts, besides a public park, and gardens to clubs, hospitals, offices, etc.

Hundreds of trees have been planted and are established in about fifty species, the most successful being *Albizia Lebbek*, *Cordia Myxa*, *Dalbergia sisso*, *Eucalyptus rostrata*, *E. rudis*, *Ficus bengalensis*, *F. infectoria*, *Poinciana regia*, *Terminalis arjuna* and *Zizyphus Jujuba*. It has been extremely difficult to acclimatise even shrubs from Northern India on account of the intense dry heat and dust, which prevails throughout the summer months, but about 20 species are doing well, the most notable being *Buddleia asiatica*, *B. madagascariensis*, *Cassia glauca*, *Nerium Oleander*, *Parkinsonia aculeata*, *Thevetia neriifolia* and *Vitex Negundo*. Palms and other decorative foliage plants have been introduced and will do moderately well if carefully treated. Roses are not wholly a success, but certain

varieties do extremely well, in particular the hybrid tea class. The process of selection, trial and elimination, however, is rather a slow and dissatisfying one. Possibilities in the annual world appear to be almost unlimited, especially during the cold season. Bulbous plants, succulents and herbaceous perennials are struggling for an existence with varying degrees of success.

A horticultural society has been established and soon we hope to hold our first flower show.

About the time that the Oil Fields were ravaged by locusts, we experienced one visitation here—the sky was almost black with them, but fortunately only a comparatively few settled and the resultant damage proved to be very slight. The locust appears to be an ever-increasing menace all over the Middle or Near East, defying the most scientific attempts to control it. Large tracts of land are ravaged annually, and so great were the visitations last year in Mesopotamia that even trains were held up by them.

C. MATTHEWS, 1931.

(N.B.—This communication reached the Secretary via the Basrah-London Air Mail).

COCOA ON THE GOLD COAST.

MR. BAND'S article on the above subject (*Kew Guild Journal*, Vol. IV, pp. 817–819) is specially interesting to the writer of these notes. He remarks "The above account by no means includes all the Kewites who have served and assisted in the development of the Cocoa Industry since 1890." This could not be expected in such a short article, but I submit that some notice might be recorded of the initiative of Cadbury Brothers, of Bournville, in securing the services of a Trinidad-trained Kewite to foster the development of the baby Cocoa industry of the British West African colonies, especially the Gold Coast, between 1907–1911.

Most of the men from Kew went to Africa at some disadvantage, knowing Cocoa only by the few plants in the Economic House or Palm House, or by museum specimens. The writer remembers well, before going to Trinidad, how he used to watch with interest the development of a few young pods on a small Cocoa tree in the Palm House in 1897. Not until having worked as an instructor in Trinidad (one of the chief Cocoa-growing areas in the world) did the writer realise the importance of curing, preparation and drying of the bean,—a system practised in Trinidad, and which system, up to the time of Cadbury Brothers' entry into West African Cocoa affairs, was like one missing step in the ladder required to bring Gold Coast Cocoa into its due place in the world's markets. Perhaps the only other missing step was also supplied by the same firm by its setting out to purchase on a large scale, and to offer an enhanced price for, properly prepared beans.

Previous to this, Gold Coast Cocoa was unfermented, improperly cured (if at all), and usually only partly dried, and merchants would, or could not distinguish between good and bad quality. There was no grading, it was just "Gold Coast" Cocoa, and of a quality unfit, in those days, for the production of the high-class goods turned out by the best English Cocoa and Chocolate firms.

One aim of the writer in those four years on the Coast, 1907-1911, was to raise the quality to the Trinidad standard, and the colony's production—then £336,269—to the value of that of the older colony, then about £2,000,000 per annum. The following table gives figures (the latest available at hand in Queensland) and they speak for themselves :

GOLD COAST COCOA PRODUCTION.					
Year			Tons (Cocoa)		Value £
1901	...	...	980	...	42,837
1906	...	...	8,975	...	336,269
1911	...	...	30,798	...	1,613,468
1916	...	...	72,161	...	3,847,720
1919	...	...	177,000	...	8,000,000

N.B.—1919 was an abnormal year, owing to war conditions affecting markets.

Cadbury Brothers disliked San Thomé Cocoa because of its apparently slave-grown taint, although it was otherwise suitable and of good quality, and this was partly at least their reason for seeking the improvement of the Gold Coast bean. Their endeavours resulted in success, and the Gold Coast Colony has benefited, not only in commercial prosperity and affluence, but also by the direct beneficence of the great Cocoa firm towards the colony and its native people. To this Mr. Band and other Kewites could testify.

When conversing with some Obuasi Gold Mine officials, about 1908, the writer ventured to prophesy that there would be more gold won above ground from Cocoa in the colony in future years than was obtained by tunnelling in the bowels of the earth.

WM. LESLIE.

FIFTH INTERNATIONAL BOTANICAL CONGRESS.

EXCURSION TO THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW, AUGUST 25TH, 1930.

FOR the first time in the annals of Botany the International Congress has been held in England, therefore, the excursion to Kew made by its members was indeed of unique historical interest.

On Monday, August 25th, the Director, Dr. A. W. Hill, C.M.G., F.R.S., assisted by members of his staff, welcomed some 250 botanists at the Victoria Gate. Each member of the staff was prepared to conduct a party over the Gardens, Museums, Herbarium, etc., and fortunately there were sufficient "guides" to enable each group to be small and not unwieldy. There was no definite "cut

and dried " programme, as the Director considered it would be better that the members themselves should choose their places of particular interest rather than be conducted over any planned route. This arrangement proved entirely satisfactory; truly with so many experts how could it be otherwise? Some guides were asked to go first to the Arboretum, others to the Rock Garden, others to the Tropical Houses, etc. A wonderful spirit of enthusiasm and appreciation pervaded the entire Gardens.

The whole morning was spent in looking round and admiring the beauties and wealth of the Kew collections; some members not content with a "ground view" ascended the Pagoda to see the Gardens from the air. Rumour has it that one distinguished visitor on seeing *Traça natans* in one of the Museums, deserted his party and remained at the Museum for three days examining various specimens.

A rest was afforded between 1 and 2.30 p.m. for lunch, when all the members of the Congress present were entertained to a most excellent repast by H.M. Government. The luncheon was served in the Gardens near the Refreshment Pavilion. This break afforded a welcomed opportunity for members to meet again and recount the many pleasurable events in which they had participated the week before at Cambridge.

After lunch the various parties continued their rambles through the Gardens, and many finished off in the Herbarium, where the officers on duty made them very welcome.

ON A RUBBER PLANTATION IN MALAYA.

THE hour of dawn never varies more than half an hour the whole year through in Malaya. At 5.30 the first streaks of light may begin to appear, possibly a little earlier, and by then all the Tamil coolies have assembled for their morning muster. They had been summoned by the gong beneath my window, which the Jaga or Bengali watchman had beaten at 5 o'clock to awaken me. The coolies had been stirring some two hours previously, for they have a meal of rice and coffee before the day's work is started. They come to muster one by one, tappers with buckets and knives, weeders with their "momaties" (a large hoe), and all their pots of rice, already cooked for a snack in the fields.

A "conductor" and "lines dresser" also attend, and after roll call the coolies disperse to their allotted tasks, as slowly as only Tamil coolies can.

I have now to see that all the 80 Chinese tappers have left their "lines," inspect the Tamils' dwellings, and account for any men who may be sick. These are later treated by the dresser at our own little dispensary, where a very complete store of medicines is kept, sufficient to treat all illnesses, real or imaginary, to which a Tamil is heir.

Now for a cup of tea which my "boy" has prepared, before proceeding on my morning's tour of inspection in the fields. I also spend a few minutes measuring rainfall, feeding the chickens, and giving the Javanese gardener his instructions for the day—all little side issues which relieve the monotony of daily toil.

There are about 1,000 acres on my division of this estate planted with rubber trees at a density of 100 to the acre. In this area, of course, are unplantable patches of swamp and sand, so that my 100 odd tappers have about 800 acres to work on. The division is sub-divided into six fields, three of which are tapped on alternate days, thus giving each tree the necessary day's rest.

A tapper, therefore, has 400 trees to supply him with latex, for which he is paid at the rate of — cents per pound. This latex, as all books on plant anatomy explain, is contained in a very thin layer of cells in the cortex just outside the wood. Tapping is affected by making a V-shaped cut on half the circumference of the tree never more than 36 inches above the ground. This cut must never reach the wood, and the amount peeled off each day must aggregate not more than three-quarters of an inch per month. The latex runs from the cut over a zinc spout into a cup hung just beneath.

At about 9.30 a.m. the latex is collected in pails and brought to the factory. Meanwhile I find my way back to my bungalow to partake of a much-needed breakfast—the most important meal of the day.

Ten-thirty finds me at the factory weighing-in the latex from each coolie as it is brought in. By means of a density-meter (or metrolac) the dry rubber content is worked out, and the coolie is paid accordingly on this basis. Tanks are filled with the latex, and a coagulant poured in also; the rubber is divided into sheets by means of numerous vertical aluminium plates placed in the tanks before coagulation sets in.

A battery of rollers mangles the resultant sheets till they are thin enough for drying, and the whole of the rubber is placed in tanks of water for the night. The rolling commences at 1.30 p.m. and the finishing time depends entirely upon the amount of latex collected; once or twice the final sheets have been passed through just at dusk (about 6.15 p.m.) owing to an unusually heavy collection being brought in.

The planter, having finished the weighing-in at about 1 p.m., has a rest of an hour or so; the amount of time spent by him in the factory during the afternoon varies with the efficiency of his labour force. During the last few weeks, estates have started a system of afternoon weeding for tappers, which necessitates supervision, especially at its inception, and less time is therefore put in at the factory.

Now that the Rubber Industry is suffering from severe trade depression (I write in October, 1930), estates are economising greatly. Consequently, little work is done besides tapping. Formerly there were gangs at work draining and road-making, but as much of this as is possible has now been dispensed with.

While I am in the fields in the morning, the rolled sheet of the previous day is taken from the water tanks and hung out on wires to dry in the sun for a few hours. It is then transferred to racks in a smokehouse where it remains till thoroughly cured, usually for a matter of ten days or so. The dry sheet is then taken, weighed, and sent by bullock cart to the packing sheds; it is then despatched to Singapore in the estate "twakow" (Chinese sailing barge).

The whole of the day's work has, naturally, to be carried out with conversation in the Malay or Tamil languages. The only persons who can speak English are the "Kranis" (conductors, clerks and dressers). Malay is the *lingua franca* of this part of the world and the few necessary words can be picked up in a week or so. As Malays are rarely to be found working on estates, the language has to be learned from Chinese or by visits to "kampongs" (villages). Tamil, the language of S.E. India, is difficult at first, but continual conversation with coolies soon overcomes the irregularities. A European rarely attempts to learn Chinese—all orders are given in Malay to the "Kapellas" (heads of gangs) and translated by them. Similarly, the beginner speaks in Malay to his Tamil "kanganies" until he has sufficient knowledge of the latter tongue. Javanese coolies always learn Malay themselves.

On the whole, the rubber planter's life is an interesting and healthful one, though to some few people the heat is trying and, unless precautions are taken, malaria may be troublesome.

The unvarying work and loneliness are undoubtedly unbearable at times, but to a man who can make his own interests and live away from the towns, nothing could be more suitable. Some large estates have clubs, libraries and tennis courts, and many are on the main roads and through routes to the nearest town. The smaller plantations are often isolated and frequently an assistant will see no other white man than his manager for weeks on end.

If positions were available at the present time, I would not advise Kewites to consider them owing to the depression in the industry, but in better times, men with experience in agriculture and horticulture will be much in demand.

GORDON SPARE.

THE ROYAL PALM AVENUE (*OREODOXA REGIA*, H.B. AND K.) AT THE ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS, CALCUTTA.

If horticulture through its wonderful pursuits and researches now occupies the position of a science, the Arts of garden designing and landscape architecture have each in their respective sphere, attained to a very high degree of perfection.

For centuries past they have been developing on fundamentally different lines according to the school to which they belong. Thus we have the English, the French, the Dutch, the Italian, the Mogul, the Japanese, and other schools, each working on its own distinct principles and traditions and each giving expression to its own appropriate feelings.

It is to the garden designer and the landscape architect that we invariably turn if we wish to transform barren tracts into sylvan glades, or to bind architectural features with nature, either by the amplification of their existing outlines or by the provision of suitable settings so as to produce an ensemble that will blend the whole into a well ordained picture. Here it is that we see the real artist at work. With his creative mind, and with his knowledge of all the requirements of any particular case and of the special kind of vegetation to be made use of in it, he will so combine art with nature in his treatment of it that the result becomes a classic whole.

Every school of garden designing and landscape architecture has in the past produced men who stand out as great genii, each in his own line. Such men have appeared even in our times ; but these are perhaps less known, for it is quite possible that as in other arts such as painting, sculpture, and possibly also music, the "Chefs d'Œuvre" of our landscape architects of the present day will only be admired and appreciated long after they are dead.

The motive of this preamble is to introduce the wonderful setting of the small photograph illustrating these notes. It is the Royal Palm Avenue at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Calcutta. What a sublime conception ! How classic in its simplicity ! The man who planned it was indeed an artist.

This avenue is unique. It has never been surpassed, if ever equalled. Its dimensions and proportions are simply perfect, affording as it does, a striking example of what can be attained with such majestic Palms, "those haughty princes of the vegetable kingdom," as Linnaeus so justly termed them. It is, indeed, a wonderful conception, and according to the many botanists and scientists who have expressed an opinion on it, it remains one of the most fascinating views of the tropics. It is difficult to express one's feelings when viewing this splendid avenue for the first time. It is not surprising that it is to-day what it was over a quarter of a century ago, one of the most appreciated of the attractions of a wonderful institution.

Whether viewed under the intense rays of a summer sun, or under a cloudy sky, or even under torrential rain, as well as in the short Indian twilight, or in full moonlight, and even in the darkness, those graceful stems seem to detach themselves from their surroundings and appear as so many slender columns surmounted by as many feathery capitals supporting the celestial firmament.

From the records of the institution one learns that this avenue was planted some 60 odd years ago, most probably after the great cyclone of 1867, when the whole garden was relaid. These two lines of palms are flanked by several rows of Mahogany trees (*Swietenia Mahogani*) that were evidently planted, not only to provide a suitable background, but to afford a shelter against the monsoon winds and cyclones. To secure future restoration, that is to say, when these palms having reached their full span of life and would have to be removed, young plants were planted alternately some years ago as can be seen in the photograph. Unfortunately these young palm trees were, in the opinion of the writer, planted too soon, and have already grown considerably, depriving the avenue somewhat of its original beauty. These palms are themselves supported by two borders of *Acalypha tricolor* which, with its handsome coloured foliage, and with the grass borders that flank this Royal Causeway, produce a most exquisite contrast.

The setting of the avenue is further enhanced by its appropriate terminals. Starting from the Water Gate, it ends with the Monument erected to the Memory of the late Colonel Kyd, to whom the world owes the early inception of this great institution. This memorial of white marble being in the axial line of the avenue, gives a finishing touch to the whole, and when seen in the diffused light of a moonlight night it presents a mystic effect of exquisite beauty.

This conception, taken as a whole, is a real gem, indeed, of landscape architecture. Here nature and art are more intimately allied than would appear to be the case at first sight. Here Art, having done its work hides itself in Nature, as was so well understood by Shakespeare when he made Polixenes in "A Winter Tale," say :

" This is an Art,
Which does mend nature ;
Change it rather,
But the Art itself is nature."

A.E.P.G.

A VISIT TO AMERICA.

OUTSIDE the purely official object of my visit to the Eastern States of America, the most interesting interludes of the tour were the meeting of old Kewites, and being able to see something of the work in which they are engaged.

I left Kew on May 31st, embarked the next morning on the R.M.S. "Scythia" at Liverpool for Boston, where I arrived on June 9th in a thick fog.

Not being an experienced traveller I was rather dreading the eagle eyes of the American customs' officials. Readers can imagine my feelings when going up the gangway to the customs' sheds to see the face of a little man I seemed to recognise, standing on tiptoe, eagerly scanning the faces of disembarking passengers. Yes, it was Mr. W. H. Judd, to whom I had said good-bye at Kew seventeen years ago, when he left to take up a post at the Arnold Arboretum.

With Mr. Judd as pilot I was soon en route for the Arboretum, and enjoying the hospitality of Mrs. Judd with a cup of tea made in the English fashion, which, I was later to find, were few and far between in America. A walk in the Arboretum, a visit to one of the exhibitions of the Massachusetts' Horticultural Society in Boston, and then it was time to find the home of the late Dr. and Mrs. E. H. Wilson, whose house-guest I was during my stay at the Arboretum.

A few evenings later, again enjoying the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Judd, I met Mr. F. Lazenby, Curator of the Harvard Botanic Gardens, Cambridge, Mass.; Mr. J. Ellis, who had lately moved from Smith's College to take charge of the estate of Mr. H. H. Hunnewell, Wellesley, Mass.; and Mr. J. A. Semple, employed on the same estate.

I spent a most interesting day with Mr. H. M. Blanche in the Finger Lake State Parks. In his position as Chief Forester, Mr. Blanche has charge of ten parks with an area of 6,000 acres, scattered over some 750 miles in New York State.

I found Mr. J. H. Beale actively engaged at the Boyce-Thompson Institute, Yonkers, propagating trees and shrubs for the new Arboretum of 309 acres in course of formation. At Poughkeepsie in the same State, Mr. H. E. Downer has a responsible and interesting post in charge of the horticultural department and extensive grounds of Vassar College, the largest women's college in the States, with 1,150 students.

In New Jersey, Mr. A. J. Jennings is Sales-Manager of the F. and F. Nurseries, Springfield. Together we visited the extensive ranges of commercial greenhouses of a not very distant neighbouring Kewite, Mr. R. L. Roehrs. His name in New York City is linked with the supply of thousands of Palms, Ferns, etc., for the decoration of the sky-scraper hotels.

Mr. Montague Free, with the experience gained in growing plants in the Kew atmosphere, is able to delight thousands of New Yorkers in the way he manages to coax plants to grow in the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, both under glass and in the open air. In the company of Mr. W. J. Ing and Mr. Judd I spent a day on Long Island, noted for the number of luxury gardens of New York City business men. With the valued aid of Mr. Ing's car we visited five of the most noted private gardens, and Havermeyer's Cedar Hill Nursery.

The morning of my last Saturday in the States was spent in the garden of Mr. Dupont, Longwood, Kennett Sq., Pa., where I found Mr. G. W. J. Ford in charge of the Winter Garden, a structure covering as much ground as the Kew Temperate House, but not so lofty. Rumours of my proposed visit had got abroad, and during my tour of the greenhouses and pleasure grounds our party of three (Messrs. Judd, Ford and self) had increased to eight by the arrival of Mr. J. Lambert, from Philadelphia, Mr. E. Matthews (with daughter), Secretary of the Outdoor Arts Co., Flowertown, and Mr. H. Riebe (with son), so well-known in the States as the representative of the Conard Pyle Co., West Grove, Penn.

Full of enthusiasm and energy, as always in the cause of Kew and Kewites, Mr. Judd arranged a fitting climax to my visit with a meeting and dinner of Kewites at the Hotel Roosevelt, New York City, on the evening of Saturday, July 5th. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. M. Free, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Sayer, Messrs. H. E. Downer, W. J. Ing, C. G. Agate, J. Birkentall, A. J. Jennings, H. H. Jarman, T. H. Everett, W. H. Judd, A. Thornton, J. H. Watts, E. S. Dodd, J. H. Beale, and W. Ellings.

The pleasure of meeting old friends, the revival of old memories, the many enquiries after friends of the Kew days, and the introduction of the older emigrants to more recent arrivals, each and all helped to make the meeting a memorable occasion. From the number present it was evident that New York City can claim to be as good a centre as Boston for the annual gathering of the Association of Kew Men in America. A wish was expressed that in future the meetings should be held in alternate years in Boston and New York City.

I spent my first night in New England with the late Dr. E. H. Wilson at Boston, and he came across from Boston to spend the last evening with me in New York City, bringing with him 78 bundles of shrub cuttings for Kew. With a hearty handshake and cordial good wishes we said farewell as I left to board the R.M.S. "Tuscania," hoping to meet again soon on this side, as Dr. Wilson was arranging to come over for the Conifer Conference next autumn, but as is told elsewhere in these pages it has been decreed otherwise.

A. OSBORN. 1931.

GLASGOW'S PUBLIC PARKS.

The following notes I trust may be of interest to Kewites who have taken up public park work and provide a change from the usual tropical news.

The City of Glasgow is situated in the Valley of the Clyde, therefore, its citizens have easy access to many nearby natural places of beauty. In a short time one can reach the grandeur of the highland peaks, the dream-like Isles of the Firth of Clyde, or the carefully cultivated fields and pleasing pastures of the lowlands. The city parks one would then think must look drab when compared with the surrounding handywork of nature. This is not the case, for many of the parks just seem as if they were transferred from the open spaces of the country and placed in and about this great throbbing city.

The population of Glasgow is about one million and a quarter ; a very large percentage of this number live in tenement dwellings, consequently there is a real need for parks and open spaces. The Corporation of Glasgow has, therefore, risen to the occasion and provided the city with a chain of parks and playing fields which are a credit to the city. These parks are evenly distributed throughout the city, so that the tired worker can leave his tenement home and in a very short time reach some open space and there enjoy freedom midst trees, shrubs and flowers or else take himself to the recreation ground.

It may be of interest to Kewites to know that the present Director of Parks, Open Spaces and Botanic Gardens in Glasgow, is Mr. W. D. Besant, an old Kewite, and under his supervision the general tone of the whole department has reached a very high standard

The City of Glasgow possesses 34 main parks, 180 smaller open spaces and children's playgrounds, covering an area of approximately 3,000 acres. Within recent years nine modern bandstands of the shell type have been erected. Here, concert party and band performances are held from May to September. The number of concert parties during the past season was 613, and band performances 358.

There are also 124 tennis courts, 67 bowling greens, many putting greens, 12 golf courses (four miniature, four nine holes, and four 18 holes). Also there are two boating lakes covering an area of 60 acres.

From a horticultural standpoint the climatic conditions of the city area are not altogether favourable. We have our share of dirty, dense black fogs, dull sultry days, early and late frosts, plenty of rain, while the air at times is polluted with gases and smoke from the many surrounding chemical works, foundries, shipyards and factories. (The soot deposit within the city area is something like 40 tons per acre per annum). Everybody is aware that all such

drawbacks are anything but beneficial to plant life. Yet, through hard work and careful selection, a race of plants and trees that will thrive under such conditions has been fostered and increased, so that our gardens and parks can always be kept bright and cheerful.

The London Plane (*Platanus acerifolia*) which is used so much in large cities for street planting is slow to establish itself in Glasgow, but when once established, proves to be a very useful and ornamental street tree. For the foregoing reason this tree is not extensively used; but Pyrus, Elms, and Limes have been substituted. The Ash and Oak appear to sigh for the fresh country breeze and green fields, for they gradually diminish in stature, then finally succumb. Rhododendron Cunningham's White is extremely fond of this locality and fairly beats *R. ponticum* in rampant growth. An exceedingly common shrub is *Olearia Haastii*, while many species of the shrubby Veronicas do exceptionally well. In several of the parks there are quite good collections of shrubs. There are also numbers of rock gardens and these are well filled with alpine, thus making a fine show during early summer. Many of the parks have in times past been private estates, and the old kitchen gardens are preserved and converted into the loveliest flower gardens imaginable.

The Parks Department has its own nursery within the city boundary, and from here supplies of trees, shrubs, herbaceous and alpine plants are drawn for the parks and housing schemes.

The Botanic Gardens were acquired by the Corporation in 1891. Perhaps they may not reach the standard of other well-known botanic gardens, particularly in so far as an outdoor collection is concerned, being situated so near to the centre of the city the atmosphere debars the cultivation of many plants. However, the indoor collection compares favourably with any other gardens of equal size. When one remembers that these gardens are entirely maintained by the municipality, one can only say, "Well done, Glasgow!" The Glasgow Botanic Gardens are unique in their collection of tree ferns which are planted in the form of a natural fern grove in the Kibble Palace. This structure is reputed to be one of the finest glasshouses in Europe; also under its roof many tall specimens of temperate plants are grown to full advantage. The collection of filmy ferns and mosses is very comprehensive and in splendid condition.

Sarracenias are grown remarkably well, and also several fine specimens of *Darlingtonia californica*. There is also a good specimen of *Pleiocarpa mutica*, while an unusual collection of Bomarea are conspicuous, the most noteworthy are *B. patacocensis*, *Mathewsii*, *Whittoni* and *Banksii*.

Kelvin Grove Park lies on the side of a hill which slopes down to the River Kelvin. Although this park is not far from the middle of the city, yet it assumes a natural appearance with its hills, valley, and river. The buildings of the Glasgow Corporation Art Gallery are in this park, while overlooking it are the magnificent University buildings.

Queen's Park, covering an area of 148 acres, is one of the finest of parks in Glasgow. Parts of it are well wooded. It has a district art gallery and museum, a small lake, a fine bedding scheme and glasshouses always well filled with flowering plants.

Another lovely place in the city is Bellahouston Park. In the centre of it a well-wooded hill reaches upwards, and from its summit one can command a fine view of Glasgow, the Clyde and surrounding country. The park still retains the old private estate appearance.

Rouken Glen Park is one of the most picturesque of Glasgow's rural possessions and is easily reached from the centre of the city for the small sum of twopence. It covers an area of 228 acres. Its features include a striking waterfall which flows away in a sparkling burn through a beautiful glen well-clothed on both sides with trees. Specimens of Coniferae and various deciduous trees are exceptionally fine, while the woodland walks are enchanting.

I must mention Loch Lomond Park. It covers an area of 200 acres right on the banks of "Bonnie Loch Lomond." Fourteen years ago it was opened to the public by the Glasgow Corporation. This park is famed for its fine collection of Rhododendrons and Coniferae. Many plants which refuse to grow in the city parks do very well here.

Perhaps to many young Kewites public work at home does not appear so fascinating as life in the colonies or tropics. It is well to remember that those who are responsible for the city parks and their upkeep find pleasure in the knowledge that through their daily work they are doing much in bringing to a crowded city and its dwellers something of the beauties of nature which gardeners are privileged to see as they move from place to place seeking experience, while the less fortunate city worker only sees nature as it is shown to him in our parks.

R. C. McMILLAN.

THE ASSOCIATION OF KEW GARDENERS IN AMERICA.

THE Association of Kew Gardeners in America held their Annual Meeting and Dinner at the Hotel Brunswick, Boston, Mass., on Saturday, March 29th, 1930.

Dinner was served at 6-30 p.m., at which those present were: J. McGregor, J. Ellis, E. K. Thomas, J. Brown, A. J. Thornton, L. Durchanek and W. H. Judd, together with four guests, three of whom were ladies. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read, the party was entertained by a talk from Mr. Thornton, who had just returned from a trip to England, occupying the last three months by visiting not only Kew, but other parts of England as well as Scotland, among the gardens and commercial establishments there.

His description of Kew was attractive to those of us who have not been there for some years. The collection of succulents, presented by Mrs. Sherman Hoyt, growing there, interested those of us who saw them here in Boston on exhibition just a year ago. The enlargement of the rock garden, a new house erected for Chinese Rhododendrons, adjacent to the Temperate House, together with a new one close to the Orchid Houses, and another in the old Melon yard for the culture of Bananas interested us and showed signs of progress there. Rhododendrons and Roses were seen in flower out of doors at Kew, and mention was made of the prostrate *Pinus Strobus* on the rockery, one of the few plants known of this kind. *Paulownia Fargesii* flowered and fruited at Kew last year, among other notes of interest.

Mr. Thornton visited the nursery of Low and Shawyer at Uxbridge, and was surprised at the immense size of this establishment where 300 employees are engaged in the largest cut flower business in the world; where £40,000 (Sterling) worth of Bulbs are grown and forced every year, and Carnations grow six feet tall, producing excellent flowers for three years. Bees' Ltd., of Neston, Cheshire, where Mr. Thornton's father has charge of the Rose Department, was briefly dealt with, as were Clibrans, of Altrincham, where 4,000,000 Cyclamen are pot grown every year. A visit was paid to Edinburgh and its Botanical Garden, the Rock Garden being his objective, as was that of his visit to Richard Hayes at Ambleside, a contemporary at Kew with him.

An interesting diversion were the delightful drawings of the gardens and houses made at Kew by Mr. McGregor, depicting scenes as they appeared during his days spent there in 1867. These were full of interest to the members and were remarkably well done and in a well preserved condition. Mr. McGregor informed the gathering that on the following day he would have left Kew just 59 years, and while never having returned as yet, he still lives in hopes of doing so.

The meeting missed the company of those Kewites living close to Boston, and the Secretary feels that his efforts to get old Kew men together in a social way at least once a year are wasted if no more enthusiasm is shown, and is convinced it is useless trying to carry it on.

The funds of the Association stand at \$21.00 (twenty-one dollars).

WM. H. JUDD,

Secretary-Treasurer.

(It is hoped that Kewites in America will support Mr. Judd in his efforts to hold the annual reunion and dinner for many years to come, for nothing kills initiative like apathy.—*Editor, Kew Guild Journal*).

ERNEST HENRY WILSON.

ALFRED REHDER.

(Reprinted from the Journal of the Arnold Arboretum, Vol. XI, 1930, by kind permission of the Author, to whom we are indebted for the accompanying portrait).

THE sudden death on October 15th, 1930, of Ernest Henry Wilson, Keeper of the Arnold Arboretum, in an automobile accident, was a great shock to his associates and friends, taking him in the prime of his life from the work he loved so well and in which he was interested with all his heart.

Ernest Henry Wilson was born at Chipping Campden in Gloucestershire, England, on February 15th, 1876, the eldest son of Henry and Annie (Curtis) Wilson. After leaving school he entered the nurseries of Messrs. Hewitt at Solihull, Warwickshire, and in 1892 was recommended to the Curator of the Birmingham Botanical Gardens as a promising young gardener. He accepted a position in these gardens and, notwithstanding the long hours of work, he studied at the same time in the Technical School in Birmingham which offered excellent facilities for the study of botany, and did so well that he won the Queen's prize in this subject at the examination held by the Board of Education. In January, 1897, he entered the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, where he soon succeeded in winning recognition for his work in the garden as in the lecture room. On the advice of his friends, and induced by his love of botany, he left Kew and entered in October, 1898, the Royal College of Science at South Kensington with the intention of becoming a teacher of botany.

About this time the nursery firm of Veitch and Sons asked the director of Kew Gardens to recommend a suitable man to send to China to collect seeds and living plants. The choice fell on Wilson, and he left England in April, 1899, for China by the way of Boston and San Francisco. This was his first visit to Boston and to the Arnold Arboretum. One of the chief objects of his journey was the introduction of *Davidia involucrata*, and he had instructions to see Dr. A. Henry, who was at that time in Szemao, Yunnan, and obtain information where to find this tree which Dr. Henry had seen in Hupeh nearly 20 years before. Arrived at Hong-kong, he had to sail to Haiphong, in Tonkin, as the best way to reach Szemao. After much delay and with great difficulties owing to political disturbances Wilson finally succeeded in reaching Szemao. After Dr. Henry had given him the desired information and all possible advice and assistance, he returned to Hongkong and went from there early in 1900 to Shanghai and up the Yangtze River to Ichang. There he found some of Dr. Henry's men who guided him to the place where Dr. Henry had seen the *Davidia* tree, but to Wilson's dismay all he found was the stump of the tree which had been cut down a few years previously. Wilson then decided to collect all the interesting plants of the region he could, and in travelling around

for this purpose he found in another locality trees of *Davidia* in full bloom, from which he collected in autumn a rich harvest of seed. With Ichang as his headquarters, he collected in Hupeh, during 1900 and 1901, seeds and living plants of a great number of new ornamental plants and also a large amount of herbarium material.

In April, 1902, he returned to England, and on June 8th married Ellen Ganderton, of Edgebaston, Warwickshire. Mrs. Wilson, quiet and unassuming, found her highest pleasure in making the happy atmosphere of the home in which he loved to write of his adventures in far away lands. They had one daughter, Muriel Primrose, who was married last year to Mr. George Slate, a member of the staff of the New York Agricultural Experimental Station at Geneva, N.Y.

He had been so successful in his work that Messrs. Veitch and Sons decided to send him again to China, and in January, 1903, he started on a second expedition. He arrived in Shanghai on March 22nd, and started at once for northern Szechuan. He made Kiatingfu his headquarters, and first went to Tachienlu and later north to Sungpan where he found among other things *Meconopsis punicea*. The year 1904 also he spent in the exploration of western Szechuan, and returned in March, 1905, to England, where he attended for some time to his introductions in the Veitchian nurseries at Coombe Wood, and later went as temporary assistant to the Herbarium at Kew to assist in the sorting and identification of his herbarium collections. He had sent in during the expeditions about 2,000 numbers of seeds and plants, and about 5,000 numbers of herbarium specimens, many of which proved new to science. In January, 1906, he accepted a position as botanical assistant at the Imperial Institute in London.

The success of Wilson as a collector of seeds and living plants, and of herbarium specimens, attracted the attention of Professor C. S. Sargent and he secured Wilson's services for another exploring expedition to China, this time on behalf of the Arnold Arboretum. In December, 1906, Wilson came to the Arnold Arboretum and left on the last of the month for China via San Francisco. He arrived in Shanghai on February 4th and proceeded at once to Ichang. He made an excursion in April to the south-west, where at an altitude of 7,000 ft. the trees were still bare and snow was lying in the crevices. On this trip he discovered *Pinus Bungeana* wild in Central China. During the rest of the year he explored western Hupeh in different directions with Ichang as the base, where he also spent the winter. In May of 1908 he travelled west, and using Kiating as the base, explored western Szechuan in different directions finding the Min valley, Mt. Wa and Mt. Omei particularly interesting and profitable. At the end of the year he left Szechuan and went east again, and leaving China towards the end of April, 1909, arrived in England on May 15th. He stayed in London until September when he returned to the Arnold Arboretum.

As the Conifers in western China did not bear cones in the autumn of 1908, and as it seemed important to secure cones and seeds of these trees, Wilson went to China for the fourth time in April, 1910. He travelled by the Trans-Siberian railway via Moscow and Peking and arrived at Ichang by the end of May. As the men who had travelled with him on his former expeditions had been already notified, he was able to start without delay for western Szechuan and reached Chengtu on July 27th. At the beginning of August he set out for Sungpan, and after having collected there and having made arrangements for digging the bulbs of the Regal Lily in October, he started on his return trip to Chengtu. When following a narrow trail along a steep slope, Wilson's party was surprised by a rock slide, and Wilson was hit by a rock which broke his right leg in two places below the knee. He was still three days from Chengtu, and with his leg temporarily bandaged with splints improvised from the legs of his camera tripod he had to be carried to Chengtu where he was cared for by doctors of the Friends' Presbyterian Mission, but infection had set in, and at the end of six weeks as there were no signs of the bones uniting the question of the amputation of the leg was raised. The doctors, however, finally succeeded in staying the infection and after three months Wilson was able to walk on crutches. Soon after he started on his return voyage to America where he arrived in March, 1911. After spending a few weeks in a Boston hospital, where he had his right leg, which was nearly an inch shorter, reset and fitted with a special boot, he was able to walk freely again. In 1910 the Conifers in western Szechuan had fruited freely and were collected, as were the Lily bulbs, by Wilson's trained collectors, so that notwithstanding the unfortunate accident the object of the expedition was realized.

During the two Arboretum expeditions Wilson collected about 65,000 specimens, representing 4,700 numbers, and secured 1,593 lots of seed and 168 lots of plants and cuttings, also about 850 excellent photographs of plants, general views of vegetation and other objects of interest.

From March, 1911, to the end of 1913, he remained at the Arnold Arboretum sorting and classifying his collections and preparing jointly with the writer an account of his collections in China, edited in three volumes by C. S. Sargent, under the title "*Plantae Wilsonianae*."

In 1914 he went to Japan and spent February and March in southern Japan paying special attention to Cherries; in one garden, where 80 garden forms were grown, he collected herbarium material of 63 named forms. From April to June he collected in Central Japan and in July and August in Hondo and Saghalin. In autumn he returned to central Japan, and the last two months of the year he spent on the island of Shikoku. After having collected about 2,000 numbers with many duplicates, taken about 600 photographs, and sent home a large collection of Japanese cherries and seeds, he returned to the Arnold Arboretum in January, 1915.

From January, 1915, to the end of 1916, he assisted again, after having worked and arranged his Japanese collections, in the preparation of the "Plantae Wilsonianae," the last part of which was issued in January, 1917.

In January, 1917, he started on his sixth voyage to the Far East and explored first in February and March the Liukiu and in April the Bonin Islands. In May he left for Korea and made several excursions with Dr. Nakai, the government botanist of Korea, and during 1917 visited almost all the provinces and also the southern island of Quelpaert, and the small Dagelet Island whose flora is closely related to that of Japan. After having spent the last months of the year in the southern provinces he returned in January, 1918, to Japan, to proceed at once to Formosa where he arrived on January 22nd; he visited Mt. Arisan where *Taiwania cryptomerioides* the tallest tree of Eastern Asia grows and also ascended Mt. Morrison the highest peak of Formosa (13,072 ft.). In April he left the island and returned to Japan where he visited the city of Kurume on Kyushu Island to see a collection of 250 named kinds of Kurume Azaleas; this collection was started by Motozo Sakamoto about 100 years ago, and is now in the hands of K. Akashi; the parent stock came from Mt. Kirishima. In June he made a second trip to Korea where he stayed until September 28th, when he returned to Japan to visit Formosa once more. About the middle of December he left Formosa, and after a short sojourn in Japan returned to the United States arriving in Boston on March 17th, 1919. From this last expedition he brought back about 30,000 specimens representing 3,268 numbers and 700 photographs, also many seeds and living plants. Some of the most interesting plants he introduced during this expedition are *Taiwania cryptomerioides*, *Pinus luchuensis*, *Juniperus taxifolia* and *Cunninghamia Konishii*.

In April, 1919, Wilson was appointed Assistant Director of the Arnold Arboretum, and in July, 1920, started on a tour to Australia, New Zealand, India and Central and South Africa. He first went to England whence he embarked in September for Australia where he visited the Botanic Gardens at Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane, and made collecting tours into the native forests. February and March of 1921 he spent in New Zealand and Tasmania, then returned to Australia which country he left in June for Singapore. From Singapore he went to Penang, Rangoon and Calcutta, and during August made a tour through the northern and north-western forests, visiting the botanic gardens at Lucknow, Saharampur, Lahore, Simla and the Forestry College at Dehra Dun. In September he made a tour to Sikkim and Assam, and in October went to Bombay, and from there to Ceylon and later to the Nilghiri Hills visiting Ootacamund and Coimbatore. On November 4th he sailed from Bombay for Mombasa in East Africa, whence he proceeded at once to Nairobi in British East Africa; from there he visited Kenya and the forest where *Juniperus procera* grows. In the beginning of 1922 he went to Portuguese East Africa, and

thence to Victoria Falls in Rhodesia. On February 2nd he reached Pretoria, and from there travelled to Durban and Capetown. From Capetown he sailed on April 7th for London, in June he paid a visit to Edinburgh, and in July made a trip to France. On August 15th he sailed from Liverpool for the United States to take up again his duties as Assistant Director of the Arnold Arboretum. During this last tour he took 522 photographs and collected a large number of herbarium specimens in all the countries he visited. He fully realised the chief object of this tour which was to bring about closer relations between the Arboretum and other botanical institutions all over the world, and to establish friendly relations with individuals interested in botany, horticulture and forestry. In April, 1927, after the death of the Director, Professor C. S. Sargent, he was appointed Keeper of the Arnold Arboretum.

On October 15th, 1930, Dr. and Mrs. Wilson were returning from a visit to their daughter. When near Worcester, Mass., the automobile which Dr. Wilson was driving skidded on a road made slippery by fallen leaves and swerving across the side walk crashed through a wooden fence and dropped over a steep embankment to a field 40 ft. below the level of the road. Mrs. Wilson was dead when extricated, and Dr. Wilson died on the way to the hospital without regaining consciousness.

Wilson's chief contribution to horticulture and botany lies in his exploration of China where he spent most of his time between 1899 and 1911. His long sojourn in this country and his familiarity with it earned for him the epithet "Chinese" Wilson. He made four journeys to China and in all six to the Far East, the last two to the different countries of the Japanese Empire. He was a born plant collector; endowed with a strong physique, robust health, indomitable will power and a deep love of plants, he succeeded in collecting and introducing into cultivation a greater number of plants than any other collector. He knew how to handle his men and never had any serious trouble in all his expeditions in the Far East. He introduced more than a thousand species previously unknown to cultivation, and collected about 16,000 numbers of herbarium specimens, with numerous duplicates, so that now his specimens are found in all important herbaria throughout the world, and his plants have spread to all the gardens of temperate and subtropical regions. It is not feasible to enumerate here all his introductions and only a few of the more important can be mentioned, as: *Abelia Schumannii* Rehd., *Abies Fargesii* Franch., *Acer Davidii* Franch., *Actinidia chinensis* Planch., *Aesculus Wilsonii* Rehd., *Ampelopsis megalophylla* Diels and Gilg, *Berberis Sargentiana* Schneid., *B. triacanthophora* Fedde, *Buddleia Davidii* var. *magnifica* Rehd. and Wils., *Buxus microphylla* var. *koreana* Rehd. and Wils., *Catalpa Fargesii* Bur., *Celastrus angulata* Maxim., *Cercis racemosa* Oliv., *Citrus ichangensis* Swingle, *Cladrastis Wilsonii* Takeda, *Clematis montana* var. *rubens* Ktze., *Corylopsis Veitchiana* Bean, *Cotoneaster apiculata* Rehd. and Wils., *Cunninghamia Konishii* Hay., *Deutzia longifolia* var. *Veitchii* Rehd., *Dipteronia sinensis* Oliv.,

Euonymus Aquifolium Loes. and Rehd., *Forsythia ovata* Nakai, *Fagus lucida* Rehd. and Wils., *Fortunearia sinensis* Rehd. and Wils., *Gaultheria Veitchiana* Craib, *Hydrangea Sargentiana* Rehd., *Ilex Pernyi* Franch., *Jasminum primulinum* Hemsl., *Kolkwitzia amabilis* Graebn., *Liquidambar formosana* Hance, *Liriodendron chinense* Sarg., *Lonicera tragophylla* Hemsl., *Magnolia Delavayi* Franch., *Malus theifera* Rehd., *Neillia sinensis* Oliv., *Photinia Davidsoniae* Rehd. and Wils., *Picea asperata* Mast., *Pieris taiwanensis* Hay., *Populus lasiocarpa* Oliv., *Prunus Dielsiana* Koehne and many varieties of *P. serrulata* Lindl. and *P. Lannesiana* Carr., *Pyrus Calleryana* Dcne., *Rubus lasiostylus* Focke, *Rosa Moyesii* Hemsl. and Wils., *Salix magnifica* Hemsl., *Sargentodoxa cuneata* Rehd. and Wils., *Schizophragma integrifolium* Oliv., *Sinofranchetia chinensis* Hemsl., *Sinowilsonia Henryi* Hemsl., *Sorbaria arborea* Schneid., *Sorbus Sargentiana* Koehne, *Spiraea Veitchii* Hemsl., *Staphylea holocarpa* Hemsl., *Stewartia koreana* Nakai, *Styrax Wilsonii* Rehd., *Sycopsis sinensis* Oliv., *Syringa reflexa* Schneid., *Taiwania cryptomerioides* Hay., *Thea cuspidata* Kochs, *Tilia Oliveri* Szysz., *Tsuga yunnanensis* Mast., *Vaccinium praestans* Lamb., *Viburnum rhytidophyllum* Hemsl., *Vitis Davidii* Foex, *Aconitum Wilsoni* Stapf, *Astilbe Davidii* Henry, *Corvalis thalictrifolia* Franch., *Lilium regale* Wils., *Meconopsis integrifolia* Franch., *Primula Veitchii* Duthie, *Rodgersia aesculifolia* Batal., *Senecio tanguticus* Maxim., *Thalictrum dipterocarpum* Franch., *Rehmannia angulata* Hemsl., and others.

During his travels in different parts of the world Wilson paid much attention to forest conditions and published valuable contributions and suggestions relating to the forest problems of several countries, as Korea (A summary report forestry and afforestation of Chosen. 1919), East Africa (Indigenous forest trees of Kenya. 1922), South Africa and Australia (Northern trees in southern lands. 1923). He also rendered a great service to silviculture through the introduction of important forest trees into cultivation.

In his position as Keeper of the Arnold Arboretum he carried on the work of Professor Sargent and succeeded well in maintaining its steady progress and development. Besides this work he took an active interest in the Massachusetts Horticultural Society of which he was trustee and member of several important committees, and was advisory editor of the Society's publication "Horticulture." He also was much sought for as a lecturer by horticultural societies in different parts of the country, and particularly he liked to lecture on the Arnold Arboretum, the subject closest to his heart. Notwithstanding all these activities he found time for literary work. He was a frequent contributor to horticultural and botanical periodicals, and published a number of important horticultural and botanical books; he wrote of his experiences in China in "A Naturalist in Western China," "Plant Hunting" and "China, Mother of Gardens"; he dealt with ornamental plants, chiefly trees and shrubs, in "Aristocrats of the Garden," "More Aristocrats of the Garden," "Aristocrats of the Trees," and "America's Greatest Garden" which is a description of the Arnold Arboretum.

More strictly botanical are "Cherries of Japan," "The Conifers and Taxads of Japan," "A monograph of Azaleas (with A. Rehder)" and "The Lilies of Eastern Asia." Wilson's books are well written. In his botanical publications he covers his ground completely with painstaking accuracy, knowing the plants he is dealing with not only from the study of ample herbarium material, but also as they grow in their native habitat; in his more popular books he writes in a vivid and entertaining style, imparting his masterly knowledge of the plants in a way that keeps the interest of the reader alive from cover to cover. Not the least valuable part of his books are the reproductions of the excellent photographs he took in all parts of the world.

Many honours were bestowed upon Wilson. On November 6th, 1906 he received the Veitchian medal in recognition of his services in horticulture, and in 1913 the Victoria medal of honour in horticulture. He also received the Geoffroy St. Hilaire Gold Medal, the George Robert White Medal, the Medal of the Horticultural Society of New York, and the Centennial Gold Medal of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. In 1916 the honorary degree of A.M. was conferred on him by Harvard University, and in 1930 the honorary degree of Sc.D. by Trinity College of Hartford, Conn. He was elected fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, was an honorary member of the Rhododendron Society, the American Horticultural Society, and also was a member of other scientific and horticultural societies. In recognition of his services to Chinese botany, a new genus of Hamamelidaceae from China, *Sinowilsonia*, was named in his honour. Besides this, about 60 species and varieties of Chinese plants bear his name of which some may be cited here: *Aconitum Wilsonii* Stapf, *Aesculus Wilsonii* Rehd., *Aralia Wilsonii* Harms., *Cladrastis Wilsonii* Takeda, *Corydalis Wilsonii* N.E. Br., *Daphne Wilsonii* Rehd., *Deutzia Wilsonii* Rehd., *Euonymus Wilsonii* Sprague, *Ilex Wilsonii* Loes., *Iris Wilsonii* C. H. Wright, *Magnolia Wilsonii* Rehd., *Populus Wilsonii* Schneid., *Rubus Wilsonii* Duthie, *Salix Wilsonii* Schneid., *Sophora Wilsonii* Craib, *Sorbus Wilsoniana* Koehne, *Spiraea Wilsonii* Rehd., *Styrax Wilsonii* Rehd., *Ulmus Wilsoniana* Schneid., *Viburnum Wilsonii* Rehd.

Although Wilson was taken from us in the full vigour of his life, he had already accomplished so much that his memory cannot die with us who knew him both personally and as a friend. His name will live through generations to come in the new plants he discovered, many of them commemorating his name, and in the plants he brought from foreign lands to enrich and embellish our gardens.

In Memoriam.

WILLIAM AUTON.

KEWITES of the nineties, will learn with regret of the death of Mr. William James Auton, on April 1st, 1931, at the age of 56 years, at Botley, Hampshire.

Mr. Auton was born at Compton Chamberlayne, in Wiltshire, in 1875, and commenced his gardening career under his father at Compton Park, Salisbury, being afterwards employed in the gardens at Syon House, Brentford, Middlesex. He entered Kew on February 25th, 1895, and remained until February 27th, 1897, when he proceeded to Baron Rothschild's gardens at Ferriere, near Paris. He proceeded later to the Imperial Gardens at Potsdam, Berlin, the Gunnersbury Park Gardens, Chiswick, W., and Worth Park, Crawley, Sussex. After such varied experience he became head gardener to the late Count Lutgow at Schloss Strelzhof, near Vienna. He returned to England in 1907, and five years later went to Pyrford Court, near Woking. During the 15 years he remained at Pyrford he completed the laying-out of the gardens, and during the difficult years of the Great War he devoted his energies to food production, being responsible for several hundred acres, which were devoted to this.

In 1927 he undertook a lecture tour in the West Indies on behalf of Messrs. Adco Ltd., and later left the gardens at Pyrford to take charge of the experimental work of the Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd., at Warfield. In 1929, he acquired the Hambledean Nurseries at Botley, Hants., where he resided up to the time of his death. Mr. Auton was an examiner for the Royal Horticultural Society, and for Studley College. He was an accomplished linguist in French and German, and had a wide knowledge of plants and plant names. He was also scientifically interested in horticulture apart from cultural methods. His wide interest in the work of the Royal Gardeners' Benevolent Institution will be well remembered. He leaves a widow and two children to mourn his loss.

JOHN HENRY BALE.

News reached us in the summer of last year of the death on July 28th, 1929, of Mr. John Henry Bale, following an operation in hospital.

Mr. Bale began his horticultural career under his father's tuition at Bideford in Devon, and prior to entering Kew was employed at Bicton, Elveden Hall, Garnstone Castle, and later at Forthampton Court, Tewkesbury, Glos., under Mr. Harry French, a well-known Kewite of the early nineties. He entered Kew in July, 1906, at the age of 27 years, and left in March, 1909.

On leaving Kew it would appear that he was employed at Abbotsham, near Bideford, until 1918, or thereabouts, when he moved to Boveridge, Cranborne, Dorset, while in 1922, he changed to Folly Farm, Sulhampstead, near Reading, where he remained until his death at the age of nearly 50 years.

MICHAEL BARKER.

News has reached us of the death on April 1st, 1930, of Mr. Michael Barker, who entered Kew on September 12th, 1881, and left for the United States of America in March, 1884. In 1893 he is recorded as being Assistant Curator of the Botanic Garden, Harvard, Mass., while the 1895 issue of the *Journal* records his appointment as Superintendent of the horticultural department of the Cornell University, Ithaca, New York State, and also as Vice-President of the Society of American Florists. He published several Annuals dealing with horticultural matters, and was closely associated with the *American Florist*, the principal trade journal in the U.S.A. Interesting details of his life and work are lacking, and it is regretted that the information to hand is so scanty. Possibly some of our American friends will be able to furnish more information that might be included in a later issue.

JOHN WILLIAM CAMPBELL.

News has reached us of the death of Mr. J. W. Campbell on May 22nd, 1929. Mr. Campbell was born at Killarney, Ireland, on December 17th, 1878, and prior to entering Kew on October 6th, 1902, had gained valuable experience in gardens in Ireland. While at Kew he was promoted to sub-foreman in the Decorative Department after having served for some months in the Temperate House. He left Kew on May 9th, 1904, and proceeded to Perak, to take charge of the Government Gardens and Experimental Plantations as Superintendent, and remained there until June, 1910. For some five years he was an Estate Manager of the Garing Estates in Malacca. Since 1915 and up to the time of his retirement in May, 1928, he was a visiting Agent and resided in Malacca. He built up a large and successful business in Malaya, Sumatra and Borneo. In spite of his widespread activities he yet found time to devote to public duties. He was Chairman of the Incorporated Society of Planters from January, 1924, until May, 1928, and it was during this period that the Malayan Planters' Provident Fund came into being and the Technical Education Scheme was inaugurated. His work in this direction was unceasing, no details were too small for his consideration, and no undertaking too formidable for him to attempt. He will be remembered for his zeal and his desire to assist his fellow-planters in Malaya. He was a member of the Indian Immigration

Committee and the Agricultural Advisory Committee. For five years he was Commandant of the Chinese Company Malacca Volunteers, and for six years served as a Member of the Legislative Council of the Straits Settlements.

Mr. Campbell was a man of kindly nature and being widely sympathetic had gathered around him a host of friends in the Far East where his passing must have been a heavy loss. The planters of Malaya have, indeed, lost a valuable friend and leader, who spared neither time nor trouble to complete whatever task he undertook, and his name always stood for honesty of purpose.

On his retirement he came to England and settled at Sidcup in Kent with his wife and only daughter. It is with very deep regret that we have to record the death of Mrs. Campbell in January last. Their only child is now living with Mr. Campbell's sister at Portadown Co. Armagh, Ireland.

MISS MARY EMMA GOAD.

LADY gardeners who filled the gaps at Kew during the period of the Great War, will learn that news, though of the scantiest nature, reached us recently of the death towards the end of 1929 of Miss Mary E. Goad, at the age of 38 years.

Miss Goad, previous to entering Kew, received her training at the Violet Nurseries, Henfield, Sussex. Commencing at Kew on February 8th, 1916, she remained until April 21st, 1917, and her last known address was at Peterborough. This was early in 1918, and it is to be regretted that no further information can be given in these lines.

WILLIAM HIGGIE.

ON March 16th, 1930, there passed away, after only a few days' illness, at the ripe old age of 91 years, Mr. William Higgie, who entered Kew on April 4th, 1864 and left in November, 1865. He was born at Cupar, Fifeshire, N.B., on October 28th, 1839, and commenced his gardening career in the gardens at Mountquhanie, Taymouth Castle and Drumpellier, before entering the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew. He is recorded as having left Kew in November, 1865, and at the age of 26 years became head gardener to the Duchess of Northumberland at Stanwick Park, Darlington, Yorks. He remained in the service of the Duchess until her death, and during a period of forty-six years a great friendship ripened between them. On his retirement Mr. Higgie went to live in the peaceful village of Gilling, Yorkshire. The garden of his home, Colville House, remained his hobby through the evening of his truly energetic life, and the many friends he had gathered around him will sadly miss a loyal companion, and one who was ever ready to give advice and such assistance as was possible in his advancing years.

JOHN MASTERS HILLIER.

WE deeply regret to record the death of Mr. John Masters Hillier, which took place at his residence at Osterley, Middlesex, on Sunday, October 5th, 1930, after only a brief illness. Mr. Hillier was President of the Guild 1923-24, and was a very well-known member of the Kew Staff, having retired in March, 1926.

Mr. Hillier was born at Teddington, Middlesex, and previous to entering the Museums Department at Kew in 1879, he had served for a while at the Kew Observatory. In 1892, he was appointed Assistant in the Museums, and in 1901 became Keeper in succession to Mr. J. R. Jackson. During the period of his association with the Museums at Kew, the annexe was added to Museum III, and Cambridge Cottage was converted into Museum IV, and the entire collections were re-arranged. In 1898 Mr. Hillier made a tour of the Museums of Holland and Belgium, and in 1900 those of France. In 1923 Mr. Hillier attended a Museums Congress which visited Denmark. Mr. Hillier will be remembered by past Kewites as having been lecturer on Economic Botany. He was for many years a chorister at St. Anne's Church, Kew, a member of the Royal Choral Society and the Richmond Philharmonic Society.

It is of interest to note that Mr. Hillier served under four Directors, and at the time of his retirement had created a record among Kew officials for length of service. He had a very wide knowledge of botany, and was well-known to many city merchants who dealt in plant products.

He leaves a widow, two daughters and a son, who are well-known to many of us.

LESLIE PHILIP LEE.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the passing of yet another young Kewite, at almost the commencement of a career of great promise.

Mr. Leslie Philip Lee died at Swansea on December 16th, 1930, at the early age of 25 years.

Commencing his horticultural career in the nurseries of Messrs. Stuart Low Co., of Enfield, Middlesex, where he was engaged from February 1920 until December 1922 and later with Messrs. Perry's Hardy Plant Farm at Enfield until November 1926, he then proceeded to Messrs. Bees Ltd., Sealand Nurseries, at Chester. After such varied experience he came to Kew on September 19th, 1927, with the highest credentials and was employed in the Temperate Department.

He was of a very studious nature and did unusually well in the whole series of lectures and demonstrations which comprised the Kew curriculum at that time.

In September of 1929 he was given the opportunity of commencing duties in the Parks Department at Swansea, Glam., South Wales, under the supervision of Mr. Daniel Bliss, who is so well known to Kewites of to-day and accordingly left Kew on September 6th, 1929.

Always quiet and reserved, yet he took a thorough and pains-taking interest in his work and was well respected by all who knew him. He was interred at Enfield, Middlesex.

We extend to his family our deep sympathy in their untimely loss.

JOHN RIDLEY.

It is with sincere regret that we record the death of Mr. John Ridley, on March 30th, 1930, at the early age of 40 years.

Destined for a horticultural career, he entered the Gardens of the Royal Horticultural Society at Wisley in 1907 and spent two years there. After completing his session at Wisley, he entered nurseries to gain further experience before coming to Kew in February, 1911 and he remained in the Gardens until February, 1913.

In September, 1913, he left England for Sumatra, having accepted an appointment as planter with the Shanghai and Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ltd., Sumatra. He remained in Sumatra through the long years of the Great War and did not return to this country until April, 1921. After a brief furlough, he returned to Sumatra in November of the same year. His health, however, had been so undermined by the prolonged stay in the Tropics (from 1913-1921) some three years longer than is usual and he developed tropical arthritis, a malady which persisted for some years and he died as previously mentioned, on March 30th of last year.

He was always of a bright and happy disposition and a great favourite with all who knew him. A keen student of Botany and displaying a lively interest in his work, his passing at such an early age is to be greatly deplored.

WILLIAM STIRLING TANNOCK.

It is with profound regret that we have to record the death of one of the most promising young Kewites of recent years and his passing at the early age of twenty-five years on the very threshold of a career of great promise is to be deplored beyond mere words.

William Stirling Tannock died at the Kawa Kawa Hospital, Auckland, New Zealand, on December 9th, 1930. The news of his death reached Kew in a brief cable from his father, and those who knew him were stunned at the tidings.

Born at Dunedin, New Zealand, on April 2nd, 1905, he was the eldest son of Mr. David Tannock (himself a well-known Kewite) of the Botanic Gardens, Dunedin. He was educated at the John

McGlashan College and remained at school until the age of sixteen. He then entered the Botanic Gardens under the supervision of his father and remained there for four years. During the two years previous to entering Kew, he took the ranger's course at the School of Forestry, Canterbury College, Christchurch, where he also pursued his studies in Botany, having previously had tuition at the Otago University.

Leaving New Zealand in March, 1928, Mr. Tannock commenced his duties at Kew on May 14th, 1928. He soon gathered around him a wide circle of friends and took a keen interest in the social side of Kew when time permitted. He remained in the Decorative Department throughout his stay at Kew and left to continue his studies at the University College, Reading. He actually left Kew on September 6th, 1929, but frequently visited old friends from time to time.

It was with no small pleasure that we learned that he had obtained an appointment in New Zealand as Supervisor and Technical Manager to the Tung Oil Corporation Ltd., Auckland. Leaving England in the late summer of 1930, he proceeded to New Zealand via New York and Florida, where he made a careful study of the cultivation and marketing of the Tung Oil seeds. Arriving in New Zealand in October, he proceeded to Auckland to take up his duties. It has since been learned that his death was due to blood poisoning.

The many friends whom the late Mr. Tannock (familiarily known as "Bill Tannock") made at Kew and wherever he travelled will deeply regret the loss of him who has passed to the Great Beyond at the very commencement of his life's work, when his Homeland and the Empire were hopeful of the results of his efforts in establishing and successfully marketing a product so eagerly sought after at home and previously only obtainable from Florida and the East. Kewites wherever they may be will join with us in expressing our sympathy with Mr. David Tannock and his family in their untimely bereavement.

DR. E. H. WILSON, V.M.H.

Down through the years, Kew has numbered among its sons many illustrious men whose names are indelible in the records of our craft. True some have been more brilliant in their own particular sphere than others, but all have tried to do their part and those whose names are not prominent in the press or literature may be, in some obscure way, doing just as much by precept to uphold the traditions of Kew.

Among those having his name conspicuous on the printed page since the early days of this century, none has appeared more often and prominently than that of the late Dr. E. H. Wilson, whose tragic death took place at Worcester, Massachusetts on October 15th, 1930. By this time the facts are familiar to nearly all Kewites, for, by the aid of the Associated Press and other channels, the news was read in all parts of the civilised world the following day.

Wilson was a man who had a great deal of love and respect for Kew, and never failed to be glad to welcome any who passed our way in the course of their travels and he has talked to me of the pleasure it gave him during his own journeys about the world, to meet men from Kew. At the end of his preface to "A Naturalist in Western China," he writes, "I should be lacking in filial respect did I not record my sense of indebtedness to the Alma Mater who gave me both inspiration and opportunity—The Royal Gardens, Kew."

His love for it was always present and only a few weeks before he passed away and while in the company of Mr. A. Osborn and myself he promised to donate a certain sum of money, the interest of which could be used to present a prize to the one doing the most service in the way of papers or debate at the Kew Mutual Improvement Society. The form of the prize was to be decided on by the officials at Kew.

He was a man of a kindly and generous disposition, which probably accounts for his success in the Orient and was always sympathetic. I well remember the day, a few years ago, on receiving word from England that my father had passed away, he left his work and came over to console me with tears in his eyes. Nevertheless, during the day's work he was insistent on punctuality, accuracy, and respect, no doubt inculcated in him by the training received at Kew. However, after supper, in the lighter moods of life, over a glass and a smoke, he could laugh and enjoy a song, and invariably the conversation would drift on to Kew and Kew men about the world, but with all his versatile character he seldom talked of his own experiences, and never loved to shine in his own glory. His books and writings during the last few years were coming thick and fast, and contained a vast supply of valuable information, and more were planned for.

It has been my pleasure to proof-read practically all his books, and it meant many hours during the winter evenings of a pleasant and interesting pastime that was also an education in itself.

There was hardly any part of the world where he did not have a friend to whom he could write, and many of those reading these lines are going to miss his pleasing correspondence.

His practical experience gained at Kew stood him in good stead at the Arnold Arboretum after the death of Prof. Sargent, and every day he would be outside suggesting where changes and improvements could be made. In fact, he loved to be outside where work was being done in preference to the large amount of office work he was compelled to attend to, and his many children, as he used to call them, among the Chinese and Japanese collections, will surely miss his persistent presence.

It is sad to think that a man should be carried off in the midst of his usefulness, for Wilson was only 54, and, had he lived, would have added considerably to our knowledge of things. However, let us rejoice that we are able to number him among that great fraternity of men that Kew has produced and try to live up to the

ideals and examples that he has set for us, and, as one who has been closely associated with him for nearly twenty years, the writer feels, as do many more, that we have lost a true friend and one that was a man.

(For more detailed accounts of Dr. E. H. Wilson, see *Kew Guild Journal*, 1923; *The Florist's Exchange*, Oct. 25th, 1930; *Journal of the Arnold Arboretum*, Oct., 1930, which latter is produced in its entirety in this present issue).

WM. H. JUDD,

Arnold Arboretum.

THOMAS FORD CHIPP, M.C., PH.D., D.Sc., ETC.

MEMBERS of the Guild will have learned with a feeling of the deepest regret of the sudden death of the Assistant Director, Major T. F. Chipp, at his home at Kew, on Sunday evening, June 28th last, at the age of but 45 years.

Born on January 1st, 1886, at Gloucester, he was educated at the Royal Masonic School, Bushey. From his school days he always took a keen interest in natural science, and it later developed so that he entered the gardens of Syon House, Isleworth, and in 1906 he came to Kew as a Student Gardener. After a few months he was transferred to the Herbarium as a technical assistant, where he remained until 1908. In 1909 he passed the London University B.Sc. examination with Honours in Botany, and later became Demonstrator in Botany at Birkbeck College; and a year later was appointed an Assistant Conservator of Forests in the Gold Coast, a position he held until 1914. In that year he was appointed Assistant Director of the Botanic Gardens at Singapore, Straits Settlements.

In August, 1914, the Great War broke out, and being in England, though en route for the Straits Settlements, he sought permission to rejoin his Territorial Regiment, the 8th Middlesex, in which he had held the rank of Captain. With his regiment he proceeded to Gibraltar, and subsequently to France where he served continuously until 1919, being ultimately attached to the Headquarters Staff with the rank of Major, and was awarded the M.C. for meritorious service.

In 1919, he proceeded to Singapore to take up the position of Assistant Director. In 1921 he was invited to return to be Deputy Conservator of Forests in the Gold Coast. On August 1st, 1922, Major Chipp was appointed Assistant Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

A more detailed account of his many activities will be published in our next issue, but we cannot let this opportunity pass without recording our sincere appreciation of his unbounded enthusiasm for Kew and Kewites in all their endeavours. His interest in the Student Gardeners is too well-known to call for comment in these lines. He made it his business to know everyone in the establishment

personally, and was always ready with advice and help to the younger generation. His knowledge of tropical conditions was a wide one, and those who secured positions overseas could always rely on his advice being practical and sound. He was a born leader, and his high character was a model for the many with whom he was associated. His untimely passing, when in the prime of life and at a time when Kew and the Empire needed such men, is unutterably sad.

An impressive funeral service was held in the Parish Church of St. Anne, at Kew, on Thursday, July 2nd, when all grades of the Kew Staff were present, as well as representatives of the many societies and institutions with which he was associated. More than sixty floral tributes were sent, and the interment took place in Richmond Cemetery in the presence of his more intimate colleagues and relatives.

May we, in concluding this resume of a model life, extend to his widow and little ones our heartfelt sympathy in their sad loss.

GEORGE F. TINLEY.

WE regret to record (while at press) the death of Mr. George F. Tinley, who passed away on August 1st, 1931, in the Victoria Hospital, Southend-on-Sea, after undergoing a severe operation. Mr. Tinley was 59 years of age. An appreciation and details of his career will be included in the 1932 issue.

THOMAS FRASER.

NEWS has reached us of the death of Mr. Thomas Fraser, formerly of Ealing, W.5, who left Kew in May, 1880. Further details will be published in our next issue.



KEW STAFF (MAY 1st, 1931).

(The Names of Life Members are preceded by an Asterisk).

		Entered Kew.
Director	*Sir Arthur W. Hill, K.C.M.G., M.A., D.Sc. (Adelaide), F.R.S., F.L.S., F.N.Z. Inst.....	1907
Assistant Director.....	Major T. F. Chipp, M.C., D.Sc., Ph.D., F.L.S., F.R.G.S.....	1906†
Economic Botanist.....	H. C. Sampson, C.I.E., B.Sc.....	1927
Botanist.....	John Aikman, M.B.E.....	1888†
Clerical Officer.....	S. F. Ormsby.....	1923
Keeper of Herbarium and Library.....	A. D. Cotton, F.L.S.....	1904
Deputy Keeper of Herbarium.....	Thomas A. Sprague, D.Sc., F.L.S.....	1900
Botanist.....	*Sidney Alfred Skan.....	1892†
".....	*Miss Elsie M. Wakefield, M.A., F.L.S.....	1910
".....	William B. Turrill, D.Sc., F.L.S.....	1909
".....	John Hutchinson, F.L.S.....	1904†
".....	Cecil V. B. Marquand, M.A., F.L.S.....	1923
".....	V. S. Summerhayes, B.Sc.....	1924
".....	Miss M. L. Green, B.A., F.L.S.....	1912
".....	F. Ballard, B.Sc.....	1929
".....	(Temporary) N. Y. Sandwith, B.A.....	1924
".....	C. E. Hubbard.....	1920†
".....	for India.....	1925
".....	for South Africa.....	1931
".....	for West Africa.....	1924
Botanical Artist.....	J. M. Dalziel, M.D., B.Sc., F.L.S.....	1922
Assistant Botanist (Library).....	Gerald Atkinson.....	1920†
".....	Ernest Nelmes.....	1929
".....	(Temporary) Miss C. I. Dickinson, B.A.....	1929
Assistant (Temporary Technical).....	E. W. B. H. Milne-Redhead, B.A.....	1892
".....	Miss Ada F. Fitch.....	1919
".....	Miss Mabel I. Skan.....	1929
".....	Miss S. K. White.....	1922
".....	Frederick C. Woodgate.....	1928†
Temporary Botanist.....	James H. Turner.....	1924
".....	A. R. Horwood, F.L.S.....	1929
".....	A. A. Bullock, B.Sc.....	1925
".....	H. K. A. Shaw, B.A.....	1930
Assistant Keeper, Jodrell Laboratory.	C. R. Metcalfe, M.A., Ph.D.....	1891†
Keeper of Museums.....	*William Dallimore.....	1895†
Botanist.....	*John Henry Holland, F.L.S.....	1926
".....	F. N. Howes, M.Sc., F.L.S.....	1913
Preparer.....	Laurence J. Harding.....	1902†
Curator of the Gardens.....	*Thomas W. Taylor.....	1890†
Botanist.....	*William Nicholls Winn.....	
Assistant Curators:—		
Herbaceous Department.....	George William Robinson.....	1899†
Arboretum.....	*Arthur Osborn.....	1896†
Decorative Department.....	*John Coutts.....	1925†
Tropical Department.....	Lewis Stenning.....	1898†
Temperate Department.....	*Charles P. Raffill.....	1923
Clerical Officer.....	Reginald F. Williams.....	1914†
".....	Ernest G. Dunk.....	1928
".....	E. F. Burdett.....	1929
".....	W. Walker.....	1929
Shorthand Typist.....	Miss G. Pond.....	1930
".....	Miss H. B. Judge.....	1925
".....	Miss I. Watters.....	1928
".....	Miss G. Rockell.....	1903
Sergeant-Constable.....	Joseph Sealy.....	1907†
Packer and Storekeeper.....	Harry W. Ruck.....	1912
Superintendent of Works.....	J. E. Holman.....	

† Formerly a Student Gardener at Kew.

SUB-FOREMEN AND ARBORETUM PROPAGATOR.

<i>Department.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Entered Kew.</i>	<i>Previous Situation.</i>
Arboretum.....	Charles F. Coates.	27 Sept., 1915	
Temperate House...	Leonard G. Atkins	9 Sept., 1929	Botanic Gardens, Cambridge
Temp. House Pits..	Alfred E. Wiseman	20 Apr., 1930	Botanic Gardens, Cambridge
Palm House.....	Robert W. Younger	15 July, 1929	Royal Horticultural Soc.'s Gardens, Wisley.
Orchids & T. Range	Brian C. Gibbons.	31 Mar., 1930	The Gardens, Mereworth Castle, Kent.
Ferrieres	George Farley.....	12 Dec., 1927	Viceregal Gardens, Phoenix Park, Dublin.
Rock Garden.....	Thomas Lomas....	25 Feb., 1929	John Innes Horticultural
Herbaceous	Charles Robinson.	21 Jan., 1929	Institution, Merton Park.
Decorative.....	Allan S. Wilson....	20 Sept., 1928	Hyde Park, London, W.2.
Flower Garden.....	Wilfred S. Pinnion	3 Dec., 1928	Orwell Park Gardens, Nac- ton, Ipswich.
Propagating Pits...	Sidney A. Pearce..	16 July, 1928	Messrs. Sutton and Sons, Reading.

STUDENT GARDENERS.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Entered Kew.</i>	<i>Previous Situation.</i>
Wilfred Bates	14 Apr., 1930	Dudbrook Gardens, Brentwood, Essex.
Leonard Birch.....	14 Apr., 1930	Messrs. R. Neal and Sons, Ltd., Wands- worth, S.W.18.
*Henry R. Cocker.....	3 Dec., 1928	Perry's Hardy Plant Farm, Enfield.
Jules Collard.....	6 Nov., 1930	State Horticultural School, Vilvorde, Belgium
George J. D. Cousins ..	26 Jan., 1931	Department of Agriculture, Malta.
Ernest J. Donnelly	2 Dec., 1929	Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin.
John Douglas.....	10 Feb., 1931	St. Andrews Drive, Glasgow.
Stanley Edmondson....	17 Nov., 1930	Hyde Park, London, W.2.
Robert J. English.....	22 Apr., 1930	John Innes Horticultural Institution, Merton Park, N.W.19
Joseph Fisher.....	11 May, 1931	Highdown, Goring-by-Sea.
Frank Folk	9 Dec., 1929	The Gardens, Cardiff Castle, Cardiff.
Ernest W. B. Gale	10 Mar., 1930	The Gardens, Elvetham Hall, Hants.
Jack E. Goldsmid.....	29 Apr., 1929	Messrs. A. Charlton and Sons, Rotherfield, Sussex.
John D. Gordon	20 Jan., 1930	Clovelly Gardens, Kilmacolm, Renfrew- shire, N.B.
Alistair Findlay-Gunn...	2 Oct., 1929	Government House Gardens, Pretoria, South Africa.
Olof Hammarberg	4 Apr., 1931	Messrs. G. Truffant, Versailles, France.
Albert E. Harper.....	1 June, 1931	Cheadle Royal Hospital, Cheshire.
Harry Hall	29 Sept., 1930	Dartington Hall, Totnes, S. Devon.
Harold J. Hunt.....	12 May, 1930	Park Nurseries, Selhurst, South Norwood, London, S.E.
Ernest A. Lake.....	8 July, 1929	Orwell Park Gardens, Nacton, Ipswich.
John Lee	22 Apr., 1930	John Innes Horticultural Institution, Merton Park, S.W.19
Dennis H. Leigh	15 Dec., 1930	Aldenhall House Gardens, Elstree, Herts.
Reginald H. Mason.....	9 Mar., 1928	Chartridge Lodge Gardens, Chesham, and La Mortola, Ventimiglia, Italy (1929-30).
William W. McKenzie...	3 Mar., 1930	Botanic Gardens, Glasgow.
Leo. B. J. Miller	14 July, 1930	Walhampton Gardens, Lymington.
Alfred Mould.....	18 May, 1931	Milton Park.
Albert T. Mullins.....	25 Feb., 1930	Tresco Abbey Gardens, Isles of Scilly.
Basil G. Palma.....	2 Feb., 1930	Department of Agriculture, Cyprus.
William Pearce.....	16 Feb., 1931	Messrs. Baker's, Codsall, Wolverhampton.
Louis A. Richardson....	23 Sept., 1929	Botanical Department, Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Entered Kew.</i>	<i>Previous Situation.</i>
Walter A. Rose.....	25 Aug., 1930	Avoncroft College, Offenham, Evesham.
Roy H. Rumsey	28 July, 1930	Messrs. Hillier and Sons, Winchester.
John H. F. Saint.....	27 Jan., 1930	Messrs. Hillier and Sons, Winchester.
Werner Schuphan.....	29 Sept., 1930	Bentley's Rose Nurseries, Thurmaston, Leicestershire.
Frank L. Simmonds.....	3 Nov., 1930	Orwell Park Gardens, Nacton, Ipswich.
James W. Smith.....	8 June, 1931	Royal Gardens, Windsor.
Gerald W. Stonebridge..	30 June, 1930	Exbury House Gardens, Southampton.
Anastasios Syngrossides.	3 Feb., 1930	Department of Agriculture, Cyprus.
Robert Thompson.....	1 June, 1931	Melton Constable Park, Norfolk.
George H. C. Vanson ...	26 May, 1930	Parks Department, Torquay, Devon.
Arthur P. Walby.....	28 Apr., 1930	The Gardens, Balcombe Place, Balcombe.
John E. Wilding.....	22 Apr., 1930	John Innes Horticultural Institution, Merton Park, S.W.19.
George R. Williams.....	10 Mar., 1930	Aldenham House Gardens, Elstree, Herts.
George E. Wolstenholme	11 Nov., 1929	Marsden Nurseries, Ashstead, Surrey.
Salvino Zammit.....	26 Jan., 1931	Department of Agriculture, Malta.

OLD KEWITES.

(The Names of Life Members are preceded by an asterisk).

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Left Kew.</i>	<i>Present Position and Address †.</i>
*Abbot, James M.....	Sept. 1898 ...	F., Park Farm, Woking Village, Surrey.
Adams, R.....	April 1903 ...	St. Joseph's Hospital, Burlington Lane, Chiswick.
Adamson, John.....	July 1909 ...	N., Moniaive, Dumfriesshire.
Agate, C. J.....	April 1926 ...	33, Hicks Lane, Great Neck, Long Is., N.Y., U.S.A.
*Aikman, Miss M. G.....	Nov. 1924 ...	40 Mortlake Rd., Kew, Surrey.
*Alcock, Mrs. N. L., F.L.S..	Nov. 1918 ...	Dept. of Botany, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh.
Alcock, R. M.....	Mar. 1930 ...	H.G., Hailey, Ipsden, Oxon.
*Allen, C. E. F.....	Feb. 1904 ...	Supt. Agric., Port Darwin, N. Territory, Austr.
Allison, B. W.....	Jan. 1930 ...	Buile Park, Salford, Lancs.
*Allt, W. S.....	Jan. 1911 ...	Cold Spring, New York, U.S.A.
*Anderson, A. W. C.....	Feb. 1926 ...	Botanic Gardens, Dunedin, N.Z.
*Anderson, J. R.....	Oct. 1905.	
*Anderson, J. W.....	June 1910 ...	Minneopa, Cynwyd, N. Wales.
Andrews, C.....	Oct. 1922 ...	F., Tresco Abbey, Scilly Islands.
Archer, Sydney.....	Mar. 1895.	
*Arden, Stanley.....	June 1900 ...	c/o National Bank of Australasia, Adelaide, S. Australia.
*Armbrecht, Otto.....	Jan. 1898 ...	Derneburg, Prov. Hanover, Germany.
Armstrong, James.....	Mar. 1893.	
*Armstrong, Robert.....	Oct. 1897 ...	170 Bartlett Av., Toronto, Ontario, Canada
*Arnold, George.....	Oct. 1894 ...	Essex.
Arnold, T. A.....	Jan. 1931 ...	c/o Municipality Buildings, Kimberley, South Africa.
*Arthur, Alec.....	April 1899 ...	Jacobs Estate, Coopertown, Bryn Mawr, Penn., U.S.A.
Ashlee, T. R.....	April 1910 ...	Univ. of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho, U.S.A.
Astley, James.....	Nov. 1898 ...	Vancouver, B.C., Canada.
Attenborough, F.....	Feb. 1896 ...	H.G., Annesley Ho., Villa Rd., Nottingham
*Aubrey, A. E.....	April 1910 ...	12, Monk Hopton, Bridgnorth.
Augull, Karl.....	July 1902 ...	N., Latvia Dobeh, Vevagar, Russia.
Avins, Charles W.....	Oct. 1894.	
*Badgery, R.....	Aug. 1906 ...	Supt., Govt. Gardens, Shillong, Assam.

† Abbreviations :—H.G., Head Gardener ; F., Foreman ; N., Nurseryman ; M.G. Market Gardener ; C., Curator ; D., Director ; M., Manager ; B.G., Botanic Garden.