

## OBITUARY

Commander Sir JAMESON BOYD ADAMS died on 31 April 1962 at the age of 82. He joined the Merchant Service in 1893 and the Royal Naval Reserve two years later. He was meteorologist to Shackleton's British Antarctic (*Nimrod*) Expedition, 1907–09, and was a member of the Southern Party which, on 9 January 1909, reached lat. 88° 23' S. From February 1908 he was second-in-command of the expedition.

On the return of the expedition, he entered the Civil Service and, except for naval service during the two World Wars, worked in the Ministry of Labour until his retirement. He took an active interest in Empire emigration and in boys' clubs. He was also Secretary of King George's Jubilee Trust from its inception in 1935 until 1948.

RUDOLPH MARTIN ANDERSON was born in Iowa on 30 June 1876 and died on 22 June 1961. He qualified, and was awarded his Ph.D., at Iowa University where he later worked as Assistant in Geology from 1900 to 1906. Between 1908 and 1913 he was second-in-command of the Stefansson–Anderson–American Museum Expedition to the North American Arctic and, on his return, was appointed to the Geological Survey of Canada. For the next five years he served as zoologist and senior scientist on the Second Canadian Arctic Expedition. In 1919 he was appointed mammalogist to the National Museum of Canada and remained with the museum until his retirement in 1946 as Chief of the Division of Biology. During these years he became the final authority on Canadian *mammalia* and had amassed the leading study collection in the country. He published a number of scientific works, of which priority may be given to his *Methods of collecting and preserving vertebrate animals* (1932) and *Catalogue of Canadian recent mammals* (1947).

He was a man of tremendous physical strength and stamina, playing a notable part in the company of Eskimos, whalers, traders, police and missionaries of the great days when the outside world first broke in on the Canadian Arctic. Among them all he was one of the best remembered "Andesina", a strong man and a great hunter.

C.H.D.C.

Captain MICHAEL BARNE, R.N., D.S.O., died on 31 May 1961 at the age of 83; he was the last surviving officer of Scott's *Discovery* expedition, 1901–04.

He joined the Royal Navy in 1891 and served as a midshipman on one of the last square-rigged sailing ships, and in the China Seas. In 1901 he joined *Discovery*, the ship of the British Antarctic Expedition, 1901–04, as 2nd Lieutenant. During the course of the expedition's two years in the Antarctic he assisted in magnetic observations and took part in a number of sledging journeys; the longest of these he led himself to what was afterwards called Barne Inlet. Severe frostbite incurred during these journeys necessitated the amputation of a leg many years later.

In 1904 he resumed his naval career, serving with distinction in the Dardanelles and Dover Patrol during the First World War and on anti-submarine patrol and "small boats" for part of the Second. When commander of HMS *Majestic*, in 1914, he received the Royal Humane Society's Silver Medal for diving overboard in an attempt to rescue a sailor during an Atlantic gale.

Barne was a man of infinite spirit and initiative—whether displayed in the course of duty or otherwise. C. R. Ford, ship's steward on *Discovery*, writes of him "He was never self-assertive, always generous to others, ready to accept blame to shield

others and equally ready to share praise if it were being given. He was my ideal of an Englishman..."; an opinion that, one feels, would have amused and touched Barne about equally.

ALBAN TABOR AUSTIN DOBSON, who died on 19 May 1962 at the age of 76, was Secretary of the International Whaling Commission from 1949 to 1959, and President of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea from 1952 to 1955. Born in 1885, Dobson was the youngest of the five sons of Austin Dobson, the poet and author. He was educated at Clifton and Emmanuel College, Cambridge, entered the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries in 1908, and was Fisheries Secretary from 1938 to 1946, when he retired as Under-Secretary.

Captain HARRY O'MAY died in Hobart on 15 May 1962, aged ninety. He lived all his life in Tasmania and worked for the family-owned Bellerive ferry service from boyhood until his retirement in 1939. Since then he spent much time in the study of the maritime history of Tasmania, mainly from early newspapers in the State Archives, Hobart. He published in recent years *Whalers out of Van Diemen's Land and Sealers of Bass Strait* (both Government Printer, Hobart).

Rear-Admiral EDWARD H. SMITH, USCG, died in Falmouth, Mass., United States, on 29 October 1961, his 72nd birthday.

He qualified at the Coast Guard Academy and entered the service as an ensign in 1913. After serving on escort patrols in European waters during the First World War, he joined the Coast Guard's Ice Patrol and from practical experience became an acknowledged authority on Arctic ice and currents. During the 1930's he commanded naval craft in Alaskan waters. At the beginning of World War II he converted a fleet of Boston trawlers into an armed Arctic patrol. In 1943 he became Commander, Task Force 24, Atlantic Fleet, a net of ocean weather stations off Newfoundland, Greenland and Iceland designed to support trans-Atlantic military flights, a service which has been continued in peacetime for civil aviation. Two years later he was made Commander of the Coast Guard's 3rd District, and Captain of the port of New York, and, the following year, Commander of search and rescue operations for the western North Atlantic.

After his retirement from the service in 1950, he became Director of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution until 1956. He published a number of scientific papers, notably a pioneer sea-ice study "Arctic ice—with reference to its distribution to the north Atlantic Ocean" (*The Marion Expedition to Davis Strait and Baffin Bay 1928, Scientific Results, Part 3*, 1931, Washington, Government Printing Office).

EDWARD THIEL was born on 4 May 1928, and was killed in an aircraft accident near Wilkes station in Antarctica on 9 November 1961.

He was educated at Wausau High School, Wisconsin, and the University of Wisconsin, where he graduated in physics, in 1950, and was awarded his Ph.D. in geology (Geophysics Section) five years later. From 1956 to 1958 he was Chief Seismologist to the Arctic Institute of North America; from 1958 to 1960 he was Project Associate at the University of Wisconsin; and in 1961 became Assistant Professor of Geophysics at the University of Minnesota, a post held at the time of his death.

Thiel's polar field work began in various parts of Alaska, but was mainly centred in the Antarctic, during and after the IGY. He was Chief Seismologist at "Ellsworth" from 1956 to 1958 and co-leader of the Filchner Ice Shelf traverse which, in 1957, covered some 1,200 miles in a then unvisited area. He returned to Antarctica

as leader of the United States Airborne Geophysical Program during the summers of 1958–59, 1959–60 and 1960–61. During the southern winters he supervised the work of the Antarctic Data Analysis Center at the University of Wisconsin, where his wife was a member of the staff.

Thiel's publications on Antarctic geophysics lay mainly in the fields of seismic shooting and gravimetry. They form a notable contribution to the study of the structure and ice cover of the Pacific sector.

LEONID MIKHAYLOVICH STAROKADOMSKIY, the doyen of Soviet polar explorers, died in the USSR in January 1962, aged 86. He served as doctor aboard *Taymyr* during the whole of the Russian Hydrographic Expedition of the Arctic Ocean, 1910–15, and thus completed aboard her the first east to west traverse of the Northern Sea Route in 1914–15. He was likewise aboard when Zemlya Imperatora Nikolaya II (now Severnaya Zemlya) was discovered, and an island in the Laptev Sea near that group was later called Ostrov Starokadomskogo in his honour. After the 1917 revolution he took part in several smaller expeditions to the Soviet Arctic. In 1946 he published *Ekspeditsiya Severnogo Ledovitogo okeana 1910–15* [*The Arctic Ocean Expedition, 1910–15*], reprinted in 1953, as *Pyat' plavanii v Severnom Ledovitom okeane, 1910–15* [*Five voyages in the Arctic Ocean, 1910–15*].