

Obituary

RAY DONALD ALBRIGHT
WALTER G. BOWERMAN
STANLEY W. DALE
THOMAS BREWSTER FLEMING
DAVID M. GOOD
EDWARD A. GREEN
VALENTINE HOWELL
JACOB S. LANDIS
OWEN C. LINCOLN
WILLIAM H. MARTIN
A. EUGENE PEQUEGNAT
JULIAN L. PLAUT
LELAND FREDERICK SAMUEL RITCEY
LOUIS L. ROBERT
ADOLPH A. RYDGREN
ANDREW DANIEL WATSON

1910 Ray Donald Albright 1975

Ray Donald Albright, vice-president of Provident Life and Accident Insurance Company, died suddenly on June 13, 1975.

Mr. Albright, who was born in Clay County, Missouri, on November 2, 1910, graduated from William Jewell College and received his Master's degree and doctorate from Brown University. In 1936 he joined the Aetna Life Insurance Company as an actuarial student. Following service in the United States Navy in World War II, Mr. Albright returned to the Aetna.

In 1949 he became the assistant group actuary of Provident Life and Accident Insurance Company. Thereafter, he advanced through positions of increasing responsibility and was promoted to vice-president in 1967.

Mr. Albright attained his Fellowship in the Society in 1951 and was a charter member of the American Academy of Actuaries. He participated in numerous industry activities of the Society of Actuaries, the Health

Insurance Association of America, and the Life Insurance Association of America.

Mr. Albright was a man who had a beneficial influence on everything he did and on everyone with whom he was associated. An excellent bridge player, he also was an avid golfer, read extensively, and enjoyed maintaining his contacts with many old friends.

He is survived by his widow and two daughters.

1893 **Walter G. Bowerman** 1974

Walter G. Bowerman, a former assistant actuary of the New York Life Insurance Company, died November 15, 1974, at the age of eighty-one. He had retired from New York Life in 1958.

Mr. Bowerman was born on November 16, 1893, in New York. A member of Phi Beta Kappa, he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree magna cum laude from Haverford College in Pennsylvania and his Master's degree in mathematics and insurance from the University of Michigan. He became a Fellow of the Society in 1916.

Before coming to New York Life in 1919, Mr. Bowerman acquired actuarial experience with the Equitable Life and with the Insurance Department of West Virginia. He served as an actuarial expert in law cases and for seventeen years was in charge of the Central Bureau which investigated deaths for all life insurance companies in the United States and Canada. Ten books representing his work for this bureau have been published. In addition, he was the author of dozens of scientific papers on a wide range of subjects, and of one book, *Studies of Genius*. He also was a teacher of actuarial science and served as a lecturer to Fellowship students of the Society.

Mr. Bowerman is survived by his wife, a son, a brother, and three grandchildren.

1913 **Stanley W. Dale** 1974

Stanley W. Dale, a Fellow of the Society, died in Omaha, Nebraska, on November 21, 1974.

Mr. Dale was born on April 28, 1913, and was graduated from the University of Michigan, where he majored in actuarial science. He was first employed by Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company and then by Old Line Life Insurance Company.

In September, 1941, Mr. Dale joined the consulting actuarial firm of Haight, Davis and Haight, Inc., in Omaha, Nebraska. During World

War II he served as a naval officer, specializing in meteorology. In 1945 he returned to Haight, Davis and Haight, where he remained until 1967.

In 1967 Mr. Dale founded his own consulting firm, Stanley W. Dale and Associates, of which he was president until his death in 1974.

He is survived by his widow, a son, and a daughter.

1927 . . . **Thomas Brewster Fleming** . . . 1975

Thomas Brewster Fleming, an Associate of the Society, died suddenly on January 22, 1975, at the age of forty-eight. He was about to rejoin American International Group, Inc., as director of life operations in Europe when death occurred.

Following a brilliant academic career, during which he obtained first-class honors degrees in mathematics at Edinburgh and Cambridge universities, he qualified as a Fellow of the Faculty of Actuaries in 1951 and as a Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries in 1952. After a short period of employment with two United Kingdom insurance companies, he joined the American International Reinsurance organization in Bermuda as assistant actuary in 1953. A year later he became an Associate of the Society.

In 1954 he was assigned to the American Life Insurance Company (a member of the American International group of companies) in Beirut; he became a regional vice-president in 1960, which position he held until 1964, when he returned to the United Kingdom. After a short time spent with J. Henry Schroeder Wagg and Company, Ltd., he was instrumental in setting up the operation of the Dominion-Lincoln Assurance Co., Ltd., in London and held the position of managing director when in 1970 he returned to Schroeder Wagg as a director. He remained there until late 1974 and was responsible for the Life Assurance Division, which was set up during his employment with the company.

Mr. Fleming used his talents to the advantage of every organization for which he worked, and the success in the field of life insurance of all of the companies that he directed testifies to his abilities. He was influenced particularly by the value of linking life insurance with investment in equity shares, and the contracts he designed to this end were very popular in the market.

In addition to his professional interests, he found time to read widely on many subjects, and throughout his life he was an accomplished pianist. Other interests that claimed his attention were contract bridge and tennis.

Mr. Fleming is survived by his widow, a daughter, and a son.

1922 **David M. Good** 1975

David M. Good, an Associate of the Society, died May 28, 1975, at age fifty-three.

Mr. Good graduated from Amherst College and began his career there, teaching mathematics to wartime officer candidates. After graduate work at Princeton University he returned to Amherst, where he taught for some years.

In 1954 he joined the Equitable Life Assurance Society, where he was to spend the remainder of his career. Mr. Good long taught finite differences and numerical analysis to the classes sponsored by the Actuaries Club of New York. He will be remembered with affection by the many students who benefited from his patient teaching.

His avocational interests reflected his many enthusiasms. He was an avid photographer; several of his pictures won awards, and he often served as a judge for photography contests. He learned to play the guitar and enjoyed it so much that he crafted his own instrument. He also was an excellent Go player. In recent years he rediscovered an early interest in art and became a prolific painter.

Mr. Good is survived by three brothers.

1907 **Edward A. Green** 1975

Edward A. Green, a Fellow of the Society, died suddenly on August 12, 1975, in Boston, Massachusetts, at the age of sixty-eight.

A native of Morgantown, West Virginia, Mr. Green was graduated from Yale University in 1930. He attained Fellowship in 1939, while employed by the State Mutual Life Assurance Company of Worcester. In 1948, at which time he was associate actuary of the latter company, he joined the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company as second vice-president. Thereafter he advanced through positions of increasing responsibility and was senior vice-president and group actuary when he retired in 1972.

Over the years Mr. Green was an active participant in Society affairs. He served on several committees and as a member of the Board of Governors. At Society meetings he was a frequent contributor to the programs, both as a panelist and as discussant at the informal sessions. Several of his papers were accepted for publication in the *Transactions*. He possessed a unique ability to express a complicated subject in clear and concise terms, and his papers and memoranda served as classic models for his associates. His high standards of professional competence were difficult goals for his coworkers.

Always interested in community activities, he was at the time of his death a member of the Group Insurance Commission of Massachusetts and a trustee and board member of the Newton-Wellesley Hospital.

Mr. Green had a zest for life and enjoyed his family immensely. He was a man with whom his associates could talk frankly and openly, and he could provide that missing ingredient that always helped others to find solutions for their problems.

He is survived by his widow, two daughters, four grandchildren, and a sister.

1895 Valentine Howell 1975

Valentine Howell, a Past President of the Society, died at his home in Maplewood, New Jersey, on January 24, 1975, after several years of illness and family bereavement. During his career the contributions he made to the actuarial profession and the life insurance business were tremendous—the products of a mind which many of those who had the privilege of working with him regard as without parallel in their experience.

Val was born in Newark, New Jersey, on June 27, 1893, and received his early education in the Newark public schools and Barringer High School. In 1914 he received a Bachelor of Science degree in economics from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Upon his graduation, Val came to the Prudential Actuarial Department as a student, attaining Fellowship in the Actuarial Society of America in 1918. A year later he left for a year at the Equitable of Iowa, returning thereafter to spend eight years at the Guardian Life Insurance Company of America.

In 1928 Val returned to the Prudential as an assistant actuary, and his outstanding work resulted in his being made head of actuarial operations in 1938. During those ten years, in addition to major responsibility for the almost annual revisions of policy guarantees and dividend scales required by the decline in interest rates characteristic of that period, he also conceived the brilliant idea of basing the 1935 general revision of premium rates and values on a modern mortality table (the American Men Ultimate) as well as on a reduced interest rate, thus placing Prudential in the forefront of that movement among large mutual life insurance companies. Val was also the chief architect of the program of strengthening reserves on earlier issues. With his designation as executive vice-president in 1950, Val concentrated on guiding the decentralization program on which the Prudential had embarked. However, he continued to make major contributions in the actuarial marketing areas and played pronounced personal roles in the development of guaranteed

renewable individual health care insurance in the early 1950's and the family policy in the late 1950's. Up to the time of his retirement in January, 1962, he was the leading advocate of such progressive developments as separate accounts, variable annuities, investment-year allocation within the general account, and maximum use of electronic data processing.

After retirement, he joined the Reinsurance Reinvestment Corporation in June, 1962, as a vice-president, and in November of that year he became president of Hamilton Life of New York, a member of the reinsurance group. Shortly thereafter the onset of ill health terminated his active career.

In addition to his service as President of the Society in 1950-51, he served as chairman of the actuarial subcommittee of the ALC-LIAA Committee that produced the far-reaching revisions of the New York Expense Limitation Laws adopted in 1953 and 1954. He also served for many years as actuarial supervisor to the Veterans Administration and its predecessor organizations, and was Secretary of the United States Section of the Permanent Committee for International Congresses of Actuaries.

Val is survived by his widow.

1908 Jacob S. Landis 1974

Jacob S. Landis, a Fellow of the Society, died suddenly on December 4, 1974. At the time of his death he was supervising actuary with the New York State Insurance Department.

Born in Busk, Poland, on March 24, 1908, he received a degree in law from the University of Lvov, Poland, in 1930. From 1942 to 1944 he studied actuarial mathematics and economics at the University of Geneva, Switzerland. In his twenty-three years with the New York Insurance Department he rose through several promotions to the position he held at the time of his death.

Jack had a very keen mind and a great personal discipline, as illustrated by the fact that he started studying for the Society examinations at the age of fifty and completed his Fellowship in less than eight years. His contributions to the insurance department demonstrated his expertise in both the legal and the actuarial professions. He was recognized as an expert in such areas as separate accounts, variable annuities, and expense limitations under section 213 of the New York Insurance Law.

Jack exemplified the highest ideals of personal and professional integrity. He was well liked and respected by his colleagues in the depart-

ment, and because of his insight and fairness in dealing with regulatory problems he won the respect and admiration of members of the insurance industry. He was fluent in several languages, was an avid reader in all areas of mathematics and economics, and was, in the highest sense, a true scholar.

He is survived by his widow and two sons.

1905 Owen C. Lincoln 1975

Owen C. Lincoln, a Fellow of the Society and a member of the American Academy of Actuaries, died in Southbury, Connecticut, on March 6, 1975, after a lengthy illness.

Born in Newark, New York, on November 20, 1905, Mr. Lincoln joined the Actuarial Department of the Home Life in 1928, after graduating from Colgate University. In 1935 he attained his Fellowship and was appointed assistant actuary, subsequently rising through a number of positions to become a vice-president in 1954. Mr. Lincoln retired in 1970.

Although during most of his career his chief interests lay along actuarial lines, he also held management responsibilities in almost every phase of the company's business, including an important contribution to the company's group insurance operation.

Among noteworthy contributions to the actuarial profession was Mr. Lincoln's paper "Should the Commissioners Reserve Valuation Method Be Adopted by a Participating Company Which Has Traditionally Used the Net Level Premium Method?" which the Actuarial Society of America published in 1946. This paper was used for many years in the syllabus for the actuarial examination on valuation of liabilities.

"Linc," as he was called, was a person of wide interests and strong enthusiasms. His many hobbies included chess, bridge, golf, and reading. He was noted for his jolly disposition and ability to enliven any discussion. His many friends and associates will miss him greatly.

Mr. Lincoln is survived by his wife and two daughters.

1920 William H. Martin 1974

William H. Martin, associate actuary of the John Hancock Life Insurance Company and a Fellow of the Society, died October 16, 1974, at the age of fifty-four.

Mr. Martin was born in Lynn, Massachusetts, on March 1, 1920. He

graduated from Colby College in 1942 and immediately thereafter began his career with the John Hancock.

He held a number of actuarial positions, and in recent years he had responsibility for the preparation of mortality and persistency studies and analyses.

Mr. Martin was a very quiet man who found pleasure and satisfaction in both dedication to his work and devotion to his family.

He is survived by his widow, a son, and two daughters.

1888 A. Eugene Pequegnat 1974

A. Eugene Pequegnat, a Fellow of the Society and an Associate of the Institute of Actuaries, died suddenly at his home near Waterloo, Ontario, on October 10, 1974, at the age of eighty-six.

Mr. Pequegnat was born September, 1888, and joined the head office staff of the Mutual Life of Canada in 1908 as a clerk in the actuarial department. He was appointed assistant actuary in 1916, assistant secretary in 1919, comptroller in 1923, and assistant general manager in 1930. In 1948 he became general manager and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1954.

A vigorous and dynamic personality, he gave strong leadership to the Mutual Life, which attained its first billion of life insurance in force under his direction. After his retirement he maintained his interest in company activities, which enabled him to establish a record of attending over sixty consecutive annual meetings.

In addition to considerable involvement in intercompany affairs, Mr. Pequegnat was active in his home community. He was the first president of Kitchener-Waterloo Federated Charities, a charter member of the K-W Granite Club, and a director of the YMCA.

He will be remembered as an outgoing and enthusiastic personality who brought his own unique qualities to his relationships in the company, the industry, and the community, all of which are the richer for his life and work.

Mr. Pequegnat is survived by his widow, a son, two daughters, and a brother.

1939 Julian L. Plaut 1975

Julian L. Plaut, F.S.A., died on August 5, 1975, at the age of thirty-six. He was born in Chicago, Illinois, on May 5, 1939, and received the degree

of Master of Business Administration from the University of Michigan in 1962.

Following his graduation, he joined the staff of Union Central Life Insurance Company, Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1964 he returned to Chicago to join the staff of Marsh and McLennan, and in 1969 he became associated with the consulting actuarial firm of Wolfman and Moscovitch. Only a few weeks before his death in 1975 he received notification that he had attained Fellowship in the Society.

Julian Plaut was an avid handball player. He was respected for the thoroughness of his work and well liked for his friendly personality.

He is survived by his widow, a son, and a daughter.

1907 . . . Leland Frederick Samuel Ritcey . . . 1974

Leland Frederick Samuel Ritcey, emeritus professor of mathematics at the University of Western Ontario, died on October 10, 1974.

Lee Ritcey was born in Riverport, Nova Scotia, in 1907. He obtained a B.A. from Mount Allison University, an M.A. from Harvard University, and, in 1945, a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. He began his academic career in 1931 as an assistant professor at the University of Winnipeg (then United College) and remained there until 1947, attaining in the interim the rank of professor and the position of assistant dean. In 1947 he moved to the University of Manitoba as professor of actuarial mathematics, and in 1949 he was appointed head of the Department of Actuarial Mathematics and Statistics. Shortly thereafter he became an Associate of the Society of Actuaries. In 1958 he became executive director of the Canadian Mathematical Congress and acted in this capacity, as well as in that of part-time lecturer at McGill University, until 1966, when he was appointed to the Richter Memorial Professorship in Actuarial Science at the University of Western Ontario. Although he retired in 1973, he continued to teach at Western on a part-time basis until a few months before his death. The rank of professor emeritus was conferred on him shortly after his official retirement.

An honorary LL.D. was conferred on him in 1970 by the University of Winnipeg. In 1971 he was appointed a member of the Canada Pension Plan Advisory Committee and became its chairman in 1973.

Lee Ritcey was a dependable, dignified, capable, self-effacing, and much-loved man. He will be sadly missed by his many friends. He is survived by his widow, two daughters, and a son.

1927 **Louis L. Robert** 1974

Louis Robert, F.S.A., F.C.I.A., M.A.A.A., associate group actuary of the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada, died in Montreal on November 13, 1974, at the age of forty-seven.

Born and educated in Montreal, Mr. Robert graduated from the Collège Ste-Marie in 1948 with a B.A. degree. His L.S.C. (M.Comm.) degree was gained at the Université de Montréal in 1951, the year in which he joined the Sun Life in the Profits Department. He was transferred to the Group Annuity Department in 1952 and to the Actuarial Department in 1954, where he was appointed actuarial assistant in 1956.

Mr. Robert became a Fellow of the Society in 1961. The years 1959-61 were spent in the employ of the Société des Artisans, and in June, 1962, he returned to Sun Life as assistant actuary. In 1964 he was assigned special duties and in December, 1966, was appointed associate group actuary.

Mr. Robert always was interested in educational matters. He served on the Subcommittee for Restructuring Examinations of the Advisory Committee on Education and Examinations of the Canadian Institute of Actuaries. He also served on the Committee on Alternate Routes of the Society of Actuaries.

Outside the industry Mr. Robert expressed his interest in education by becoming the administrator and subsequently vice-president and then president of a Montreal community college.

He was known among his fellow actuaries as a person with broad understanding of, and a sincere interest in, the problems of actuarial work in the insurance industry.

He is survived by his widow and five children.

1892 **Adolph A. Rydgren** 1975

Adolph A. Rydgren, F.S.A., a director of Continental American Life Insurance Company, died in Wilmington, Delaware, on January 13, 1975, two days before his eighty-third birthday.

Mr. Rydgren began his life insurance career in 1907 with New York Life. After a brief period of army service in World War I, he obtained a position as actuary of Cleveland Life. In 1921 he joined Continental American Life as actuary. In 1926 he was elected vice-president and a director; in 1932 he was elected president and in 1949 chairman of the board. After Mr. Rydgren retired in 1957, he retained his position as

director and a member of the executive committee, a position he held until his death.

His career in the life insurance industry was a distinguished one. He became a Fellow of the Actuarial Society of America in 1917, and, in addition to taking an active part in the Society, he was one of the organizers of the Life Office Management Association, of which he was president for two years. Mr. Rydgren served as a trustee and vice-chairman of the board of the S. S. Huebner Foundation for Insurance Education at the University of Pennsylvania and served a term as director of the Life Insurance Association of America.

Active in civic and community affairs, he was instrumental in organizing the Delaware division of the American Cancer Society and was a director of the Welfare Council of Delaware, Inc., the Delaware Heart Association, and the Prisoners Aid Society. In 1950 he was general chairman of the United Community Fund of Northern Delaware.

He is survived by his widow, a son, a daughter, and six grandsons.

1882 . . . Andrew Daniel Watson . . . 1974

Andrew Daniel Watson, retired chief actuary of the Canadian Insurance Department, died on October 29, 1974, at the age of ninety-two.

Mr. Watson was born in Nova Scotia and graduated from the University of Dalhousie in 1905 with a B.A. degree. He joined the Canadian Department of Insurance in 1906, became a Fellow of the Actuarial Society of America in 1919, a Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries in 1922, and chief actuary of the Department of Insurance in 1926. As such, he was, in effect, the government actuary for the Canadian government. He retired in 1947, having reached the official retirement age, but was reengaged as an adviser and finally retired in 1956 after fifty years of service.

Mr. Watson was one of the foremost actuaries in Canada. His work made great contributions to and had important influence on the development of supervisory legislation applicable to insurance companies as well as many aspects of social security. In 1927 he was responsible for the present requirement in Canadian federal insurance legislation with regard to the valuation of life insurance company liabilities. This important step away from the statutory prescriptions of valuation bases with reliance instead on a personal certificate from the actuary did much to enhance the professional status of actuaries in Canada.

His work on unemployment insurance was internationally renowned.

His actuarial reports on the introduction of unemployment insurance legislation in Canada, first in 1934 and subsequently in 1940, formed the financial basis of the plan. His paper on the principles that should govern unemployment insurance served for many years as an important reference for the development of the plan in Canada. He also was active in the research work and discussion attendant to the development of social security plans.

Mr. Watson was a man of high moral and intellectual principles and was devoted to the actuarial profession. He was keenly interested in skiing and continued active in that sport until a very advanced age.

He is survived by his widow, a daughter, and two sons.