

Obituary

ANDREW J. BLACKMORE
MALVIN EDWARD DAVIS
SAMUEL M. DAVIS, JR.
JAMES HECTOR LITHGOW
REGINALD CAMPBELL McCANKIE
JOHN EDWARD MORRISON
ALEXANDER MUTCH
WAYNE B. RULE
BRUCE EDWIN SHEPHERD

1894 . . . Andrew J. Blackmore . . . 1966

Andrew J. Blackmore died on September 12, 1966, at the age of 72. He was born in Brooklyn, New York, on February 28, 1894, but since early boyhood had resided in Vermont. World War I interrupted his attendance at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, and he spent two years as a radio operator in the navy. Following the war, he completed his undergraduate work and then taught mathematics for a year in the New London, Connecticut, high school.

In 1921 he joined the actuarial department of National Life Insurance Company and became an Associate of the Society of Actuaries in 1936. The following year he was named assistant actuary of the company.

He assumed the duties of assistant secretary of the company in 1946 and three years later was named secretary. In 1955 he was made vice-president and secretary of the company, which position he held until his retirement in 1959.

Mr. Blackmore was a long-time member of the Montpelier School Board and had served as its secretary. He was a director of the Capital Savings Bank and Trust Company and of the Vermont Mutual Fire Insurance Company and was a trustee of the Boutwell Masonic Building, Inc. He is survived by his widow, two sons, a daughter, and ten grandchildren.

1901 Malvin Edward Davis 1966

The death of Malvin Edward Davis on August 26, 1966, at the age of 65 is a loss deeply felt throughout the insurance industry and the actuarial profession. His leading contributions and executive vision had significant effect upon the business and will continue to influence it for some time to come. It was characteristic of his vigor and devotion that his activity during his last years remained undiminished in spite of poor health.

His brilliance and energy were apparent from the first. He completed his undergraduate studies at Wesleyan University in three years, graduating as a Phi Beta Kappa member. He joined the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company in 1923 and completed his actuarial examinations three years later to become a Fellow of the Actuarial Society of America. In 1930 he was appointed an officer of the Metropolitan and rose to become senior vice-president and chief actuary on January 1, 1960. He was made executive vice-president on January 1, 1963, and held this post until his retirement in mid-1965.

Distinguished in professional circles, Mr. Davis was president of the Society of Actuaries in 1956-57, having previously served on the Board of Governors and several of the Society's committees. He was president of the XVth International Congress of Actuaries when it convened in New York City in 1957. He was also a member of the Casualty Actuarial Society, the American Mathematical Association, and numerous business organizations.

He brought scholarship and a remarkable thoroughness to his work. A specialist in industrial life insurance, he authored numerous papers on the subject. He presented testimony on the conduct of the industrial insurance business before the Congressional Temporary National Economic Committee at its 1939 hearings. In 1944 he published *Industrial Life Insurance in the United States*, which won the Elizur Wright Insurance Literature Prize as the best insurance book published that year.

He also brought foresight. After World War II he was among the first to recognize the potential to the industry of electronic data-processing machinery, and he forcefully pursued a program to test, apply, and guide the development of these new devices. His work in this gained him such prominence that his views on the subject were continually sought both at home and abroad. In 1948 he was appointed chairman of a new committee of the Society whose task was to examine electronic data-processing. The committee's pioneering reports gave guidance to the entire insurance industry during the formative years of this revolutionary

development and made a lasting impact upon the conduct of the insurance business.

He was a man of many intellectual attainments, not the least of which was an abiding love and knowledge of music, which brought him comfort and pleasure throughout his life. He traveled widely and at one time had a second home in Bermuda.

He was married in 1932 to Mildred Lamb, who died in 1959. There are no immediate relatives.

Mal Davis' alert competence, sound judgment, and unshakable integrity earned him the respect, admiration, and affection of all who worked with him. He left his mark on our profession, on his company, and in our hearts.

1921 . . . Samuel M. Davis, Jr. . . . 1966

Samuel M. Davis, Jr., a lifelong resident of Dallas and associate actuary at Southwestern Life Insurance Company, died May 23, 1966, after an illness of two months. He was a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries.

A resident of Richardson, Texas, he would have marked nineteen years with Southwestern Life in June.

He was graduated from the former Terrill Preparatory School, of which his father, Samuel M. Davis, Sr., was headmaster. He received his Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Southern Methodist University in 1942 and his Master's degree from the University of Michigan in 1947. He became associated with Southwestern Life Insurance Company in June of that year. In September, 1957, he was appointed actuarial assistant, in March, 1959, he became assistant actuary, and in March, 1961, he became associate actuary.

Mr. Davis played professional baseball in the West Texas-New Mexico and Texas leagues prior to entering the Marine Corps in 1942. A first lieutenant, he was a B-25 pilot and was awarded the Air Medal with four gold stars and the Distinguished Flying Cross. He was a member of the Messiah Lutheran Church, Richardson, Texas, and the Canyon Creek County Club.

Although Sam's professional career was relatively brief, he commanded the respect of his fellow actuaries through his professional activities. He was always eager to be of service through Society activities and work for the Actuaries Club of the Southwest, where he served for many years on various committees.

He is survived by his widow, the former Bobbie Jean Peek, a daughter, Deborah Ann, 13, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Davis, Sr., of Dallas.

1890 . . . **James Hector Lithgow** . . . 1966

James Hector Lithgow, 75, retired chairman of the board and director of The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company, died on July 1, 1966, after a lengthy illness.

Mr. Lithgow was born in Bobcaygeon, Ontario, and attended Trinity College School.

He joined the actuarial department of The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company in 1908. Three years later he became an Associate of the Institute of Actuaries in Great Britain and in 1916 enlisted as a gunner in the Canadian Artillery. Something of the character of the man may be learned from a letter received by the company from the war zone asking for books so that he could pursue his actuarial studies "as the opportunity presented itself." He obtained his Fellowship in the Actuarial Society of America in 1923 and was made the company's actuary the following year. He was appointed general manager of his company in 1931, a director in 1936, president in 1951, and chairman of the board in 1956. Ill-health forced his retirement in 1959. As the responsible administrative officer of The Manufacturers Life for twenty-five years, Mr. Lithgow guided the company through a major growth period.

Mr. Lithgow was president of the Actuaries' Club of Toronto in 1921. He also served as president of the Canadian Life Insurance Association, the Insurance Institute of Toronto, and the Life Insurance Institute of Canada and was a former director of the Institute of Life Insurance in New York.

Mr. Lithgow was well known, throughout the industry as well as in his own company, for his integrity and ability but will perhaps be best remembered for a rather shy modesty that was happy to credit his associates with the accomplishments which were often the end result of his leadership.

He is survived by his widow, the former Mizpah Sussex, and three children, Colonel Charles H. Lithgow, Mrs. C. L. Rodgers (Janet), and Mrs. John de Pencier (Marni).

1890 . . . **Reginald Campbell McCankie** . . . 1966

Reginald C. McCankie, a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries and a past president of the American Institute of Actuaries and the Home Office Life Underwriters Association, died in Des Moines, Iowa, on September 17, 1966, after a long illness.

"Reg," as he was known to his many friends, was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, on May 6, 1890, and was educated at George Watson's College,

a school where many Scottish actuaries received their early mathematical training.

After serving an apprenticeship in the Scottish Metropolitan in Edinburgh, he came to the United States in 1911 as an assistant to a fellow Watsonian, John Campbell Cameron. Jack Cameron, with whom Reg had been associated at the Scottish Metropolitan, had come to the United States the previous year and joined the Great Southern Life Insurance Company of Houston, Texas.

Soon thereafter, Reg became actuary of the San Antonio Life Insurance Company in San Antonio, Texas, where he served until 1914. While he was on vacation in Scotland in August, 1914, war broke out. Cabling his resignation to the Texas company, Reg immediately enlisted in the Ninth Royal Scots.

In 1915 he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Highland Light Infantry. He participated in many of the major engagements during the four years of the war and was wounded in 1916 and again in 1917. He was awarded the Military Cross and decorated at Buckingham Palace by King George V. At war's end he was discharged with the rank of captain.

Returning to the United States in 1919, Mr. McCankie joined the Shenandoah Life of Roanoke, Virginia. On December 20, 1920, he came to the Equitable Life of Iowa as an assistant to another fellow Watsonian, Robertson G. Hunter.

Mr. McCankie was appointed assistant actuary of the Equitable Life of Iowa in 1921, associate actuary in 1926, underwriting vice-president and associate actuary in 1938, and underwriting vice-president and actuary in 1943. In January, 1948, upon the retirement of Mr. Hunter, he was elected vice-president and actuary and a member of the board of trustees. He retired in 1955 but continued to serve on the board until January, 1957.

Mr. McCankie was successively secretary, vice-president, president (1935-37), and member of the board of governors of the American Institute of Actuaries and was also a member of the council of the Actuarial Society of America.

Selection of risks was the field of Mr. McCankie's greatest interest as an actuary, and he had served as president (1944-45) and member of the executive council of the Home Office Life Underwriters Association.

Concealed beneath a somewhat stern exterior, engendered perhaps by four years of military service as a commanding officer on the western front, was a warmly human personality, whose constant consideration of others and innate kindness endeared him to his many friends in the

Equitable Life of Iowa and throughout the life insurance business in the United States and Canada.

Surviving are his widow, Olive, and a daughter, Phyllis, both of Des Moines, and a sister, Mrs. Arthur Coburn, of Dallas, Texas, widow of another well-known actuary born in Edinburgh.

1911 . . . **John Edward Morrison** . . . 1966

John Edward Morrison, executive vice-president of The Great-West Life Assurance Company, died in Winnipeg, Canada, on Friday, October 14, at the age of 55.

Mr. Morrison was an actuary and executive of great ability who was warmly admired and respected by all who knew him. His services to the actuarial profession were widely recognized, and during his outstanding career he was honored by high office in many actuarial organizations. At the time of his death he was a vice-president of the Society of Actuaries and had for many years been active in its affairs as a member of the board and of various committees. He was also vice-president for Canada of the International Congress of Actuaries, a past president of the former Canadian Association of Actuaries, and played a prominent part in the formation of the present Canadian Institute of Actuaries.

Ted Morrison, son of the late Alexander S. Morrison and Bessie Morrison, was born in Souris, Manitoba, on July 23, 1911, and came to Winnipeg at an early age. He attended public schools in Winnipeg, graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1931, and became a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries in 1943.

His whole business career was spent with The Great-West Life Assurance Company. He joined the company in 1932 and became assistant actuary in 1943 and underwriting executive in 1947. He was named assistant general manager and actuary in 1952 and in 1958 became vice-president and actuary. Mr. Morrison was appointed executive vice-president in 1960 and was elected to the Board of Directors one year later. In all these positions he made a major contribution to the company's growth.

Because of his broad interests and intimate knowledge of all aspects of life and health insurance, Mr. Morrison was frequently requested to serve on industry committees, and during his business life he made many valuable contributions to the work of various insurance associations, including the Canadian Life Insurance Association and the Canadian Health Insurance Association.

Mr. Morrison also had a long record of community service. He was a founding member of the United Way of Greater Winnipeg and a member

of the board and past chairman of the Manitoba Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation. For many years he was active and held office in the Manitoba division of the Canadian Cancer Society and the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce.

While accepting wide responsibilities in business and community affairs, Mr. Morrison continued to be an avid sportsman throughout his life. He was a skilled golfer, curler, and angler and was interested in other sports.

Mr. Morrison had a great capacity for friendship and helpful understanding of others. His untimely death is a great loss, and he will be long remembered by his many friends and associates.

Mr. Morrison is survived by his widow, Mary, by a son and a daughter, and by his mother.

1907 Alexander Mutch 1966

Alexander Mutch, an Associate of the Society of Actuaries and a member of both the Institute of Actuaries and the Academy of Actuaries, died on September 4, 1966, after a brief illness. Mr. Mutch was born at Aberdeen, Scotland, on May 14, 1907. He attended primary and secondary schools in Aberdeenshire and was an honors graduate from Aberdeen University, with an M.A. degree in mathematics. In 1930 he emigrated to Canada and entered the service of Sun Life Assurance Company in Montreal.

In 1937 he joined the United States Life Insurance Company in the city of New York, where he contributed heavily to the actuarial aspects of the company's operations, with particular expertise in statement and agency compensation areas. In 1958 he was elected associate actuary, a position which he held at the time of his death. A sports enthusiast, Mr. Mutch played championship amateur tennis for many years.

Mr. Mutch was a quiet, capable, skillful, and intelligent man with uncanny perceptiveness. His death was a heavy loss to his family, friends, and business associates.

Surviving are his widow, Ethel, in Glen Rock, New Jersey, three daughters, and a granddaughter. In addition, he leaves two sisters and two brothers residing in Scotland.

1912 Wayne B. Rule 1966

Wayne B. Rule, an Associate of the Society since 1940, died suddenly on August 30, 1966, following a heart attack.

Mr. Rule was born on December 27, 1912, in Fort Dodge, Iowa, where he received his early education. He attended the State University of Iowa and was graduated in 1936 with Bachelor of Arts and Master of Science degrees, receiving Sigma Xi honors.

After graduation he joined the actuarial division of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company and spent most of his professional career in fields related to statement accounting and taxes. He progressed through various positions of responsibility in these fields and rose to administrative rank. At the time of his death he was manager of the statement and analysis unit in the company's actuarial department and ranked as an outstanding authority in his field. Mr. Rule had a keen and analytical mind and enjoyed the challenge of a complex problem. He also had a love and gift for language which resulted in lucid, concise exposition of his findings and conclusions. A man of highest personal and professional integrity, completely devoted to the standards of excellence, he won the respect and esteem of all his associates.

Wayne and his wife, Eva, who survives, were active in the work of their church, the Presbyterian church in Basking Ridge, New Jersey. They also shared and brought with them from Iowa a love of the soil. Wayne's hobbies of gardening and carpentry were marked by the same standards of excellence as he gave to his professional life.

Wayne Rule was a quiet and a modest man whose passing is deeply felt by all who knew him.

1900 Bruce Edwin Shepherd 1966

Bruce Edwin Shepherd, vice-president of the Society of Actuaries, born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, on March 28, 1900, died in West Orange, New Jersey, on September 25, 1966. This closed the distinguished career of a scholar, an actuary of recognized ability, a practical administrator, a fine executive, and a dedicated protagonist of the life insurance message.

Educated in the public schools of Kalamazoo, he entered the University of Chicago, where he earned his Ph.B. in 1922 and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He became a member of Alpha Delta Phi.

He qualified as a Fellow of the Actuarial Society of America and of the American Institute of Actuaries in 1927. Between 1928 and 1934 he served as a member and as vice-chairman and chairman of the Examinations Committee of the Institute and in 1934 became vice-chairman of the Joint Committee on Examinations of the Institute and the Society. In the Institute he was a member of the Program Committee in 1936, chairman of the Press Committee (1937-42), and a member of the

Board of Governors (1936-38). In the Society of Actuaries he was a member of the Committee on Frequency and Type of Meetings (1962-63), of the Committee on Public Relations (1957-66), and of the Board of Governors (1956-57 and 1960-62). He was elected a vice-president of the Society in 1965. He had been a member of the Senior Actuaries Club since 1946. He was a contributor to the *Transactions* of the Society and to insurance publications.

Mr. Shepherd's public career began with his appointment as chief assistant actuary of the Department of Banking and Insurance of New Jersey in 1927. Prior to that time he had served in various actuarial capacities with the Security Life and Trust, the Illinois Life, and the Missouri State Life Insurance Company. He entered the service of the New Jersey Department shortly after its reorganization following a legislative investigation and was one of a group selected to give the state a department with insurance sophistication and competence.

He was appointed actuary of the Association of Life Insurance Presidents in August, 1932. He served the Life Insurance Association of America until his retirement at the end of the year 1964. He became manager of the Life Insurance Association of America in 1945, executive vice-president in 1954, and president in 1962. Upon his retirement, he was elected to the Board of Directors of the Guardian Life Insurance Company and served that company until his death.

His interests carried him into areas remote from the life insurance business. His early interest in athletics found later expression in his enthusiasm for golf, and his inquiring mind found satisfactions in ornithology. He participated generously in community activities and in the work of his church, of which he was a trustee for many years.

As a protagonist of the life insurance message, his energies were directed toward the strengthening of the foundations of the business in a practical way. As a spokesman for the business, his words were received with respect and attention. His influence on life insurance was far greater than his public appearances and expressions suggested. The *Insurance Field* named him "Insurance Man of the Year" in 1964.

Mr. Shepherd was one of three brothers dedicated to the actuarial profession. His brother, the late Clinton, was a Fellow of the Society. His brother Pearce is a past president of the Society of Actuaries. He is also survived by his widow, Edna Michon Shepherd; a son, Scott Shepherd; a daughter, Mrs. Justine Shepherd Freud; a sister, Edith E. Shepherd; and five grandchildren.