

Frederick Addey was born on 1882 October 30 and died on 1966 September 8—a few weeks before his eighty-fourth birthday.

At the age of seventeen he joined the Central Telegraph Office as a junior, being transferred to the Radio Section in 1914. He retired from the Post Office in 1945.

Addey was in the forefront of the development of the Speaking Clock (now TIM), having visited Paris on several occasions to study French equipment and attend International Conferences on telegraphy. At the B.A.A. meeting of 1933 November 29, he described the Paris Speaking Clock and on 1936 November 25, he gave an account of the British installation with a demonstration of the 'pips' by means of a special relay from the Post Office by wire and loudspeakers. Mr Sellers remarked on that occasion "Members ought to know that it was chiefly through the efforts of Mr Addey that there is now a Speaking Clock in this country".

In 1908 Addey received his B.Sc. degree and in 1921 he was elected an M.I.E.E. In 1915 he was appointed a Lieutenant in the R.N.V.R. In 1926 he was admitted a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society and of the Royal Microscopical Society, while in 1927 he was elected a Membre Perpétuel de la Société Astronomique de France.

Addey joined the B.A.A. in 1927 and over the years he contributed a number of articles to the *Journal*. He was always interested in the Sun and when he was acting as Recorder of the Solar Section he kept very full records which enabled him, at the time of his appointment as Director of the Section in 1957, to bring up to date the reports which had previously been published by Mr Sellers. The *Journal* for 1958 August (68, no. 6) contains Addey's Report on Solar Activity from 1950 June 29 to 1958 January 12, after which his Annual Reports appeared regularly.

Addey lectured on many occasions—on Astronomy, on the History of Science and on Mathematics. He was interested in all branches of Science and always sought the Truth, hating hypocrisy in any form. He guided many students, and throughout his life he helped many young men both in Astronomy and Mathematics. As Director of the Solar Section he was always very courteous and helpful, particularly to beginners, and he would go to endless trouble to make a point clear.

He had a keen sense of humour and enjoyed his rambles as an enthusiastic naturalist; on one such ramble with the Quekett Microscopical Club he met his

future wife, Gertrude Emma Burrows, whom he married in 1918. In 1921 they both went to Egypt for two years, where he was in charge of the Wireless Station at Abu Zabal.

Addey was active almost to the last, both physically and mentally, and during his last year he became interested in the orientation of churches, particularly that of Selbourne. His eyesight began to fail, but nevertheless he enjoyed a holiday in France with his daughter in June, only three months before he died. His was a happy as well as a long life, being so full of interest, while he will always be remembered by those who had the pleasure of knowing him as a most kindly and helpful man.

His wife pre-deceased him and he leaves a son, David, and a daughter, Jean, and the writer is indebted to the latter for some of the more personal details quoted above.

W.M.B.