

## **George P. Blackwood Hallowes.**

It is with great regret that we have to record the death of Mr. G. P. B. Hallowes, one of the most active members of the Variable Star Section. On October 27 last he was involved in a very serious motor car accident, in consequence of which his wife also lost her life, and although for some days there appeared

to be every probability that he would recover from his injuries, complications arose, and he passed away in Poole Hospital on November 11.

Mr. Hallowes was born at Penrith, Cumberland, on 1867 April 12. He was educated at the King William's College, Isle of Man, and in due course entered the Civil Service, becoming a member of the surveyors' staff of the General Post Office, and but for his early retirement in 1912 owing to ill health following a prolonged illness he might have gone far in his profession. In 1893 he had married the daughter of the Rev. L. O. Cary, vicar of Brenzett, Kent. Since his retirement he lived in the neighbourhood of Bournemouth, for the last seven years at Wimborne. In his earlier years Mr. Hallowes was a keen amateur yachtsman, and owned successively three or four small yachts, his last one being a seven-ton cutter. He was a skilful navigator, and made several voyages from Dublin to the Kyles of Bute. In all matters relating to shipping, particularly sailing ships, he was extremely interested and well informed.

But throughout his life his great interest was astronomy. As a boy he made frequent use of his school telescope, a  $4\frac{3}{4}$ -inch refractor, and soon became possessed of a 3-inch refractor of his own. Subsequently he owned  $6\frac{1}{2}$ -inch, 8-inch, and 10-inch reflectors, all on tripod mountings, and in 1915 acquired the fine  $12\frac{1}{2}$ -inch Calver reflector, equatorially mounted, which he used up to the time of his death. He had been elected a Fellow of the R.A.S. as early as 1891, and before joining our Association in 1922 had frequently observed the moon, planets, double stars, star clusters, and so on, thoroughly enjoying the use of his telescopes, as his note book and diaries show. In 1923 he published a short paper in the *Journal* on "Reflector Adjustments," and in the following year another on "The Ring Plain Archimedes." From this time onwards having joined the Variable Star Section he devoted his attention mainly to work upon Long Period and a few Irregular Variables, each year making a series of reliable observations. He realised the necessity of keeping his mirrors in thoroughly good condition, and made many estimates of Variables at their faintest stages, and also of faint comparison stars, which were of especial value. In other ways he was of great service to the Section. He checked the whole of the observations contained in *B.A.A. Memoir*, Vol. XXVIII, more than 43,000 in number, and at the time of his death had compiled nearly half of the observations made by the Section in 1925-29, which it is hoped to publish next year. The Director also received much help from him in clerical work of different sorts. The regular observation of Variables, begun after reading a paper upon the subject in the *Journal*, undoubtedly gave him more pleasure than any other telescopic work in which he had previously been engaged, and it is lamentable that his activities should have been brought to an end under these painful circumstances. All will deplore the loss of such a capable and enthusiastic observer.

Two sons and a daughter survive their parents.—A. N. B.