

the Council of the Society for a number of years. By his early death the Society has lost an active member and an outstanding

scholar in the very prime of his life. Whatever branch of Archæology he touched he left his mark.

Mr. Mahes Prasad Bajpai (1907-1938)

MR. M. P. BAJPAI, who was Lecturer in Geology in the Department of Ceramics, Benares Hindu University, met with a fatal accident near Lachhman Jhula in the Almora District, United Provinces, on the evening of the 15th November 1938. He was out in field on behalf of the Government of the United Provinces to whom his services were lent by the University and was carrying out prospecting work under the newly planned Mineral Survey of the Province. It seems, while climbing a steep escarpment on way to a gypsum quarry he fell deep down into a gully and died instantaneously due to the fracture of the skull. The entire details of the accident are not known.

Mr. Bajpai was born in 1907 in the Etawah District, United Provinces, and had his Secondary education in the Local High School. In 1924 he joined the Benares Hindu University where he studied Geology and eventually passed the M.Sc. Examination in that subject in 1930. After this, he took to research and investigated a number of problems many of which were of economic importance and aimed at the development of the mineral industry of the country. He carried out mineral prospecting in several States and many districts of the United Provinces, Central Provinces, Bihar and Madras Presidency and discovered a large number of new mineral deposits

which included mica, felspars, pottery clays, limestones, talc, glass sands, etc.

In the brief span of six years as a geologist, he published a large number of papers both of academic and economic importance. His work on Gwalior Trap has been of outstanding value and will remain a work of reference for a long time. Much of his work on the Cuddapahas is yet left unpublished. During the last monsoon he, along with



Mr. Mahes Prasad Bajpai

a colleague from the Department of Geology, surveyed the flooded districts of the United Provinces and investigated the causes of these floods in this area. He was busy writing the report suggesting measures for preventing the occurrence of these floods which are so frequent in our country and devastating in their nature. Although very young, his researches on clays brought him on the Editorial Board of the *Indian Ceramics*, a newly started quar-

terly journal.

Mr. Bajpai was a keen sportsman and an excellent field-geologist. Even under the most trying circumstances, he would not hesitate in pursuing arduous work. He felt homely alike in the hot sandy deserts of Cutch, the barren hills of the Salt Range and in the cold hills of the Siwaliks. His enthusiasm and zeal for work was endless. In his premature death at the young age of 31 years, our country has lost a promising geologist.

A. G. J. AND M. L. M.

WE regret to announce the death of Dr. A. S. Menon, D.Sc., Lecturer in Physical Chemistry, Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar at the early age of 35.