

nor of Connecticut. She died on December 30, 1954. His children are his daughter Doris (Mrs. E. Claire Butler) and two sons, Howard M. Booth and Robert W. Booth.

George Booth died at his summer home in Bass Rocks, Gloucester, on September 1, 1955. Although not in the best of health, his condition seemed to be improving, and his death was sudden and a shock to his family and friends. Always rugged and vigorous throughout his long life, it was not until the last three years that a heart condition slowed up his activities. His wife's death deeply affected him. To most of his friends it seemed that, because of his robust appearance, his optimism and his general good nature, the vagaries of life could never affect him. He seemed indestructible. A gift of humor was one of his outstanding qualities. Almost every Saturday noon a group of members would assemble at the Worcester Club for mid-day chat and news. When George Booth joined the group the whole room lightened up and conversation became enlivened. He was an entertaining companion and a good talker. As a public speaker he was always ready and interesting. With a life in Worcester extending back for fifty-six years, and invariably associated with people prominent in public life, his reminiscences of men and events were clear and trustworthy. What a fund of memories he possessed! I frequently suggested that his story of Worcester for half a century would be worth while, but he said that he could not take the time or make the effort. Now that he has gone, there is much that we have lost. All of the many who experienced his helpfulness and his understanding will cherish his memory.

C. S. B.

ALLAN FORBES

Allan Forbes was born at Boston on November 20, 1874, a son of James Murray and Alice Frances (Bowditch)

Forbes, and the great-grandson of the founder of their clipper-ship fortune. He attended Milton Academy during the warm months and Noble's School during the winter, without making much impression as a scholar at either. A German tutor finally got him past the college entrance examinations given in London. As a member of the Harvard Class of 1897 he was more interested in the Institute, the D.K.E., and polo than in his studies; and yet he was a conscientious lad who feared his examinations and was so depressed by a "condition" in Physics that as long as he lived he was troubled by a nightmare that he was back in Cambridge trying to find quarters in which to live while "making up" that course. On the day that his class graduated he was playing polo at Meadowbrook, although he was not at all certain that he would obtain his degree.

For a time Forbes coached the Harvard polo team, and for nineteen years he played regularly on the famous Dedham club. He also played bicycle polo and built small boats which he sailed in informal competition. But he was far from being a social playboy. In February, 1897, he entered the house of Blodgett, Merritt, and Company. Having learned the essentials of the banking business (which he defined as filling inkwells), in February, 1899, he joined the State Street Trust Company, which then had eight employees. Almost immediately he became secretary-treasurer of this company, which from 1911 to 1950 he served as president. He was also president of a number of other organizations, including the Boston and Albany Railroad, and at one time was trustee or director of no less than forty-five corporations.

Forbes was also active in an equal number of social organizations such as the Salvation Army, the English-Speaking Union, and philanthropic fund drives of all kinds. At the outbreak of both world wars he became an ardent advocate

of American participation, and in 1916 he was one of the underwriters of the Harvard Undergraduates' Flying Corps which trained ten per cent of the total numbers of flyers available to the United States when the war came. But his greatest activity was in the multitude of organizations devoted to fostering good relations with our allies, current or prospective, and to furthering relief work in them. With good reason Belgium, France, the Netherlands, China, and Great Britain decorated him.

For all of this activity, Allan Forbes was not gregarious, but was happier at his homes in Westwood and at 70 Beacon Street than in social gatherings. This concealed the fact that he had a most unexpected, gentle, and disarming wit, which was usually turned against himself, never against others. His fifteenth-anniversary class report devotes two sentences to his own biography and the same space to the obituary of his dog "Mike."

Forbes' first collection was of polo ponies, which he exhibited in horse shows far and near. Next, he said, he decided to collect a family, and on June 4, 1913, he married Josephine M. A. Crosby of New York. Then he turned more and more of his attention to gathering antiques and marine prints, became a skillful rigger of ship models, and a founder of the Post Card Collectors' Society. The presidential office of the State Street Trust was reconstructed as a New England domestic interior of the "uncomfortable colonial period," and in time the whole building became a museum for his collections.

Another facet of this activity was a series of some thirty tracts on various aspects of colonial life which Forbes wrote to be distributed by the Trust Company. He called upon us for aid in the research, and as a result was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1921. In one way this was a miscalculation, for no less than twenty-seven years

elapsed before he attended a meeting or visited our library. However, at the meeting of October, 1949, he spoke on the "Story of Clipper Ship Sailing Cards," and his paper was published in the *Proceedings*. During the last decade of his life he was one of our most voluminous correspondents. Otherwise, he was much more active in the Massachusetts Historical Society, which he served as treasurer for several years before his sudden death at his home in Westwood on July 10, 1955. His collection of prints went to two of his sons, Allan Forbes, Jr., of London, and James Murray Forbes of Cambridge, Massachusetts. C. K. S.

STEPHEN WILLARD PHILLIPS

Stephen W. Phillips, a son of Stephen Henry and Margaret (Duncan) Phillips, was born at Honolulu on January 9, 1873. His ancestors had been active in the opening of the Pacific trade, and his father was at one time Attorney General of Hawaii. He was educated at the Salem High School, Harvard College, and Harvard Law School, graduating from the last in 1898. His record as a student was excellent. On June 15, 1899, he married Anna Pingree Wheatland.

Mr. Phillips was briefly a member of the Boston law firm of Putnam and Putnam, but he soon set up for himself, specializing in estate management. For more than fifty years he commuted daily on the Boston and Maine between his Salem home and his Boston office. He always, he said, took "great pleasure" in his work as an investor, maintaining that it was an art which called for hard and continuous labor.

In 1903-04 Mr. Phillips served on the Salem Common Council, and in 1905-06 he was a member of the General Court. However, he did not enjoy political life, but turned rather to the management of the funds of many social and

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