

Now Mr. Adams turned more to reading, which had always interested him, and more particularly to history, of which he had seen so much made. He was keenly aware of the fact that the environment of his early years had been completely swept away by urbanization, and its Yankee people swamped by later immigrants. "I know just how the American Indians felt," he used to say with a smile. Like so many Adamases, he looked as cold and dry as last year's cornshock, but in fact he was a man of the keenest sensibilities, and of the quickest apprehension of the meaning of changes. He felt that even those which were most unpleasant to him were necessary progress. So untrusting of his own literary abilities that he would never use the slightest art in his writings, he wrote for the *Proceedings* of the Massachusetts Historical Society accounts of his childhood and early manhood which in their sharpness of comprehension and economy of phrase are the despair of the professional historian who would write well.

As president of the Massachusetts Historical Society from 1950 to 1957, Mr. Adams effected a complete revolution in its affairs. A convinced "common stock man," he preferred the risks of change and did not hesitate to take them. The changes which were accomplished in the Historical Society under his administration were as great as those resulting from the urbanization of Quincy, which he deplored, but they put the Society back into the front rank of organizations of its type. As an executive he was never autocratic. He believed that it was his place to find the best possible professional subordinate, and then to find the means to execute that professional's ideas. When on occasion the Council of the Society rose up and voted him down, his eyes would twinkle with pleasure at this show of interest in the business of the institution. He never took much part in the affairs of the American Antiquarian Society, to which

he was elected in 1950, because of his preoccupation with the Historical Society.

When Mr. Adams found his mind slowing down—he detected it before we did—he insisted on resigning the presidency. The death of his wife of half a century, the former Marian Morse of Falmouth, deprived him of a refuge in which he could forget for a time the mental and physical fumbings which are incident to all old age, but which irritated him keenly when he detected them in himself. His interest in the affairs of the Historical Society never flagged, but in his last years he rarely went out because he was annoyed at being unable to remember names. He welcomed the release which came on August 29, 1964, but we bitterly regret the loss of a friend who was the last man to be cast from his mold of inheritance and environment.

C. K. S.

NEWTON CASE BRAINARD

Newton C. Brainard died in his native city of Hartford, Connecticut, on July 16, 1964, six months before his eighty-fourth birthday. Mr. Brainard was a prominent citizen and successful printer of Connecticut, following in his father's footsteps. He was named, in fact, for Newton Case, founder of the well-known firm of Case, Lockwood, and Brainard.

Brainard graduated from Yale in 1902, and promptly went into the family business. In 1910, he was elected president of Case, Lockwood, and Brainard, a position which he held until 1952. During that time the firm prospered as did the firm of Connecticut Printers which he headed from 1947 to 1952. He was also an officer of a number of other Connecticut business firms.

Mr. Brainard was active in state and local Republican

politics. He served as Mayor of Hartford from 1920-1922, as well as on several state and local commissions.

His charitable acts were in proportion to his business success. He was a benefactor of Trinity College and the city of Hartford. To the latter he gave two million dollars in 1957, for the care of the ill, aged, and infirm.

As well as being a trustee of Trinity College, he was president of the Connecticut Historical Society from 1953 to 1963, to which he left several fine pieces of Connecticut furniture.

Mr. Brainard was elected to membership in this Society in October, 1955. His other interests prevented him from participating actively in our affairs, although he did attend one meeting and gave to the annual operating fund.

Brainard was born in Hartford on December 26, 1880. In 1936, he married Elsie Logan Burks of Eagle Rock, Virginia, who survives him.

M. A. McC.

HENRY WILDER FOOTE

Dr. Foote was born in Boston on February 2, 1875, a son of the Henry Wilder Foote who was minister of King's Chapel, a distinguished historian, and a member of this Society. His mother was Frances Anne Eliot. From Roxbury Latin he went to Harvard College where he took his B.A. in 1897. For fifteen months he traveled in Egypt and Europe, but returned to enter the Harvard Graduate School in 1898. The next summer he was a member of the Harvard-Yale track team which went to London to meet the Oxford-Cambridge team in the first of that series of games. Henry ran in the three-mile, and lost. After taking his M.A. in 1900, he entered the Harvard Divinity School where he was graduated S.T.B. in 1902.

While in the Divinity School, Foote had been preaching as a supply in Maine and had served as Secretary to the Trustees of the Penn Normal and Agricultural School, St. Helena Island, South Carolina. In 1902 he was ordained in King's Chapel and called to the First Unitarian Church of New Orleans. On June 22, 1903, he married Eleanor Tyson Cope. Three years later he went to the First Unitarian Church of Ann Arbor, where he served for four years. In 1909 he had become Secretary of the Department of Education of the American Unitarian Association, a job which demanded far travel and wide personal acquaintance. Finding that he enjoyed this, he resigned his pulpit in 1910, and devoted himself to the work of the Association. At one time he was a trustee of Hampton Institute and of five minor Southern schools. His contribution was recognized by the degree of S.T.D. granted him by the Pacific Unitarian School for the Ministry.

In 1912 Foote built a large house in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and there and in a summer place in Maine raised five children. Their demands on his time had much to do with his acceptance of a sedentary assistant professorship of preaching and parish administration in the Harvard Divinity School in 1914. There he remained for a decade, broken for him only by service with the Red Cross in Washington in 1918. In 1924 he became pastor of the First Church of Belmont where he remained for sixteen years, resigning shortly before the outbreak of World War II created a great shortage of ministers. Again he was on the road, preaching as a supply, and finally closing this chapter of his life with the organization of the Unitarian Church in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Besides the parish ministry, Dr. Foote's great interest had always been church music, and in 1914 he had served as secretary of the committee which prepared the erudite

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