

MEMOIRS

THOMAS TINNER

THE President (Mr W. Palin Elderton, C.B.E.), before asking Mr C. D. Rich to introduce his paper, referred to the loss of two fellows and said: After a long illness Thomas Tinner of the Comptroller's Department of the London County Council died on the 19th November 1933. Mr Tinner's work was connected with Pension Funds, and he contributed papers and also took part in many discussions at the Institute on that subject. An interesting account—in my view one of the best accounts—of the money purchase system for pensions from his pen was published in 1919 by the Committee of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London which was presided over by the late Mr W. J. H. Whittall, F.I.A., for the purpose of considering pensions for hospital officers and staffs. Mr Tinner wrote a paper and two mathematical Notes for the *Journal*. Those of the members who knew Mr Tinner will miss a friend held in high esteem.

JAMES BUCHANAN

James Buchanan died on the 2nd of November 1933. An exceptionally good mathematician, as was shown by his academic records at Glasgow and at Cambridge, Dr James Buchanan will be remembered in actuarial circles not only for his papers on finite differences, summations and graduations, in which field he exhibited his mathematical genius, but also for two helpful and practical papers on "Bonuses" and on "A Model Office for Endowment Assurances." Unless I am very much mistaken, Dr James Buchanan would despise me as much as I should despise myself if I pretended to forget that Dr James Buchanan did not see eye to eye with me in the matter of selection. Perhaps neither of us gave quite enough quiet reflection to the other's point of view. If so, that was less excusable in me, for it must have been a little hard for him to talk over things quietly, because, as a result of a bad railway accident so far back as 1892, he was partially deaf and must have suffered increasingly from that disability. Some twenty years ago an article appeared in *Macmillan's Magazine*, over the initials of a mathematical Fellow of the Royal Society, discussing mathematics and the opportunities they gave, in the course of which reference was made to actuarial work; the author of the article there referred to a mathematician who had not, in his opinion, received the material acknowledgments which might have been expected by a person of his ability. No name was given, but at the time I felt sure that the author referred to Buchanan. With Buchanan's brain and achievements his friends might naturally have been disappointed on his behalf, even though he himself was too lion-hearted and too independent to share that view. Now such things no longer matter, and Buchanan's friends can feel satisfied that he made his actuarial position sure by good work well done.