

## OBITUARY

ALISDAIR GRANT.

26th March, 1896—25th September, 1945.

In the last issue of the *Journal* there was a brief notice of the untimely death of Mr. Alisdair Grant, who, although never a member of our Society, would without doubt have been an active member if he had remained with us. It seems fitting, therefore, that some tribute, however small, should be paid to his memory, the more so as he was well known to many of our members.

Mr. Grant was trained at the Forestry Commission's School at Beaufort, Inverness-shire, Scotland, from 1923 to 1925. He had some previous experience of forestry work on the Lovat estates. After completion of his training he was employed as foreman and later as forester with the Forestry Commission and as forester in charge of Benmore Forest in Argyllshire, he had much to do with the supervision of the practical work of trainees at the Benmore Forest School.

When the Department of Lands was looking for a competent person to take over the task of instructor at the re-opened Forestry School at Avondale, Mr. Grant's experience told and he was appointed to that post in August, 1936. He filled this appointment with every satisfaction until October, 1940, when he was transferred to Galway to take over District VI as its District Officer. He left the service to return to Great Britain in August, 1942, but he was dogged by ill-health and misfortune from then on to his death in September, 1945.

Mr. Grant was of a pleasant disposition and likeable character, which made him popular, not only with his subordinates but with all he came in contact with. He was quiet and somewhat reserved but took a keen interest in his work and was eminently suited for the position of instructor, which he held at a difficult time. He was a lively correspondent and his letters were couched in a cheerful strain right up to the last. It was with reluctance on his part and with sincere regret on the part of his colleagues and many friends that he decided to leave the service here and return to Scotland. He could scarcely have foreseen how short would be the time he would be spared to carry on.

The many foresters in the State service, who were so fortunate as to be trained under him, will be the first to acknowledge the benefit which they derived from his instruction and the debt they owe him.

T. A. O'CONNELL