

OBITUARY.

G. L. R. HANCOCK, M.A., F.R.E.S., F.Z.S.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of G. L. R. Hancock which occurred at the European Hospital, Kampala, on July 3rd. He had been ill for some time starting with an operation for appendicitis, after which complications ensued culminating in pneumonia. His condition improved a few weeks ago and the writer had a pleasant chat with him in hospital when he was looking forward to a recuperative period at Limuru and being able to visit the Croyndon Museum.

George Hancock was in the late thirties and was educated at Harrow and Cambridge University. Throughout his undergraduate days he was keenly interested in entomology and took part in the Cambridge University Expedition to Brazil during one long vacation. He also published several short papers on British Ichneumons and allied groups. About 1926, he was appointed Assistant Agricultural Entomologist to the Uganda Government, and entered upon his work with his usual enthusiasm. A great part of his work was in connection with cotton pests and he published a valuable paper in the *Uganda Journal* on the notorious "cotton-stainers" (*Dysdercus*). His work was not confined to the agricultural side of entomology and in conjunction with Mr. G. H. E. Hopkins he did a great deal of work on mosquitoes, including a preliminary survey of the aquatic insect fauna of certain portions of Lake Victoria. Hancock had a love for mountains and made collecting trips on Elgon, Ruwenzori, and Kenya. Very interesting accounts of the expeditions to Elgon and Ruwenzori have been published in this Journal. Many new species were discovered and valuable observations made. A few years ago Hancock relinquished his appointment and took on a new post which had recently been created at Makerere College. This was tutor and lecturer in Biology and he entered upon this new job with his usual keenness. During his last leave a few months ago he purchased complete equipment for a small museum which he was starting at the college for the benefit of the students.

The writer frequently stayed with George Hancock in Kampala and accompanied him on many collecting excursions which will be very greatly missed. George was a great talker

and it was impossible to be in his company without being affected by his great enthusiasm for anything connected with Biology. Only recently we had been considering the production of a joint-paper on the African species of *Dysdercus* as a whole to supplement his previous paper which had dealt only with the economic side.

Hancock joined the East Africa and Uganda Natural History Society in 1926 and was a fellow of the Royal Entomological Society and the Zoological Society of London.

He was unmarried and we extend our sympathy to his father, Canon Hancock, who survives him.

A. F. J. GEDYE.