

Tom Goodey, 1885–1953.

Almost on the eve of his departure for Australia to advise the government there on nematological research, Tom Goodey, O.B.E., D.Sc., F.R.S., died suddenly on the 7th July, 1953, from a heart attack: he collapsed on his way home from a meeting of the Society of Friends.

Born at Wellingborough on the 28th July, 1885, Goodey was educated at the local Board School, at the County School, Northampton, and at the University of Birmingham whence he graduated with Honours in zoology and botany in 1908. After some sound early work on marine zoology (4 papers) he became a protozoologist, working at Rothamsted (1912–19) on the role of soil protozoa in the phenomena of partial soil sterilization, and at Birmingham, in World War I, on amoebic dysentery (9 protozoological papers). After one year (1920) as Plant Helminthologist at Rothamsted, he joined Leiper's staff at the London School of Tropical Medicine and later at the Institute of Agricultural Parasitology, where he was the senior member of the staff throughout the duration of the Institute. When the latter ceased to exist in 1947, on Leiper's retirement, its plant-nematode half arose, phoenix-like, as the Nematology Department at Rothamsted with Goodey as Head of Department. Although he retired from this office in 1952, he continued to work full time in the department where, freed from administrative worries, he was actively engaged at the time of his death in preparing (with the assistance of J. B. Goodey) a new edition of his first text-book, "Plant Parasitic Nematodes", and in working on the genus *Anguina*.

From 1920 he worked exclusively with nematodes, publishing about 100 papers of which nearly 90 per cent. appeared in this Journal. He has some 19 papers on the nematodes of mammals but, when he joined the new Institute in 1924, he soon specialized in the plant-parasitic and free living species now grouped under the name "Nematology", and it is mainly in this field that he soon became acknowledged as a world authority.

Volume I of this Journal (1923) opens with a joint paper by Goodey and Cameron, and his name appears in every volume down to 1949 with an average of over three papers a year. The fall to three papers in

five years after 1948 merely reflects his absorption in administering his Department. Most of these papers reveal the patient and meticulously careful work of the taxonomist which Goodey pre-eminently was, but he was never merely that ; in 1930 the *Phil. Trans.* paper on the life-history and development of *Tylenchinema oscinellae* in *Oscinella frit* (summarized in Vol. VIII of this Journal) well shows the range of his biological interest. In Vol. X (1932) came his long, masterly survey of the genus *Anguillulina*, and in the following year his first text-book was published. In 1940 his valuable compilation on "Nematode parasites of plants catalogued under their hosts" was issued by the (then) Imperial Bureau of Agricultural Parasitology. During the next five years he interested himself in the stem-eelworm disease of onions and showed that infestation was carried by the seed, which could be disinfested by fumigation with methyl bromide. His last major work was the second text-book, "Soil and freshwater nematodes" (1951).

Apart from professional interests, Goodey had a fine tenor voice and was an amateur singer in a variety of media from folk songs to German Lieder and Oratorio. He will long be remembered for singing Midir in Boughton's "Immortal Hour" in the West End. He also had a keen interest in rock- and water-gardening.

He was long and actively associated with the Society of Friends, and had been for many years an Elder of the Harpenden Meeting. He leaves a widow, a son, and three daughters. Nematology is very much the poorer for his going, though he might well have approved of the sudden departure before old age had quenched his enthusiasm or dimmed his vision. His many friends sadly miss a man of great integrity, energy, humility and patience whose character was saved from the implied severity by an unrestrainable sense of fun.

B.G.P.