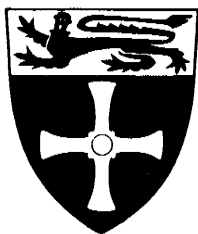


UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE



Department of Classics 1874 - 1974

This year the Department of Classics celebrates the centenary of the teaching of Latin and Greek in the University of Newcastle upon Tyne and in the institutions from which the University developed. During April the Annual General Meeting of the Classical Association of England and Wales takes place in Newcastle under the auspices of its Northumberland and Durham Branch, and at the invitation of the University. This happy coincidence has prompted the Department to mount a small exhibition of books, documents and portraits in illustration of its own history.

The following account is a revised and expanded version of the history of the Department published in the booklet issued on the opening of the Percy Building in October 1958. The history of the University itself is impossible to summarize here. Interested readers are advised to consult the standard work on the subject, *The University of Newcastle upon Tyne: A Historical Introduction 1834-1971*, by E. M. Bettenson, Registrar of the University, of which a copy is displayed in this exhibition.

Early Years

The founders of the College of Physical Science in Newcastle in 1871 hoped that whatever the title of the institution "any student who may desire it, should have the opportunity of knowing something of the Latin and Greek languages". Accordingly the Reverend J. Bulmer, B.D., was appointed in 1874 to give classes in Latin and Greek at the fee of two guineas a term for each language. The fee for a student was the same, and in at least one year fees on both sides exactly balanced, as there was only one student in each language. This arrangement, not unnaturally, lapsed in 1880, but in 1886 when A. V. Paton ("former Scholar of Trinity College, Oxford") became a Lecturer in Classics and English, there was a greater need for teaching in Latin and Greek since, apart from other considerations, the college now had students for the B.Sc. degree, the regulations for which required candidates to show evidence of the knowledge of both languages. Paton left in 1888 for a commercial career which led to a Knighthood and the Directorship of the Liverpool Cotton Association. In discussion on his successor Council "considered it very desirable that a competent teacher should be appointed", and Owen Seaman (1861-1936) was engaged as Lecturer in Classics and English, at a stipend of £120. He had to cover Literature as well as Classics, and in 1890, when the opening of the Day Training Department ensured a supply of students and there was an increase in Government grant, he was made Professor of Literature. He resigned three years later on inheriting some private means and his true career was in London as Editor of *Punch* (1906-1932), and as a parodist and minor satirist. He was made a baronet in 1933.

The period of J. W. Duff

Seaman's successor was J. Wight Duff (1866-1944) who was a Professor in the College for forty years and to whom more than anyone else it is due that the Arts became firmly established in it. Initially he took the title of Professor of Literature and Classics, but in 1898 the steady increase in Arts students led to the establishment of a Chair of English Language and Literature and he accordingly became Professor of Classics, but still with the duty "if required, to teach the history of Greece and Rome". It was natural, therefore, for a further change to take place in 1901, when he became Professor of Classics and Ancient History.

Duff's chief works — his two volumes on the literary history of Rome and his book on Roman Satire and its outlook on social life — owe their value to his literary sensibility and warm sympathy with the Latin spirit. His three chapters in 'The Cambridge Ancient History' on the beginnings of Latin literature, on Ciceronian society and on social life in Rome and Italy in the Early Empire are admirably skilful sketches. After his retirement he was Sather Professor of Classical Literature in the University of California for the year 1935-1936.

All teachers at the College in its early years were expected to show some versatility, and changing conditions led to frequent changes of title and staff. In 1895 a lectureship in Latin and Greek was established and filled by the Reverend J. G. W. Tuckey, who was succeeded in the post, renamed a lectureship in Literature and Classics, by G. W. Urwick, who in the following year assumed the title of Lecturer in Classics, Logic and Philosophy. In 1899 the post was limited to Logic and Philosophy. In 1905 Duff received further assistance when Mable Atkinson (the author of a book published in the previous year entitled *Local Government in Scotland*) was appointed to an assistant lectureship in Classics and a lectureship in Logic and Philosophy; but when she was succeeded in 1908 by H. P. Cooke he was appointed as Assistant Lecturer in Classics and Lecturer in

Philosophy. In 1910 J. R. Brown was appointed Lecturer in Classics and Ancient History. In the following year Cooke became a Lecturer in Classics, and P. Newbold succeeded Brown.

Newbold stayed only two years, but Cooke stayed until 1917, publishing a philosophical dialogue while he was in Newcastle. His later works included a study in myths, mysteries and religion, a book on Charles I and his earlier parliaments and, in 1938, a translation of Aristotle's *Categories* and *On Interpretation* in the Loeb Classical Library. Newbold was followed in 1913 by M. S. Thompson, who in the previous year had written with A. J. B. Wace a book on prehistoric Thessaly. Thompson's place was taken in 1914 by Christina Keith. She left in 1918 and was Fellow and Tutor of St. Hilda's College, Oxford, until 1942. In 1918 the two lectureships were filled by the appointment of Miss C. M. Shipley, subsequently Mrs. Anderton, who remained in the service of the College for forty years, and of J. F. Mountford, who moved to the University of Edinburgh in the following year, later occupied chairs successively at Cornell, Aberystwyth and Liverpool, and became Sir James Mountford and Vice-Chancellor of Liverpool University.

In 1919 a new post was established. J. Macdonald was appointed Deputy Professor of Classics and Ancient History. His post was changed to a lectureship in 1921 and in the following year he moved to Aberdeen where he was Reader in Celtic and Comparative Philology until 1956. The other new appointment was that of W. G. Waddell (1884-1945) who was a lecturer until the end of 1936 except for the period from 1929 to 1932 when he was seconded as Professor of Classics in the University of Egypt at Cairo, where he was professor again from 1937 to 1944. At the time of his death in January 1945 he was back at Newcastle as a temporary wartime lecturer. In 1927 he edited some selections from Menander, in 1939 he appropriately published an edition of the second book of Herodotus, and in 1940 he produced a text and translation of Manetho in the Loeb Classical Library. A selection of his books was presented to the Department by Mrs. Waddell. R. E. K. Pemberton was appointed to Macdonald's lectureship, but after one year was succeeded in 1923 by G. C. Whittick, who retired in 1965 after 42 years of service to the Department.

In 1931, partly on the promptings of F. G. Simpson of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne, a lectureship in Roman-British History and Archaeology was established jointly in Newcastle and Durham, and E. B. Birley was appointed (he was interviewed by Simpson and Sir William Marris, Principal of Armstrong College, on the edge of the trench he was digging at Corstopitum). After four years lectureships in both Divisions were established and I. A. Richmond began his twenty-one years of service to the College, while Birley moved to Durham. In 1944 Richmond was appointed to a personal readership in Romano-British Archaeology, and in 1950 to a personal professorship in Roman-British History and Archaeology. In 1956 he left to become the first Professor at Oxford of the Archaeology of the Roman Empire.

1933 to 1963

Duff retired in 1933, having built up not only the Department but also the holdings of classical books and periodicals in the University Library, particularly a large collection of what are now rare and valuable pamphlets. He was succeeded by S. K. Johnson (1899-1936), then Professor of Classics at Swansea, as Professor of Classics, who in 1935 edited with R. S. Conway the fourth volume of the Oxford edition of Livy, but in the next year met his death on a mountain in Austria. In 1937, G. B. A. Fletcher became

Professor of Classics and Head of Department. In the same year Waddell's place was taken by H. D. Westlake, who became the first Reader in Greek in 1946 and left in 1949 on his appointment as Professor of Greek at Manchester. V. L. Ehrenberg, subsequently Reader in Ancient History in the University of London, was Lecturer in Classics from 1941 to 1945. In 1946 Fletcher took the title of Professor of Latin, and a new lectureship in Classics was established, to which B. J. Sims was appointed. A further new lectureship in Classics was created in 1948. It was filled by J. Ferguson, who left in 1953 and in 1956 became Professor of Classics at the University College of Ibadan. After a period at the University at Minnesota, he was appointed in 1969 Dean and Director of Studies in Arts in the Open University. In 1948 there was also established a lectureship in Ancient History. This was held by Miss J. M. Reynolds until 1951 when she was appointed Fellow and Lecturer at Newnham College, Cambridge. She was succeeded by R. A. Crossland who left in 1958 to become Professor of Greek at Sheffield. Crossland was succeeded in 1959 by J. F. Lazenby. A third new post created in 1948 was a lectureship in Romano-British Archaeology. This was held by J. P. Gillam until 1956 when he became Reader in Roman-British History and Archaeology on Professor Richmond's removal to Oxford. As Reader in Greek, Westlake was succeeded by J. B. Skemp who in 1950 was appointed to the chair of Greek at Durham. Skemp was succeeded as Reader by H. L. Hudson-Williams, who was appointed Professor of Greek in 1952 when King's College at last had a chair of Greek as well as a chair of Latin.

C. Garton was appointed to a lectureship in Classics in 1953; he left in 1966 to take up a post at the New York State University at Buffalo, where he is now Professor of Classics. In 1955 a lectureship in Greek Archaeology and Ancient History was established; it was filled by B. B. Shefton, who founded the Greek Museum now housed on the first floor of the Percy Building. Miss L. P. E. Parker, now Mrs. Edwards and Fellow of St. Hugh's College, Oxford, was Lecturer in Classics from 1960 to 1967. In 1958 G. A. Longman had succeeded Mrs. Anderton, and was himself succeeded in 1961 by W. G. Arnott as Lecturer in Classics. This was the last appointment before King's College became the University of Newcastle upon Tyne in 1963. Arnott left at the end of 1967 to take up the chair of Greek at Leeds.

1963 to the present day

In 1964 R. M. Harrison came as lecturer in Roman and Roman-British History and Archaeology. In 1968 he was appointed to a personal chair and in 1972 became Head of the newly-established Department of Archaeology; simultaneously Gillam left to join him in that Department. T. J. Saunders, J. Longrigg and A. J. Woodman (a graduate of the Department) came as Lecturers in Classics in 1965, 1966 and 1968 respectively. In 1969 Professor Fletcher, who had consolidated the foundations laid by Duff both in the Department and the Library, was succeeded as Head of Department by Professor Hudson-Williams, and as Professor of Latin by D. A. West. J. J. Paterson was appointed to a lectureship in Ancient History in 1972.

Accommodation

The Department used to be accommodated in the main building of the College. For twelve years after the second world war it had deplorable accommodation in scattered houses in Eldon Place which made it necessary to limit the number of students reading for Honours to twenty. When the Percy Building was opened in 1958, the Department took up quarters on the second floor.

Courses

Courses in Latin and Greek are given for students reading for the General Degree with Honours, and there are the traditional Honours Schools in Classics and in Latin with subsidiary Greek. There is also an Honours School of Greek with a one year's course to which only students who have already graduated in the University with Honours in Latin are admitted. Recent years have seen steady growth in the teaching of Ancient History for the General Degree with Honours, and extensive development of the Greek and Roman Culture course instituted as long ago as 1946.

Students

Former students of the Department hold a wide variety of appointments in teaching, industry and the civil service; several have found their way into computing. Those who hold university posts include: A. A. Barrett (University of British Columbia), D. R. Bradley (University of Manchester), D. W. Black (Queen Mary College, London), L. C. Smith (University of New Brunswick), and H. A. Kahn (University of Nottingham).

The present exhibition consists of books by past and present members of the Department, old syllabuses and examination papers, some portraits and a number of other items.