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Editorial

IT is with deep regret that we record the death of Dr. E. J. Tongue, B.A., on 21st December, 1964. Dr. Tongue who was 82 was at Old King Street, Bristol, for his last pastorate, 1939-47, and there renewed close contact with the college which had given him his training. He served it both as secretary and librarian and also acted as librarian for our own Society. In this capacity he had to deal with enquiries from correspondents both in Britain and abroad. This sort of work, time-consuming, painstaking, and of course totally devoid of limelight was no burden to him but a labour of love. The Society has lost a devoted member and Baptist history a devoted servant.

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Will members of the Society please note that the place for our Annual General Meeting on Monday, 3rd May, has been changed to York Road Baptist Church, Haselwood Drive, Ebor Gardens, Leeds, 9. Buses will leave Oxford Place Chapel (Methodist) at 3.45 p.m. and tea will be available by ticket only. Our speaker is to be the Rev. R. Hayden, M.A., B.D., of Waterbarn.

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The Rev. N. Clark has intimated that he feels obliged to discontinue his article "In the Study" which has been appearing since January, 1959. Many readers will wish to join us in thanking

Mr. Clark most heartily for the service he has rendered in this way. His articles have not only introduced us to many of the most important recent books but have enabled us to listen in to the running commentary of one of our ablest theologians on matters of moment in present-day theological discussion. Although his regular contribution ceases with the current issue we hope that there will be other articles from Mr. Clark's pen at not infrequent intervals in the future.

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As part of its centenary celebrations the London Baptist Association has been provided by its secretary, Rev. Charles Johnson, with an account of the varied work and witness of these last hundred years. The story falls virtually into two halves, the watershed being the peak year 1906-7. It tends, understandably, to revolve round successive leaders, ministerial and lay, and it is good to be reminded of their vision and dedication. In evangelism and church extension and the numerous ways in which association makes possible what thoroughgoing independency never could or can, they helped London Baptists to see their need of each other and to forge the instruments and occasions of fellowship.

Mr. Johnson has had a difficult task to condense such a detailed story into the limits required by a popular account and obviously could not pursue all the points of interest. In more than one place one is left with intriguing speculations. The Association side of the Down Grade Controversy is mentioned, for example, and just enough to prompt the thought that if further light is to be shed on that matter some of it may come from the Association angle. The book is attractively produced and illustrated and is at a price which will further its usefulness to many in and beyond the London area.

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CONTRIBUTION FOR THE CURRENT YEAR
ARE DUE AND WILL BE GRATEFULLY
RECEIVED BY THE TREASURER.