



*(Continued from page 13)*

tary U.S. citizens, Scandinavians and, after the upheavals of the two World Wars, stateless and other refugees from the war-torn regions of central Europe. The deaths were mainly of people who would be considered in the prime of life nowadays or young even. There were many burials of babies and of mothers who died in childbirth.

The arrival of nationalities in the whole period from the foundation of the cemetery to the 1930s from outside Spain was due to the need for new technologies which were brought from neighbouring countries and from Britain itself. Following the First World War, many newcomers were from Britain, ex-service officers and men, disenchanted with what the aftermath of war had to offer, but themselves with enterprise and youthful energy.

The development of Spain was uneven across the different regions but, as Spain was so centralised, Madrid grew in importance solely for the contacts that were to be made there and the need for bureaucratic processes based on centralised ministerial structures. That meant that Madrid had a very varied immigrant population with considerable skills and a high level of professionalism and other qualifications. In the mid-1990s, the registers were recorded on a database and the inscriptions, at least those that were still legible then, were painstakingly copied and incorporated. Feedback by virtue of enquiries from historians—and especially family historians—have added to the sum total of knowledge. Local memory is useful in this regard too but the incidence of two World Wars and the Spanish Civil War has tended to remove many families and friends of those buried in the cemetery

from the foreign community living in Madrid. The social upheaval among non-Spanish communities in general has caused a particular problem for this cemetery in that it has become very difficult to locate those families who might well be prepared to contribute money for maintenance. Of course too, there were families which were wiped out in the hostilities and others which drifted into other continents far away from Spain and Europe. There are four graves of the British and Commonwealth War Graves Commission which is surprising as in neither World War was there action anywhere near Madrid. One war grave is of the Assistant Air Attaché to Madrid who was the pilot of a flight from Madrid to Barcelona in 1944 which crashed and killed both him and the British Minister Arthur Yencken, and a technician, the only people on board the aircraft sent on a mission to greet British prisoners of war released at Barcelona. Short biographies of all the war casualties buried in the British Cemeteries throughout Spain are held in the records of the British and Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

The most remarkable people are famous names but many who have been forgotten were significant leaders in their fields of new skills for Madrid—for example in engineering, mining, shipbuilding, photographic processing, clothing, luxury goods, entertainment. Graphic artists include at least two United States citizens, Walter Shirlaw and Albert Sheldon Pennoyer, the latter being one of “the Monuments Men” celebrated in the recent film. Economists include Heinrich von Stackelberg and Frederick Howard Shaw (the latter designed the scheme that was the precursor of the social security system in Spain). Also there is the Russian Am-

*(Continued on page 27)*