

Obituary

LADY BERRY, M.D.

Frances May Dickinson Berry, whose death occurred on April 15th, was the daughter of Sebastian Stewart Dickinson, a barrister, who after practising with great success in India returned to England and settled down in the village of Painswick, at the head of a beautiful valley in the Cotswold Hills, where he married the Squire's daughter. According to the custom of those days, Miss Dickinson was educated at home until the age of 16, when she was sent to the Continent; she spent two years in a school in Orleans, a year at Dresden, and several months in Spain, and acquired an excellent knowledge of languages, which was later to be turned to such good account. For the next three or four years she and her sister studied art, and her accomplishments in this direction were not inconsiderable. The artist, however,



soon felt the need for more serious work, and she began to study medicine at the Royal Free Hospital. At that time women medical students had to meet much popular prejudice as to what was a proper occupation for a "lady," and in many cases academic distinctions were gained only at the cost of some sacrifice of feminine grace in the course of the struggle, the crusade for freedom sometimes finding expression in the wearing of odd clothing of a pseudo-masculine character and the

cultivation of an aggressive manner which often gave offence. It is therefore gratifying to find that, according to contemporary records from the hospital, Miss Dickinson was distinguished among her fellow-students for her personal charm and her good taste in dress. It was not long before these qualities caught the discerning eye of a young demonstrator of anatomy, James Berry, who not only succeeded in giving her a sound knowledge of his subject, but was fortunate enough to win her heart.

After qualification she held resident appointments at the Belgrave Hospital and at the New Hospital (later renamed in memory of Elizabeth Garrett Anderson), and the experience so gained enabled her to pass with honours the degree of Bachelor of Surgery shortly after taking the M.D.Lond. At the Belgrave Hospital she made the acquaintance of Mr. Clinton Dent, who aroused her interest in mountaineering, and she was the first woman to reach the summit of a particularly difficult peak in Norway. For many years after this she and her husband visited the mountains and together climbed many ranges in the Austrian Alps, Pyrenees, and Carpathians; they made their arduous way with rope and alpenstock to the top of the Gross Glockner and explored the glaciers around Saas Fee. Outdoor exercise had been a tradition at Painswick, and the strain of work in London was relieved by horse-riding in Hyde Park—a form of recreation which she persuaded her husband to take up, so that early in the 'nineties the pair might often have been seen cantering down Rotten Row in the morning. She also taught him to ride a bicycle, and this led to many cycling holidays abroad, when they explored the greater part of Europe and crossed many formidable mountain passes. Not long after the assassination of King Alexander of Serbia, in 1904, they visited that country, to which they returned soon after the beginning of the Great War, when typhus broke

out in the valley of the Morava River. The present writer had the privilege of serving in the Berry Unit at Vrnjatschka-Banja, and can bear personal testimony to the success with which Lady Berry adapted herself to the strenuous conditions of life on active service, and the value of the work which she accomplished there. Her sympathetic understanding of the political entanglements in the Balkans led her to publish a book on the Slav subjects in the Austrian Empire, and she collaborated with her husband and other members of the unit in writing the story of their work in Serbia. Her interest in the country continued unabated after the war, when she and her husband founded a scholarship to enable women students from Yugoslavia to study medicine in London. It may be mentioned in passing that Lady Berry's sister, who is an accomplished artist, shared this interest in the Balkan peoples, and founded in Travnik a most successful technical school, lately moved to Belgrade, where the natural talent of the Slav in making beautiful embroidery, furniture, and decorative work is trained and organized, and a market found for the articles so produced. For many years Sir James and Lady Berry spent their holidays in exploring odd corners of Europe and in taking photographs, many of which were made into lantern slides and used to illustrate the "travel talks" which were delivered to parties of friends in Wimpole Street: one of these pictures would usually be selected for reproduction in the next annual Christmas card, which was further embellished by a few witty verses over the signature, "F. M. D. B." A collection of these cards was printed and circulated in the form of a small book among friends of the family a few years ago, and forms a most interesting souvenir of some thirty years of travel and adventure.

Lady Berry was an excellent hostess, and was an active member of the Lyceum Club, where she often took the chair at dinners and receptions: her wit and vivacity were greatly appreciated on these occasions, and she acquired a good command of the art of after-dinner oratory. Her interest in foreign affairs led naturally to her early and sustained support of the League of Nations and of other organizations for the promotion of international co-operation. Since her retirement from practice a few years ago she lived in the village of Dunsmore in Buckinghamshire, where she became a well-known figure, going for long walks in the district of Wendover, usually accompanied by her two black poodle dogs. She was fond of the woods and of wild flowers, and was always a welcome visitor in the homes of the country people, whose interests she made her own. She enjoyed the best of health up till the last few weeks, and used to say that she had never had so much as a headache in her life: only two days before her death she walked for nearly a mile through the woods.

The funeral service was of a very simple character; it was conducted in the village church of Little Hampden, and was attended by a few members of the family and personal friends and by many of her neighbours in the country. Among the floral tributes to her memory was a wreath from the President, Council, and Fellows of the Hunterian Society, of which she was the first woman Fellow. The churchyard in which she was laid to rest is close to the historic Little Hampden Common, and overlooks the fields and woods which she loved so well.

[The photograph reproduced is by Lafayette Ltd.] D. C. N.

The following well-known foreign medical men have recently died: Dr. ANGEL BRIOSO VASCONCELOS, professor of dermatology and hygiene at the medical faculty of Mexico, and Dr. ARTHUR LAMBERT CHUTE, associate professor of urology at Tufts College Medical School, Boston, and president of the American Association of Genito-urinary Surgeons.

pay benefit in respect of any period of certified incapacity up to and including the date on which the member was examined by that officer. The payment was made at as early a date as accorded with the society's general administrative arrangements, and the Minister of Health did not think that it would be reasonable or practicable to impose on societies an obligation to make the payment in all cases before the date of the examination. Mr. MACQUISTEN asked if it was not notorious that panel practitioners were more facile than others in granting certificates in competition for patients. No answer was given.

Road Accidents During Easter.—Replying to Sir William Brass on April 18th, Mr. STANLEY announced that during the two weeks ended respectively April 15th and April 22nd, 1933, which included Eastertide, a total of 248 persons were killed or fatally injured in road accidents. Comparable figures were not available for the two weeks ended respectively March 31st and April 7th, 1934, which included Eastertide, as in many cases death from injuries did not take place until after the close of the week in which the accident occurred. It was, however, known that 187 persons were killed in road accidents during the two weeks in question. Past experience of the number of injuries which proved fatal after the close of the week in which they occurred indicated that at least sixty deaths would be added to the above figures. He regretted that fatal road accidents during the two Easter weeks of this year were likely to have been at least as numerous as during the two Easter weeks of last year.

Estimated Costs of Slum Clearance.—Replying to Mr. Craven-Ellis on April 19th, Mr. SHAKESPEARE stated that it was estimated that the annual charge to the Exchequer and local authorities when the programmes of slum clearance schemes so far submitted had been carried into effect would be about £3,100,000 and £1,070,000 respectively. It was not yet possible to furnish an estimate of the annual charge in connexion with the proposed scheme for the relief of overcrowding. These charges would remain a liability upon the Exchequer up to a maximum period of sixty years from the date of completion of the houses subject to some variation: (1) when loans were repaid under the Act of 1919, and (2) when subsidy ceased at the end of twenty years in the case of the Act of 1923, and at the end of forty years in the case of the Acts of 1924 and 1930. The liability on the local rates would continue with some variation for substantially the same period.

Derelict Areas.—Sir HENRY BETTERTON announced on April 19th that the Government had decided, before proceeding further with the special problem presented by the derelict areas, to have inquiries made in typical places within the districts of Durham, South Wales, Cumberland, and Scotland. Mr. J. C. C. Davidson would make investigations in Cumberland, Captain Euan Wallace in Durham and Tyneside, and Sir Wyndham Portal in South Wales. The Scottish investigator would be announced later.

Poor Relief.—Mr. SHAKESPEARE told Mr. T. Smith on April 19th that the total numbers of persons (men, women, and children) in receipt of poor relief in England and Wales (excluding rate-aided patients in mental hospitals, persons in receipt of domiciliary medical relief only, and casuals) on March 24th, 1934, and on the corresponding days in 1933, 1932, and 1931 were 1,413,780, 1,357,236, 1,188,077, and 1,038,432 respectively.

Health Insurance on Leaving School.—Replying to Mr. Rhys Davies on April 19th, Mr. SHAKESPEARE said careful consideration would be given to the suggestion that young persons, on entering employment after leaving school, should be brought within the scope of national health insurance as in the case of young persons under the provisions of the Unemployment Bill now before Parliament. Financial difficulties made it impracticable to adopt the proposal at the present time.

Anaphylaxis in Diphtheria Immunization.—On April 23rd, in reply to Mr. Groves, Sir HILTON YOUNG said that his attention had been called to cases of anaphylaxis due to the infection of toxin-antitoxin. Anaphylaxis was not a phenomenon peculiar to diphtheria immunization. The relevant facts were widely recognized, and he did not consider it necessary to take any special action in the matter.

Recruitment to Indian Medical Service.—On April 23rd Sir SAMUEL HOARE informed Dr. John Williams that the resolution of the Council of State of India that recruitment to the Indian Medical Services should be by simultaneous competitive examination in Britain and India was withdrawn after the Government spokesman had given reasons why the Government of India could not accept it, and after an undertaking had been given that the debate would be forwarded to him. He had not yet received any observations from the Government of India on the matter. Sir SAMUEL HOARE also told Dr. Williams that according to information available on March 1st the actual strength of the Indian Medical Service was 385 British officers and 240 Indian officers; twenty-nine of the latter held temporary commissions.

Methylated Spirit Drinking.—On April 24th Mr. SKELTON told Miss Horsbrugh that during the last six months representations in favour of legislation to prohibit or prevent the sale of methylated spirit or kindred spirits for human consumption had been made to the Secretary of State for Scotland on behalf of the town councils of Aberdeen, Clydebank, Dundee, Edinburgh, Falkirk, Glasgow, Greenock, Inverness, Paisley, and Stirling. As from March 15th, 1934, new formulae for surgical spirit had been brought into operation by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise. It was hoped that these would render surgical spirit undrinkable, and it was proposed to await the results of this experiment before considering whether further measures restricting the sale of methylated and surgical spirits were necessary.

Milk Supplied to Military Hospitals.—Mr. DUFF COOPER, replying to Lieut.-Colonel Heneage on April 24th, said that tenders were invited for fresh and for pasteurized milk for military hospitals, but not for "Certified" or Grade A milk. The fresh milk had to comply with the Department's specification, and was required to be not below the standard required by the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901. Unless the cost was excessive, preference was invariably given to pasteurized milk, and this milk was being supplied to the majority of military hospitals under the existing contracts.

Notes in Brief

The Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Bill, which has passed the Commons, was read a first time in the House of Lords on April 24th.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The Vice-Chancellor gives notice that the appointments committee of the Faculty of Biology "B" will shortly proceed to elect a university demonstrator in the Department of Biochemistry. Application should be made to Professor Sir F. G. Hopkins, from whom further particulars may be obtained, before May 2nd.

A course of eight lectures will be delivered during the present term by Dr. Walter Pagel of Heidelberg on the history of biology and pathology, entitled "Theories of Life and Disease." They will take place on Tuesdays and Fridays at 4.30 p.m. in the lecture room of the School of Biochemistry.

The Linacre Lecture will be delivered by Sir Henry Dale, M.D., F.R.C.P., Sec.R.S., director of the National Institute for Medical Research, on Saturday, May 5th, at 5 p.m., in the lecture room of physiology, New Museums. The title of the lecture is "Chemical Transmission of the Effects of Nerve Impulses."

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE

The following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC HEALTH.—Part I: O. M. T. Ansari, W. H. Crichton, F. R. Dennison, H. A. Dirchze, Margaret L. Foxwell, Muriel O. Gibson, G. S. C. de S. Gunesekera, Ellen G. Heycock, F. E. Lipscomb, F. J. G. Lishman, G. H. Lowe, G. P. McC. Marshall, K. J. G. Milne, D. D. Payne, Ethel A. Perrott, C. D. Preston, Alison J. Rae, Ll. Roberts, L. B. E. Seneviratne, Mary Sutcliffe, L. G. W. Ulrich, S. L. Wright.

DIPLOMA IN PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE.—With Special Knowledge of Psychiatry: Winifred M. Burbury, A. B. Carter, B. Cates,

M. S. Jones, W. G. Rees. *With Special Knowledge of Mental Deficiency*: R. M. Bates. *Part A*: R. W. Maxwell, Grace H. Thomson, W. P. Berrington, N. McDiarmid, W. E. McIlroy, D. Prentice.

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW

A graduation ceremony was held on April 21st, when the following degrees, among others, were conferred:

M.D.—*I. M. Christie, *H. Fairbairn (*in absentia*), †J. Flind, †S. I. A. Laidlaw, †P. Shannon, A. Duff, G. G. Macphee, N. McE. Montgomery, A. Ogg, T. Paton, H. S. Russell, A. G. Smith, Jean W. Symington, R. N. Walker.

M.B., Ch.B.—†E. W. Walls, †A. Muir, I. M. Anderson, C. Arak, A. Cameron, D. Campbell, J. Campbell, W. Clark, J. M. Cook, R. G. H. Cunningham, Elizabeth M. Deighton, J. C. Fitch, C. M. Fraser, W. Gibson, J. Gilmour, W. Guthrie, Jean A. Holburn, A. S. Hutcheson, A. B. Kabnick, J. Kelly, S. M. Laird, C. M. Lamont, Jean H. McL. Laurie, Magdalene Linton, S. Loman, A. McS. McArthur, A. D. MacArthur, K. MacColl, Jeanie J. Macdonald, Maud P. MacDougall, S. W. MacDougall, D. Macfarlane, P. A. McO. Macgregor, J. Mackenzie, M. J. McLaughlin, W. B. McLean, J. McPheat, T. J. R. Miller, N. Morison, W. W. Muir, J. Murray, S. S. Naftalin, J. S. Norwell, G. A. F. Quinnell, H. J. Reid, Jessie V. M. Robb, W. Rodger, R. L. Roxburgh, J. B. Shiel, E. I. Smith, Margaret B. Steel, J. N. R. Stephen, J. W. Strachan, J. C. Taylor, R. B. Taylor, Kathleen M. Warren, H. Weir, G. Wotherspoon, D. D. Young, B. Zahn.

* With high commendation. † With commendation.

‡ With honours.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON

The following candidates have passed in the subjects indicated:

SURGERY.—A. E. Ginn, G. W. Hardy, R. G. Joyce, H. Murkus, D. Rocyn-Jones.

MEDICINE.—S. Grodd, H. G. Howitt, L. A. Lewis, T. Morgan, F. D. Paterson, J. H. Playne, P. H. Willcox.

FORENSIC MEDICINE.—P. T. M. Clarke, S. Grodd, B. S. Minden, J. R. Owen, F. D. Paterson.

MIDWIFERY.—J. A. Carter, S. Klein, J. E. T. Munn, C. W. O'Donoghue, F. D. Paterson, D. Walton, J. P. Walsh Conway.

The diploma of the society has been granted to S. Grodd, T. Morgan, F. D. Paterson, J. H. Playne, J. P. Walsh Conway, and P. H. Willcox.

Medical News

The annual dinner of the Cambridge Graduates' Medical Club will be held at the Langham Hotel, W., on Wednesday, May 9th, at 7.15 for 7.45 p.m., with the president, Dr. H. Morley Fletcher, in the chair. The honorary secretaries are Dr. F. G. Chandler and Mr. W. D. Doherty.

The annual spring dinner of the Queen's University Club, London, will be held at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W., on Thursday, May 3rd, at 7.30 p.m. Professor Hinny will preside. Members may obtain tickets from the honorary secretaries, 101, Harley Street, W.1.

The lecture on "The Skin in Relation to Rheumatism in Childhood and after Puberty," arranged to be delivered by the late Dr. L. J. Llewellyn on Thursday, May 3rd, at 4 p.m., at the Medical Society of London, 11, Chandos Street, W., will be read, from the manuscript prepared by Dr. Llewellyn, by Dr. D. F. Fraser-Harris.

The Royal Sanitary Institute has arranged a sessional meeting at the Guildhall, Portsmouth, on Friday, May 11th, at 4.45 p.m., when there will be discussions on "The Housing and Slum Clearance Problem in Portsmouth," to be opened by Councillor A. E. Allaway, and on "Naval Hygiene," to be opened by Surgeon Commander H. St.C. Colson, Naval Health Officer for the Portsmouth Command.

The Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, W.C.1, announces that a few vacancies exist for clinical assistants to the physicians to out-patients. Applications from practitioners registered in this country who are willing to give their services for a few hours on one or two mornings each week should be sent to the secretary. A post-graduate course on diseases of children will be held at the hospital from April 30th to May 12th, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. daily, except Saturdays (10 a.m. to 1 p.m.). The fee is £6 6s.

The Fellowship of Medicine (1, Wimpole Street, W.) announces that Dr. Clark-Kennedy will lecture on auricular fibrillation at 11, Chandos Street, on Tuesday, May 1st, at 2.30 p.m. The sixteenth lecture on digitalis will take place on Tuesday, May 8th. There will be a week-end course in cardiology at the City of London Hospital, Victoria Park, on May 5th and 6th, occupying the whole of both days, and including lectures, demonstrations, and films. There will be a fortnight's course in advanced urology at St. Peter's Hospital, May 7th to 19th; and a demonstration of cases by Dr. H. L. Marriott, dealing with blood diseases, at the National Temperance Hospital on Saturday, May 12th, at 3 p.m. For post-graduates who cannot find time to attend a special course, covering a period of two to four weeks, individual clinics in various branches of medicine and surgery are available daily by arrangement with the Fellowship of Medicine.

The Central Association for Mental Welfare has arranged a course for officers of local authorities and local associations for mental welfare engaged in the ascertainment and supervision of defectives; and another course for persons engaged in the training of mental defectives in occupational centres, institutions, or mental hospitals. Both courses will be held in London from June 30th to July 21st. A syllabus and time-table will be sent to all students a week before the opening day of the course. Copies of the circulars, forms of application, and any further information may be obtained from the secretary, Central Association for Mental Welfare, 24, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1.

The German Society for Psychiatry will hold its annual meeting at Münster in Westphalia from May 23rd to 25th, when the following subjects will be discussed: clinical psychiatry and eugenics, introduced by Professor Bumke of Munich; encephalography in psychiatry and cerebral pathology, introduced by Professor Jacobi of Magdeburg; personality in psychotherapy, introduced by Professor Kretschmer of Marburg; and psychiatry and racial hygiene, introduced by Professor Rudin of Munich.

We are informed that the appeal on behalf of the fund to raise a memorial to Dr. Henry T. Hodgkin, of whom an obituary notice appeared in the *Journal* of April 1st, 1933, has met with a gratifying response. The sum already contributed amounts to £1,900, and the Executive Committee has decided to close the fund on June 23rd next. The Bishop of Croydon and Mr. Harold Morland have been asked to present the money to the governors of the West China Union University, at their annual meeting to be held at Oxford on June 25th and 26th. Cheques should be made payable to Mr. Harold J. Morland, 2, Eaton Gate, S.W.1.

The number of blind persons in Italy, according to the latest statistics, is about 25,000, as compared with 28,357 in 1911. The population of Italy, however, in 1911 was 34,000,000, as compared with 42,000,000 to-day, so that formerly the proportion of blind persons was 81 per 100,000, while now it is only 60.

The Minister of Health has appointed Mr. J. A. Lawther as secretary to the Departmental Committee on the Cost of Hospital and other Public Buildings, and all communications relating to the work of the committee should be addressed to him, at 2, Whitehall Gardens, S.W.1.

Professor Haven Emerson, M.D., of New York has been elected an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

The King has confirmed the appointment of Major T. J. Hallinan, C.B.E., to be a nominated member of the Legislative Council of the Island of Jamaica.

The following have recently been elected members of the Académie de Médecine: Foreign corresponding members—Dr. Blanco Acevedo, professor of clinical surgery at Monte Video, and Dr. Constantin Daniel, professor of clinical gynaecology at Bucarest; national corresponding members—Dr. Paviot, professor of clinical medicine at Lyons, Dr. Halipré, director of the medical school at Rouen, Dr. Bridié of Algiers, and Dr. Veh of Casablanca.