

He intended to retire from medicine at 40, but ill-health induced him to do so at 37. The late Sir Norman Moore, who knew him well, told me that any ambition Bridges had towards the staff at St. Bart's was curbed by his dislike of work in the post-mortem room, then the only avenue of approach to that position. But there was another obstacle. He published in the *St. Bartholomew's Hospital Reports* a scathing indictment of the casualty department as then organized—if it can be said to have been organized at all. This paper secured two things: one that improvements were gradually made; the other that he was never given another appointment at the hospital. The powers that be do not appreciate irony, and youthful reformers still find it advisable to curb their tongue and pen.—I am, etc.,

London, W.1, May 20th.

W. LANGDON-BROWN.

### Research in Tropical Medicine

SIR,—The decision of the Medical Research Council to extend its activities to the problem of tropical medicine will be welcomed in South Africa. No advance on the orthodox quinine treatment for malaria has been forthcoming, though 54,000 cases were dealt with by the South African Medical Corps on their return from active service during the last war; facilities for the scientific testing of new drugs are lacking, for the investigation of medicines except those for leprosy is outside the scope of the Institute for Medical Research.

Many proprietary drugs have been introduced for treating both malaria and bilharzia disease, and some of these have gained official support, but scientific evidence of the complete destruction of adult schistosomes by derivatives of antimony other than tartar emetic is unavailable, and one is forced to the conclusion that many cases which might have been cured by skilful treatment have proved to be incomplete cures through the use of some more easily applied remedies. The formation of a tropical Medical Research Council should render an authoritative opinion available on new remedies and render superfluous the claims at present broadcast, with samples, from overseas.

Attention might also be given to the supposed worth of native medicines and to those herbal remedies which are liable to pass out of knowledge unless investigated shortly. A list of seven hundred was once submitted to the Natal Museum, but many copies of the *Annals* in which it appeared were unfortunately destroyed by fire.—I am, etc.,

Durban, April 29th.

F. G. CAWSTON.

### Universities and Colleges

#### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

At a meeting of the Senate held on May 20th, with the vice-chancellor, Mr. H. L. Eason, in the chair, Arthur Wormall, D.Sc., was appointed to the University Chair of Biochemistry tenable at St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College, and W. F. Harper, Ph.D., M.D., to the University Readership in Anatomy, tenable at the London Hospital Medical College, both appointments take effect on October 1st.

The Dunn exhibitions in anatomy and in physiology for 1936 were awarded to R. S. Murley, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and E. Petrie, University College, respectively.

#### UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

At the annual degrees ceremony, to be held on June 29th, the honorary degree of LL.D. will be conferred on Dr. Henry Drysdale Dakin, F.R.S., director of the Medical Research Laboratory, New York.

Dr. A. Hemingway has been elected professor of physiology, and Mr. L. R. Braithwaite, F.R.C.S., professor of clinical surgery, in the University.

Professor W. Gough, F.R.C.S., will retire from the chair of gynaecology at the end of the present academic year.

## Obituary

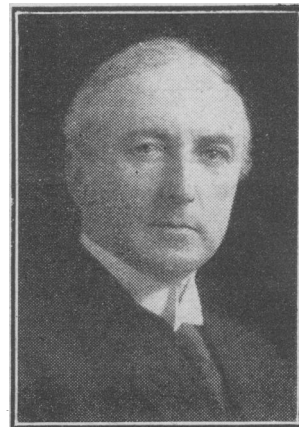
JOHN THOMAS HEWETSON, M.D., CH.M.

F.R.C.S., F.C.O.G.

Honorary Surgeon, Birmingham and Midland Hospital for Women

We regret to announce that the death occurred of John Thomas Hewetson at his residence, Metchley House, Edgbaston, on May 19th, following an attack of pneumonia. He had been actively engaged in his practice until ten days before his death.

John Thomas Hewetson was born at Hornsby Gate, Cumberland, on October 18th, 1872, and was the son of the late Pearson Hewetson of Fenton, Cumberland. He was educated at Grosvenor College, Carlisle, and received his medical training at Edinburgh University, Bristol General Hospital, King's College, and St. Bartholomew's Hospital. He obtained the English conjoint diplomas in 1896, and graduated with honours at the University of Edinburgh in the same year. In 1899 he obtained the F.R.C.S.Eng. and in 1901 proceeded M.D. of Edinburgh with honours. He subsequently held an appointment as house-physician at the General Hospital, Birmingham, and for a time was in general practice in Coventry. He was engaged in research work in 1900-1, and in 1904 he became a British Medical Association research scholar. In 1903 he was appointed assistant obstetric officer to Dr. Thomas Wilson at the General Hospital, Birmingham, and held this office for five years, during which time he was also gynaecological tutor. He also held appointments in the University of Birmingham as assistant to the chair of obstetrics and gynaecology, and gynaecological curator in the Pathological Museum.



In 1905 he obtained the degree of Ch.M. in the University of Birmingham, and in 1907 was appointed to the honorary staff of the Birmingham Maternity Hospital, which appointment he resigned only six months ago. In 1908 he relinquished his appointment at the General Hospital to join the honorary staff of the Birmingham and Midland Hospital for Women, and held that appointment up to the time of his death. From 1933 onwards he was chairman of the medical board of the Women's Hospital and senior surgeon to the hospital. When the British Medical Association visited Birmingham in 1911 Hewetson was honorary secretary of the Section of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

During the period of the great war, in addition to his own work, he had charge of a large number of military patients in the War Hospital at Hollymoor. He held the office of consulting gynaecologist to the following hospitals: Lichfield, Halesowen, Rugby, Stourbridge, and Stratford. He was one of the original Fellows of the College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, and for many years an examiner for the Central Midwives Board. During his earlier years as a consultant he made numerous contributions to the medical press on various subjects in his own specialty, but the rapid expansion of his practice compelled him to subordinate research work and writing to its demands. In the operating theatre Hewetson was brilliant, cool-headed, and resourceful. He constantly carried out at the hospital long and exhausting programmes of operations without showing any signs of

We announce with regret the death, on April 14th, of Dr. JAMES SEPTIMUS ARMSTRONG, M.C., medical officer in the service of the Tanganyika Government. He was born in 1891 in County Sligo, and before the war was studying arts at Trinity College, Dublin, with the intention of entering the Church; but in 1915 he enlisted in the Royal Army Medical Corps, and in 1917 was granted a commission in the Royal Dublin Fusiliers and was awarded the Military Cross on the Western Front. In 1918 he returned to his studies and received the degree of B.A. He then took up the study of medicine, obtaining honours in anatomy and physiology, and graduated M.B., B.Ch. in 1924, holding an appointment as house-surgeon at the Adelaide Hospital in the same year. In 1925 he obtained the certificate of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and joined the East African Medical Service. Since 1932 he had thrown all his energies into the co-ordination of sleeping-sickness preventive measures and anti-tsetse work in the Singida area, where his kindness, enthusiasm, and devotion to duty endeared him to all who knew him. Dr. Armstrong was taken suddenly ill on March 10th and was already convalescent when his condition became less satisfactory on April 7th, and arrangements were made to transfer him under medical care to Dar-es-Salaam. He collapsed suddenly in the train some two hours after leaving Singida and died soon afterwards. He was buried at Singida in the presence of residents comprising all nationalities. A firing party was provided by the Tanganyika police, and the Indian community showed the affection and respect which they felt by closing their shops on the day of the funeral. Deep sympathy is felt with Mrs. Armstrong and her two children, and the members of the Medical Department of Tanganyika have lost a loyal and devoted colleague.

We regret to announce the untimely death of Dr. JOHN GODFREY CORMACK of Boston, Lincolnshire. He died on May 10th, from pneumonia, at the age of 33. Born in Edinburgh, he received his early education at Fettes College, whence he entered the University, graduating M.B., Ch.B. in 1923. His first appointments included those of clinical assistant to the Hospital for Women, Soho Square, London, and medical officer to Hartlepool Hospital. He began general practice in Boston about ten years ago, and was elected to the surgical staff of Boston Hospital. He was also surgeon to the Boston Provident Dispensary and public vaccinator. Two months ago he was appointed medical officer to the Boston Schools and police surgeon, and he was on the staff of the Borstal Institution, North Sea Camp. Distinguished athletically since his school days, and a man of many interests and human sympathies, Dr. Cormack was widely popular, and great sympathy is felt for his widow. He was elected a member of the British Medical Association in 1925, and was frequently present at meetings of the Holland Division.

The following well-known foreign medical men have recently died: Dr. WILLIAM HOLLAND WILMER, for many years professor of ophthalmology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and one of the founders of the American College of Surgeons, aged 73; Dr. CHARLES JEFFERSON MILLER, professor of gynaecology, Tulane University of Louisiana School of Medicine, New Orleans, and a founder and past-president of the American College of Surgeons; Dr. TILLEY, professor of clinical surgery at the medical school of Tours; Professor RUDOLPH MARESCH, head of the Vienna Institute for Morbid Anatomy, and formerly rector of the university, aged 68; Hofrat D. FELIX PAUSE, an eminent oto-rhino-laryngologist of Dresden, aged 75; Dr. KARL DIEM, a prominent balneologist of Vienna, aged 70; Dr. CHARLES LOUIS DANA, emeritus professor of clinical medicine (neurology), Cornell University Medical College, New York, and author of the *Textbook of Nervous Diseases and Psychiatry*, aged 83; and Dr. CHARLES LOUIS MIX of Chicago, editor-in-chief of the *Practical Medicine Series*, aged 65.

## The Services

### DEATHS IN THE SERVICES

His many friends in India and this country have heard with very great regret of the death of Lieut.-Colonel THOMAS ARTHUR HUGHES, M.A., M.D., Sc.D., F.R.C.P., of the Indian Medical Service. Colonel Hughes had been in poor health for the past few years, but he refused to give up his work until it became physically impossible for him to carry on any longer. Owing to a severe exacerbation of his lung trouble he was compelled to take leave about two months ago. He went at once to the Mundesley Sanatorium, but was already in so debilitated a state that he made no response to treatment. Hughes entered the I.M.S. in July, 1910; he had already won high academic distinction, being first senior moderator with a large gold medal in natural science in the B.A. examination of Dublin University. He became M.D. in 1920, Sc.D. in 1923, and F.R.C.P.Lond. in 1934. In 1920 he was selected for the post of professor of physiology in the King Edward Medical College, Lahore, in 1924 he was appointed professor of clinical medicine at the College, and physician and medical superintendent of the Mayo Hospital. Shortly before he left India he was appointed to the post of principal and professor of medicine of the King Edward Medical College. Although Hughes had a very high reputation as a physician his leanings were chiefly towards medical research, and he made several valuable contributions to the *Indian Journal of Medical Research*, including articles on pulmonary tuberculosis in adult Punjabis, observations on cirrhosis of the liver in the Punjab, and on diseases of the heart. Major-General Sir JOHN MEGAW writes: Hughes was a man of very attractive personality and of high ideals. He neglected the opportunities of making money by private practice, but he never spared himself when it was a case of attending to his hospital patients, teaching his students, or carrying out a piece of research. His premature death was undoubtedly due to his high sense of duty. Great sympathy is felt for his wife, who was with him throughout his illness, and his children—a son aged 10 and a daughter aged 5 years.

## Medico-Legal

### ACTION BY A MENTAL HOSPITAL PHYSICIAN

Mr. Justice Macnaghten, sitting in the King's Bench Division, disposed last week of an action brought by Dr. H. C. McManus, formerly a medical officer at Park Prewett Mental Hospital, Hampshire, against Dr. R. S. V. Bowes, formerly medical superintendent of the hospital, the Visiting Committee, the Hampshire Joint Mental Hospital Visiting Committee, and their clerks.

Dr. McManus alleged that Dr. Bowes had slandered him or alternatively had wrongfully procured the committees to break their contract with him. Against the members of the committees he claimed a declaration that they were bound to pay him a superannuation allowance under the Asylum Officers' Superannuation Act, 1927, as from January 21st, 1923, and an order for payment; a declaration that he was entitled to a return of his contributions; damages for wrongful dismissal and breach of contract; a declaration that a resolution to dismiss him passed on October 21st, 1927, was not passed *bona fide* but in abuse of statutory powers; and damages for negligence and libel. From all the defendants he claimed damages for conspiracy.

The defendants denied all the allegations, and said that Dr. McManus was given proper notice terminating his engagement. The substance of Dr. McManus's case was that he had been appointed to Park Prewett in 1923; that the equipment and administration of the hospital were completely out of date; that he tried to improve matters but attracted jealousy and resentment; and that finally Dr. Bowes subjected him to all kinds of petty annoyance, accused him to others of improper conduct and the misuse of drugs, and finally induced the committee to dismiss him without a fair hearing.

After hearing all the evidence called by Dr. McManus, the learned judge held that there was no evidence against Dr. Bowes to go to the jury, and dismissed him from the suit with costs. His lordship also discharged the special jury which for three days had heard evidence on the alleged libel and slander, considering that the remaining claims for wrongful dismissal should be heard by a fresh jury, as the task of dismissing from mind all the former evidence was so

## Medical News

The House of the British Medical Association, including the Library, will be closed for the Whitsun holiday from 6 p.m. on Friday, May 29th, to 9 a.m. on Tuesday, June 2nd (Library 10 a.m.).

King Edward VIII, following the example of his royal predecessors from William IV onwards, has given his Patronage to the Royal Society of Medicine.

The King has granted his Patronage to the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. King George was Patron for many years, and, as Prince of Wales, King Edward had been Vice-Patron since he opened Manson House, Portland Place, the society's headquarters, in 1932.

A meeting of the Cheshire medical profession will be held on Wednesday, June 17th, at 3.15 p.m., at Eaton Hall, by permission of the Duke of Westminster. The object of the meeting is to focus attention on the report of the maternal mortality subcommittee appointed last September by the Local Medical and Panel Committee to review the maternal deaths of the last three years. The data have been provided by the county medical officer of health, who, with his deputy, is a member of the subcommittee. Those who intend to take part in the meeting at Eaton Hall should inform Dr. Lionel Picton, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire, by June 12th.

An intensive short course, intended for those with some knowledge of elementary principles, will be held at the Institute of Medical Psychology, Malet Place, W.C., from Monday, June 15th, to Saturday, June 27th. The lectures are open to registered medical practitioners only, and the fee for the course is £2 2s. Tickets must be obtained in advance from the educational secretary at the Institute.

A four-days course of instruction in the elements of tropical hygiene, from Tuesday, June 9th, to Friday, June 12th, will be given at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine for laymen who are proceeding to the Tropics. There will be two full sessions each day, and the fee for the course is two guineas. Applications should be addressed to the Laboratory Secretary, School of Tropical Medicine, Pembroke Place, Liverpool, 3.

The Institute of Child Psychology has arranged a course of eight lectures on the development of character in a changing society to be given at Friends House, Euston Road, N.W., on Wednesdays, June 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th, at 6.15 p.m. and 8.15 p.m. Particulars of fees and tickets may be obtained from the lecture secretary, 26, Warwick Avenue, W.9.

The eighth international course organized by M. Tomarkin, to include the study of medicine and archaeology in Greece under the auspices of the University of Athens and the Greek Ministry of Health, will be held in Athens from September 7th to 21st. There will be discussions on cardiovascular affections, surgery, tropical medicine, dermatology, syphilography, endocrinology, and cancer. Various excursions are being arranged to places of interest in Greece. Inquiries should be addressed to M. L. W. Tomarkin, Faculté de Médecine, Boulevard de Waterloo 115, Brussels.

The Fellowship of Medicine announces the following courses: gynaecology, at Chelsea Hospital for Women, June 8th to 20th; general medicine, at Prince of Wales's General Hospital, June 6th and 7th; obstetrics, at City of London Maternity Hospital, June 13th and 14th; fevers, at Park Hospital, June 20th and 21st; and general surgery, at Prince of Wales's General Hospital, June 27th and 28th. Special courses for M.R.C.P. candidates have been arranged as follows: neurology and psychopathology, at West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases, June 8th to July 4th; clinical and pathological course, at National Temperance Hospital, Tuesdays and Thursdays, at 8 p.m., June 9th to 25th; chest diseases, at Brompton Hospital, twice weekly, at 5 p.m., June 15th to July 11th.

A notice appears in our advertisement columns this week inviting applications for the Wandsworth Scholarship, for research in tropical medicine, offered by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. The scholar must devote his whole time to his researches, but it is not essential that he should hold a medical qualification. The scholarship is tenable for two years at a stipend of £350 per annum. Applications should be addressed to the secretary of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, W.C., and should be accompanied by a short statement of the candidate's qualifications and previous experience, and of the objects of the research to which he proposes to devote himself.

The Ligue Internationale contre le Rhumatisme will hold its fifth international congress in Sweden, at Lund and Stockholm, from September 3rd to 8th. Dr. S. Ingvar, professor of internal medicine in the University of Lund, has been elected chairman, and Professor G. Kahlmeter of Stockholm, secretary. Further information may be had from the secretary of the Ligue Internationale contre le Rhumatisme, Dr. J. van Breemen, Keizersgracht 489/491, Amsterdam, or from Professor Kahlmeter, Birger Jarlsgatan 36, Stockholm.

The sixth Panukrainian Congress of Surgery will be held at Odessa from June 24th to 29th. Further information can be obtained from Professor N. I. Kefer, Rue Bebel 58, Odessa.

An international congress of medical motorists will be held in Paris from June 14th to 16th. Further information can be obtained from the Association des Médecins automobilistes de France, Boulevard Margenta 89, Paris.

The annual malaria control course for laymen (engineers, planters, etc.) will be held at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (Keppel Street, W.C.1), beginning Monday, June 22nd, at 10 a.m. It will be under Sir Malcolm Watson, director of the Ross Institute of Tropical Hygiene, and will last five days. Application to attend should be sent in as early as possible to the organizing secretary at the above address.

The thirty-seventh annual meeting of the Lebanon Hospital for Mental Diseases, near Beirut, was held at Friends House, Euston Road, on May 18th, under the chairmanship of Sir Hubert Bond, senior commissioner of the Board of Control, who presented the annual report of the medical director, Dr. Stewart Miller. There had been a "record" number of 556 patients under treatment during the year. Owing to much poverty and unemployment in Syria many of the patients admitted during the last two years were suffering from tuberculosis and malnutrition in addition to their other troubles, which accounted for a higher death rate than usual. Dr. E. W. G. Masterman, chairman of the General Committee, pressed for continued expansion to meet the urgent needs of the country. The new report will be sent, when ready, on application to the secretary, Lebanon Hospital Committee, Drayton House, Gordon Street, W.C.1.

The Ministry of Health has issued a Circular (1544) to local authorities in England and Wales urging the undesirability of using ortho-dichlorobenzene, in a diluted or undiluted form, for the disinfection of houses harbouring bed-bugs. Although admittedly efficacious in this respect, this drug gives off fumes which have been shown to be toxic to animals in low concentrations, and may possibly have similar effects on human beings. It is difficult to take adequate precautions against these fumes, and the time necessary for proper ventilation is stated to be so long as to render this method of disinfection impracticable for use in occupied premises.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies (4, Millbank, London, S.W.1) have published their usual annual return showing the vital statistics of European officials in East Africa for 1934. Copies (price 6d.) may be obtained on application to the address given.

The issue of the *Gazette des Hôpitaux* of May 13th contains a full list of the consulting and resident staff of the Paris hospitals.

Dr. T. P. Rees has been appointed president of the Croydon District of the League of Mercy.