

## HENRY R. KENWOOD, C.M.G., M.B., D.P.H.

We regret to announce the death in retirement on June 7 of Dr. H. R. Kenwood, emeritus professor of hygiene and public health in the University of London, and honorary lieut.-colonel, R.A.M.C. He was for some time a member of the Army Hygiene Consultative Committee and civilian member of the Army Medical Advisory Board.

Henry Richard Kenwood was born at Bexhill on Dec. 22, 1862, younger son of John Kenwood, of Wadhurst, and was educated at Tunbridge Wells, in Paris, and at the University of Edinburgh, where he graduated M.B., C.M. in 1887. After taking the D.P.H. he was for ten years M.O.H. for the Finchley District, and during part of that time deputy M.O.H. for St. George's, Hanover Square. From 1894 he was also M.O.H. and public analyst for the metropolitan borough of Stoke Newington, and from 1908 M.O.H. for the County of Bedford. Apart from his administrative duties Kenwood had been demonstrator and assistant to the Professor of Hygiene at University College from 1890 to 1904, when he became Chadwick Professor of Hygiene in the University of London. He was created C.M.G. in 1918 for his services to the Army during the last war, and the Royal Society of Edinburgh elected him a Fellow. He gave the Milroy Lectures on State Medicine and Public Health before the Royal College of Physicians of London in 1918, and held office later as president of the Society of Medical Officers of Health and chairman of council of the Royal Sanitary Institute; he was also an Honorary Foreign Member of the Société Française d'Hygiène. When he retired from his post in Stoke Newington after 33 years' service he was entertained by the members and officers of the council at a complimentary dinner and received an illuminated address.

Kenwood's name is well known in the profession through the textbook *Hygiene and Public Health*, written originally by Dr. Louis C. Parkes, and through his own manual, *Public Health Laboratory Work (Chemistry)*, which reached its eighth edition in 1925. "Parkes and Kenwood" appeared in an eighth edition in 1929 as "Kenwood and Kerr" to mark Prof. Harold Kerr's joint responsibility for much of the revision. Prof. Kenwood had also published papers on natural purification of sewage, sewage pollution of sea water, rural water supplies, and camp sanitation, and on tinned and potted foods. He joined the B.M.A. in 1888, was honorary secretary of the Section of Public Medicine at Portsmouth in 1899, and vice-president of the Section of State Medicine at Exeter in 1907; he had also served on one or two special committees at headquarters, and for a long period helped this *Journal* by revising the section on Public Health in the Annual Educational Number.

## The Services

The Order of Polonia Restituta, Second Class, has been conferred by the President of Poland on Air Marshal Sir Harold Whittingham, K.C.B., K.B.E., K.H.P., Director-General of Medical Services, R.A.F., and that of the Third Class on Gp. Capt. Sir Louis Greig, K.B.E., C.V.O., M.B., R.A.F., in recognition of valuable services rendered in connexion with the war.

The Efficiency Decoration has been conferred upon the following officers of the Territorial Army: Majors (Temp. Lieut.-Cols.) W. W. Crawford and A. R. C. Higham; Majors H. S. Kent and P. Weiner; Capt. (Temp. Major) P. Brookes, R.A.M.C.

*Repatriated*.—Capt. Samuel Lask, R.A.M.C.

## CASUALTIES IN THE MEDICAL SERVICES

Squad. Ldr. HAROLD BERNARD HUNT, who died on June 10, was born on Sept. 14, 1911, and studied medicine at Birmingham University, qualifying M.B., Ch.B. in 1935. He proceeded M.D. in 1937 and M.R.C.P. in 1938. Medical posts at hospitals under various authorities, including the L.C.C., were held by him until his appointment to a commission in the Medical Branch of the R.A.F.V.R. on Feb. 27, 1940. At the time of his death he was serving at a group headquarters in South-East Asia.

*Died*.—Major Arthur Waymouth, R.A.M.C.

*Killed*.—Temp. Surg. Lieut. A. McC. Vaughan, R.C.N.V.R.

*Killed in motor accident in Italy*.—Major David Watson Whyte, S.A.M.C.

## Medical Notes in Parliament

## HEALTH NOW AND IN THE FUTURE

When presenting the survey of the health of the nation on June 12 Mr. WILLINK said that to discuss the proposals for a National Health Service would be out of order that day. He could, however, say that the discussions promised in the White Paper of 1944 had proceeded actively, and in so far as they related to matters requiring legislation were now largely completed. In these discussions there had been no question of any departure from the fundamental objects of the comprehensive service proposed in the White Paper, and no question of diminishing the fullness of its range or of departing from the principle of its universal availability. The discussions had been concerned with methods and with questions of the administrative structure. To describe this discussion would be out of order, but it had confirmed him in the belief that it would be possible to give effect to the scheme foreshadowed in the White Paper in a manner which would command the general agreement of those upon whose work it would depend.

Mr. Willink then gave the House a broad survey of the nation's health during the war years. It was, he said, an astonishing story when one considered how much the civil population had had to endure in the last five and a half years. The health services had had to operate under heavy handicaps. About a fifth of the medical officers of the public health services had gone into the Forces, and almost one-third of the general practitioners—the first line of defence in the health services. Public health institutions—including sanatoria, fever hospitals, and hospitals for the chronic sick—had been hard pressed, with serious shortages of nursing and domestic staff. He paid tribute to the general practitioner, who had to struggle along doing two men's work and carrying many extra burdens, such as the giving of certificates for priorities, which were inevitable under war conditions. The general practitioners had been among the most overworked men on the home front, and the country owed them a debt of gratitude.

England and Wales had had no serious epidemic. In six winters they had only one influenza outbreak, and that was shorter and less severe than the kind we had before the war. The incidence of cerebrospinal meningitis rose sharply in the early part of the war, but gradually came down again. Typhoid fever had been less prevalent than in any peacetime year, in spite of the damage by bombs to water and sewage mains, thanks to the skill of the water engineers. Generally, infectious diseases had not been so prevalent as in normal times, but there had been a marked increase in infective jaundice. The birth rate had been rising since 1941, and last year was the highest since 1925. The effective reproduction rate for 1944 was provisionally assessed at 0.990—within 1% of a full replacement standard. This was the first time such a figure had been reached since 1922. Fewer babies had died. Fewer mothers were being lost in childbirth. The chance of a baby being born dead was three-quarters of what it was six years ago. The health of the children of this country—including the school-children—had improved. The infant mortality rate last year was 46 per 1,000 births, compared with the previous peacetime low record of 50.6 in 1939.

## A LESS EASY SITUATION

For adults, the situation was less easy to assess, yet there was no evidence that they suffered to any appreciable extent. There had been an increase in tiredness and minor ill-health—the lesser ailments (from the doctor's point of view if not always the patient's). Most people were tired. They went sick more easily and recovered less quickly. Nevertheless, serious troubles had been no more prevalent and deaths from many kinds of disease declined during the war. Civilians of all ages were living as long as they did in peacetime. That calculation included deaths as a result of air raids. The Government's food policy had been one of the main factors in the maintenance of health standards. They had developed public education in matters of health, and extended the application of rehabilitation techniques in order to speed recovery and reduce disablement. They had organized a blood transfusion service which saved thousands of lives in war and could save many more every year in peace. As a result of experience with the Emergency Hospital Scheme, they knew that hospitals of all types could work together for the common good, with good will and splendid results. Mortality figures for the first quarter of this year did not maintain the improvement recorded in previous years. There was a slight setback in the infant and general mortality rates. Vigilance must be increased, and everything possible done, as quickly as resources became available, to improve the conditions which bore upon the people's health and strengthened the organization for dealing with ill-health. They

**Tuberculosis Waiting Lists**

Mr. HAMMERSLEY asked on May 31 whether steps could be taken to deal with the tuberculosis patients in Middlesex whose treatment was delayed owing to insufficient hospital accommodation. Mr. WILLINK answered that this problem, which was not confined to Middlesex, received his constant attention. He was taking all possible steps, in collaboration with the Minister of Labour and National Service, to ease the situation, but great difficulties were caused by the present demands on building labour and material and the dearth of nursing and domestic staff. He could not promise that the amelioration would be rapid. He would look into the possibility of using hospitals which the Americans had evacuated and had turned over to British military authorities.

**Malaria and Quinine Supplies**

Mr. AMERY said on May 31 that it was not possible to give reliable figures of deaths in India specifically attributable to malaria nor to estimate to what extent they might have been reduced by greater use of quinine. The supply of quinine until the Japanese occupation of Java was broadly equal to the demand. Supplies of synthetic substitutes had for some time been reaching India in substantial quantities. Of the 244,000 lb. of quinine in stock in April, 1944, 200,000 lb. was available for civilian consumption.

**Medical Man-power and the Education Act**

Mr. STOREY on June 7 asked the Minister of Education whether he was aware of the difficulty of local education authorities, owing to the shortage of doctors and nurses, in carrying out the duties imposed on them by Section 48 (3) of the Education Act, and what steps he proposed to prevent authorities from throwing further burdens upon the depleted medical personnel of the country.

Mr. RICHARD LAW in reply said he was aware of the shortage of doctors, dentists, and nurses and of the strain under which they were working. In Circular 29 authorities had been asked to extend their arrangements with hospitals so as to secure free hospital treatment for all children attending maintained schools, so far as accommodation and staffing conditions allowed, and to develop those clinic services which had always been recognized as appropriate to the school medical service. The needs of urban areas generally would be met in this way. The position in rural areas was more difficult, and the circular suggested that authorities should arrange for the treatment of children where necessary by local general practitioners. Such arrangements could be made only on a limited scale, but it was hoped that here and there doctors would be found who were willing to undertake this work in a part-time capacity under arrangements made by the authorities and approved by his Department. An assurance was given in the House during the third reading of the Education Bill that the development of the school medical service would not be inconsistent with, or duplicate provision to be made by, the National Health Service of the future. He would not approve any proposals leading to the setting up by local education authorities of a general medical practitioner service. The Act had been passed and its provision must, so far as practicable, be implemented. The service which could be provided in the next year or so must be limited to the extent necessary to comply with the undertaking given about its relationship with the future National Health Service. The scope of the service must also be restricted owing to the shortage of medical man-power.

*Sheffield Silicosis Board's Work.*—The Sheffield Panel of the Silicosis Medical Board, under all the compensation schemes for pneumoconiosis, including silicosis and asbestos, dealt in the year 1944 with 298 applications and granted 112 certificates. In 1943 the comparable figures were 159 and 51; in 1942, 74 and 19.

*Refusal of Drugs in the Army.*—Mr. VIANT on May 29 asked whether officers or other ranks, who had a strong objection to taking drugs such as mepacrine, had a right to refuse. Sir JAMES GRIGG said they had not. Officers and other ranks had no right to refuse to obey a lawful order. Commanders-in-Chief were entitled to issue orders to ensure that their troops were fighting fit and kept free from disease. Neither religious scruples, however bona fide, nor dislike of unpleasant after-effects, afforded justification for refusing to take mepacrine.

*Harley Street Houses.*—Mr. CHURCHILL told Sir Ernest Graham-Little on May 31 that the majority of the houses requisitioned in the Harley Street area by Government Departments were used to house American officers, as offices for French missions and branches of the French Embassy, or as hostels. The possibility of reducing the number retained was being examined with occupying authorities. Any houses which could be vacated would be released. Five requisitioned houses now vacant were being released immediately. Sir ERNEST in his question reported that 56 houses in the area continued to be requisitioned. He said evidence had been submitted to Mr. Churchill of a shortage in this area of houses for medical consultants.

**Universities and Colleges****UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE**

The Registry has given preliminary notice that Monday, June 25, will be nomination day for the University Parliamentary Election. Polling days for ordinary electors and for all proxy voters will be from Thursday, July 5, to Tuesday, July 10 inclusive (but not on Sunday, July 8). Service postal votes may be received not later than July 29. The count will begin on July 30 and the result be declared by July 31.

At a Congregation held on June 8 the following medical degrees were conferred by proxy:

M.B., B.CHR.—R. D. Hearn, J. M. Davis.

**UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD**

The University Council on June 8 received with regret the resignation of Mr. Vincent Townrow, F.R.C.S., of the post of lecturer in diseases of the ear and accorded him its thanks for his services to the University. G. L. Hermite, M.B., Ch.B., was appointed temporary demonstrator in anatomy.

**ROYAL FACULTY OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF GLASGOW**

At a meeting of the Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow held on June 4, with Mr. Wm. A. Sewell, President, in the chair, Sir Alfred Edward Webb-Johnson, Bt., K.C.V.O., C.B.E., D.S.O., President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, was admitted an Honorary Fellow.

**Medical News**

During his recent tour in Sweden to lecture on penicillin, under the auspices of the British Council and at the invitation of the Swedish Medical Society, Sir Howard Florey, F.R.S., was honoured with the presentation of the Berzelius Medal in Silver. This medal was presented to members of the Swedish Royal Family and certain other distinguished persons when it was instituted in 1850. It had not been awarded since that time.

The annual general meeting of the Paddington Medical Society will be held at the Paddington Tuberculosis Dispensary, 14, Newton Road, W., on Tuesday, June 26, at 9 p.m., when the president, Dr. Z. Green, will speak on "War Experiences in General Practice."

The next science meeting of the Physical Society will be held at 5 p.m. on Friday, June 29, at the Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, when the 14th Thomas Young Oration will be delivered by Prof. Ragnar Granit, of the Nobel Institute for Neurophysiology, Stockholm, his subject being "The Electrophysiological Analysis of the Fundamental Problem of Colour Reception."

The following sessional meetings of the Royal Sanitary Institute are announced: Saturday, June 30, 10.15 a.m., at Sunderland Town Hall, papers on "The Water Supply in the County of Durham" by Messrs. A. B. E. Blackburn, J. A. Rodwell, and W. G. Carey; Saturday, July 7, at 10.15 a.m., at Banbury Town Hall, papers by Prof. G. Selby Wilson, "Bacterial Food Poisoning," and by Mr. J. Campbell Riddell, "Survey of Sewage Treatment and Sewage Treatment Works Design."

A meeting of the Medical Society of the L.C.C. Service will be held at St. Andrew's Hospital, Devons Road, Bow, E., on Thursday, July 5, at 3 p.m., when members of the staffs of Mile End, St. George-in-the-East, and St. Andrew's Hospitals will demonstrate cases.

The Trustees of the Lady Tata Memorial Fund announce that, on the recommendation of the Scientific Advisory Committee, they have agreed to make the following awards for research in blood diseases, with special reference to leukaemia, in the academic year beginning Oct. 1, 1945. *Grants for Research Expenses:* Dr. P. A. Gorer (London), Dr. A. H. T. Robb-Smith (Oxford). *Personal Grant:* Dr. Penelope K. Hammick (Oxford). *Part-time Personal Grant and Grant for Research Expenses:* Dr. W. Jacobson (Cambridge). Since these awards do not fully use the margin of funds available, it is hoped to issue a public advertisement for new candidates from the continent of Europe and elsewhere as soon as conditions permit.

Major R. Scott Stevenson, M.D., F.R.C.S.Ed., has been adopted as Liberal National candidate for Western Fife at the General Election.

A party of scientists left England on June 14 for Russia to attend the celebration of the 220th anniversary of the founding of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. The medical members were Prof. E. D. Adrian, O.M., F.R.S. (who represented the University of Cambridge) and Prof. Arnold Sorsby, F.R.C.S. (representing the Anglo-Soviet Medical Council). The party arrived in Moscow on June 15.