

In all our early cases of this operation we assisted one another, and at intervals thereafter published the results we had obtained.

The idea of writing a textbook on gynaecological surgery took shape in 1905, but the question of illustrations held it up as neither of us could afford the heavy expense of a professional artist. I therefore had to teach myself to draw, and the process was a long one. The text was written conjointly between 9 p.m. and 2 a.m., and to keep us awake we consumed a bottle of old port at each sitting. The book appeared in 1911. Thereafter we collaborated in four other books, the last (in conjunction with Douglas Macleod) not long before the last war.

From 1914 to 1918 we were the surgeons to the military branch of the Middlesex Hospital at Clacton-on-Sea. It was a first-line base hospital and over 10,000 wounded soldiers passed through our hands. It was necessary to carry on the teaching and surgical work at Middlesex and Chelsea Hospitals, so we arranged that each of us should spend half the week in London and half at Clacton. The half in London, when each of us did his own work and that of his colleague, was very strenuous.

The record of his life's work, even in epitome, is an amazing one, and it might be thought that the spending of so much energy on intensive labour would leave little room for the graces and pleasures of existence. But not at all; he possessed a native humour, a geniality, a toleration, and a kindness of heart which made him an ideal companion, and at any social gathering, private or public, where fun and good fellowship were called for he was a priceless asset. A *bon vivant* by nature and inheritance, joying in good company, especially when it was intimate and gossipy, and possessing an intense relish for the pleasant things of life, he held with the poet that "laughter and the love of friends" were of all things the most worth winning. I with many other of his host of friends will remember with affectionate regret the dinners, perfect in substance and service, that he used to give at his own house or at the Garrick, nor less those jovial suppers of perfect Stilton and audit ale which, at 2 a.m., succeeded several hours spent in hard literary work.

In the last few years of his life domestic misfortune beset him; his house in Wimpole Street was badly damaged by a bomb, as likewise was the house he removed to and the office wherein he worked; and presently his health began to fail, and the death of his dearly loved wife was the final blow. Nevertheless, with indomitable resolution he continued editing his journal and presiding over his Board, and undismayed carried on to the end.

In paying this tribute to the life's work of a very old and loved colleague and friend I cannot but think it teaches these two great lessons: first what enormous capability there is in unfaltering persistence—in 50 years I never saw Berkeley lounge or be idle, he was always doing something; and secondly that time is much more spacious than most of us think; there being within it, if fully utilized, ample room for both great work and great play.

W. E. THOMAS, M.D., J.P.

Prof. GILBERT I. STRACHAN sends the following appreciation:

William Evans Thomas, who died at Porthcawl on Jan. 20th in his 83rd year, was a native of Bala in North Wales. Soon after graduation at Edinburgh he settled in practice in the Rhondda Valley, where, at Ystrad Rhondda, he practised for almost sixty years. He was a keen clinician and kept well abreast of modern advances in his profession, so that his practice became one of the largest in the Rhondda Valley. In spite of this he found opportunity to take a leading part in public affairs, and much of his time and energy in this respect was devoted to the interests of the British Medical Association. He was at different periods honorary secretary and chairman of the North Glamorgan and Brecknock Division, twice president of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Branch, chairman of the Welsh Committee, and vice-chairman of the Welsh Contract Practice Committee. He was also a member of the Representative Body and for a number of years a member of Council. He was one of the original members of the Rhondda Urban District Council, also a member of the governing bodies of the Welsh National Tuberculosis Association, of the National Museum of Wales, of the University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire, and of the Welsh National School of Medicine, as well as of the Board of Management of Cardiff Royal Infirmary. Twenty-five years ago he was appointed a Justice of the Peace.

This sketch far from exhausts the many activities of this remarkable man, who in private life was one of the most cheerful of companions, with an impish sense of humour and a perfect "leg-puller," while he was an ideal host. "W. E.," as he was always known, had the keen-witted enthusiasm of his race; he was always angered at any example of injustice and was ready to fight at any time in the interests of the under-dog. A Welsh-speaking Welshman, he was intensely proud of his country, its achievements, its art, its culture, and its language; and as the best type of Welsh patriot he could always be relied on to maintain the interests of gallant little Wales. His busy life left him but little time for recrea-

tion or sport, and he had small inclination in this direction; work was his mainstay, and many a summer "holiday" was spent at a B.M.A. Annual Meeting.

The death of "W. E." represents the snapping of still another of the few links that connect us with that generation of medical men, the old school, who almost grew up with the Welsh coalfields. They were a hardy and conscientious body of men, and their earlier days on foot or on horseback in all weathers were in marked contrast with the comfort of the latter-day motor-car. Dr. Thomas had the knack of appealing to younger men, with whom he kept constantly in touch, so that his range of acquaintance was enormous; in this way his passing creates a wide gap which it will be difficult to fill, and his absence will be felt by a wide circle far beyond his own generation. At the funeral at Glyn Taff Cemetery, Pontypridd, representatives of many public bodies, including the Welsh National School of Medicine, were present to pay their last respects. It was well said of him that few men had touched life at so many points as he had.

ALFRED EDDOWES, M.D., M.R.C.P.

Dr. Alfred Eddowes, who died on Jan. 15 at Woodford Green at the age of 95, joined the British Medical Association as long ago as 1875, and held office in the Section of Dermatology at three Annual Meetings—as secretary in 1901 at Cheltenham, as vice-president in 1910 in London, and as president in 1914 in Aberdeen.

The son of a medical man, he was born at Pontesbury, Salop, and from Shrewsbury School went to the University of Edinburgh, where he won a medal in physiology and graduated M.B., C.M. in 1873, taking the M.D. three years later. After postgraduate study in London at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and in Vienna, Hamburg, and Paris, Eddowes was resident medical officer at the Royal Salop Hospital for over four years, and then worked in general practice in his native county for eleven years. Coming to London he specialized in dermatology, took the M.R.C.P. in 1897, and became physician for skin cases at the West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases, and also physician to the skin department of St. George's and St. James's Dispensary and to the St. John's Hospital for Diseases of the Skin in Leicester Square. Later he joined the staff of the Western Skin Hospital and was honorary dermatologist to the Artistes' Section of the Stage Guild. He was elected a corresponding member of the French Society of Dermatology and of the Italian Society of Dermatology and Syphilology.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

In a Congregation held on Jan. 24 the following medical degrees were conferred:

D.M.—D. Whitteridge.
B.M., B.Ch.—G. A. S. Lloyd, J. S. P. Rawlins, C. G. White, I. C. Todd, A. J. Ogg, R. P. C. Handfield-Jones (in absence).

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The Trustees of the Nuffield Foundation have offered to the University financial support for an investigation (under Prof. F. C. Bartlett at the Psychological Laboratory) on causes and results of ageing, dealing with characteristics and changes of human function which are associated with different age groups, with particular reference to adult groups. The grants that the Trustees have in mind are a non-recurrent one of £2,000 for initial capital outlay, and a recurrent grant of £6,000 a year for three years in the first instance, with the possibility of renewal for a period not exceeding three years, making six years in all. Should the whole of the grant not be expended in any year, the unexpended balance should be carried forward for use later in the grant period.

The *Cambridge University Reporter* for Jan. 29 contains a report by the Council of the Senate on the establishment of a professorship of radiotherapeutics, and a report by the General Board on the constitution of a department of radiotherapeutics. The Faculty Board of Medicine has recommended unanimously that a professorship in this subject should be established for Dr. J. S. Mitchell, who was medical officer in charge of the radiotherapeutic centre at Addenbrooke's Hospital until he went to Canada on Government service in 1944. This recommendation is approved by the Council, which further recommends that the chair should be limited to one tenure and primarily assigned to the Faculty of Medicine, and that the professor shall not engage in private practice. The General Board

recommends that a department of radiotherapeutics be constituted and placed in the Faculty of Medicine, and that the head of this department be the professor of radiotherapeutics. If the University approves the proposed constitution Dr. Mitchell will work partly in Addenbrooke's Hospital, in the post from which he had leave of absence, and partly in a university department to be equipped and maintained by the University. What the General Board now proposes is the second step in the development of a school of clinical research and postgraduate teaching along the lines described in an earlier report on the constitution of a department of experimental medicine. The opportunity to constitute a department of experimental medicine arose from the offer of the Medical Research Council to provide the whole stipend of Dr. R. A. McCance as professor of experimental medicine, whose department was set up in May, 1945.

On the nomination of the Faculty Board of Medicine Prof. R. A. McCance has been appointed assessor to the Regius Professor of Physic for the year 1946.

At a Congregation held on Jan. 25 the following medical degrees were conferred by proxy except on those whose names are marked with an asterisk:

M.D.—J. F. Paterson.
M.B., B.CHIR.—R. C. Allison, D. J. ap Simon, *J. C. Bayliss, W. Buckley, E. W. Deane, A. McK. Elliott, *A. E. Flatt, A. L. Furniss, J. Gloster, D. Hamilton, *J. Jordon, P. B. Kunkler, *P. A. Merton, P. D. Mort, H. G. Percy, *B. R. Pollard, J. W. T. Redfearn, *J. T. Rowling, C. C. D. Shute, E. B. G. Smith, R. H. Thomlinson, *P. Watson, *R. H. Wilkinson, C. J. Wilson.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

The headquarters staff of the University at Richmond College has now returned to the Senate House in Bloomsbury (tel.: Museum 8000). The department of the superintendent of examinations and the publications department will remain at South Kensington until further notice.

Mr. John B. Hunter, M.Ch., F.R.C.S., has been appointed as a representative of the Faculty of Medicine on the Senate for the remainder of the period 1942-6, in place of the late Sir Girling Ball. Mr. Hunter is succeeded by Dr. H. E. A. Boldero, F.R.C.P., as representative of the General Medical Schools on the Senate for the same period.

Under the present regulations, applications for grants in aid of research are invited annually and are to be received at the University by March 31 in each year. It has now been decided that more frequent allocation is desirable, and the revised dates of application for grants from the Central Research Fund, the Dixon Fund, and the Thomas Smythe Hughes Medical Research Fund will now be March 31, July 31, and Nov. 30 in each year.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

The following candidates were successful at the recent Primary Fellowship examination conducted by the College:

I. A. Alexander, M. Burdman, E. F. Chin, Daphne W. Chun, N. A. Cust, E. O. Dawson, A. N. B. Fitzhardinge, I. G. Graber, D. P. Greaves, F. J. Hedden, A. M. Khan, T. L. T. Lewis, R. J. Manekshaw, R. Nigam, N. K. Parikh, W. H. Power, D. B. Robertson, D. P. Robertson, G. P. A. Sechiari, Homa V.-ol-M. Shaibany, D. H. Thompson, B. H. Wadia, R. W. E. Watts.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON

Lord Moran, P.R.C.P., will deliver a lecture entitled "Into Battle" at Apothecaries' Hall, Black Friars Lane, Queen Victoria Street, E.C., on Tuesday, March 12, at 8 p.m. Members of the medical profession and senior students are cordially invited to attend.

The Services

The following have been mentioned in dispatches in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the field: Major (Temp.) R. Mackay, M.C., Capt. A. H. Weston and J. E. Wooding, R.A.M.C., and Capt. P. R. Das-Gupta, I.M.S.

The Efficiency Decoration has been conferred upon the following officers of the Territorial Army: Lieut.-Col. (Temp. Col.) C. R. Croft, Majors (Temp. Lieut.-Cols.) P. R. Mitchell, O.B.E., and H. G. Wimbush, and Capt. (Temp. Majors) G. S. Adams and G. T. Pitts, R.A.M.C.

CASUALTIES IN THE MEDICAL SERVICES

Previously reported missing, now reported to have died on Feb. 15, 1942, in Japanese hands.—Squad. Ldr. Eustatius William Barton Griffiths, R.A.F. Reserve.

Died while a prisoner of war in Japanese hands.—Fl. Lieut. Raymond George Blackledge, R.A.F.V.R.

Died.—Fl. Lieut. James Lawrence Connor, R.A.F.V.R.

Died of wounds in India.—Lieut. Austin Stuart Carruthers, R.A.M.C.

Killed on Active Service with C.M.F., May, 1945.—Capt. Cecil Willoughby Richards, R.A.M.C.

Medical Notes in Parliament

Pneumoconiosis Investigations

Mr. PETER FREEMAN suggested on Jan. 22 that the Minister of Fuel and Power should have a special inquiry made into the question of stone-dusting and coal-dust problems in connexion with coal-cutting and conveying machines underground, with reference to the effects of both kinds of dust upon miners' lungs and as contributory causes of lung diseases. Mr. SHINWELL said measures to reduce dust in coal mines were already the subject of investigation and action by the industry and by the Inspectors of Mines. Though he was satisfied that much progress was being made, particularly in South Wales, this would have to be accelerated. In addition a joint committee, composed of representatives of his Department and the Medical Research Council, was assisting a research unit in South Wales dealing with the cause, treatment, and prevention of pneumoconiosis. There had been an increase in the incidence of lung diseases among miners, but this was not attributable to stone dust.

Research in Atomic Energy

Mr. ATTLEE announced on Jan. 29 that Lord Portal of Hungerford had been appointed as head of an organization for production of fissile material for use in research into and experiments with atomic energy. Prof. J. D. Cockcroft had been selected for the post of director of the atomic research station at Harwell, near Didcot. On Jan. 31 Mr. Attlee added that the Government intended research and production should be carried on in this country on a scale sufficient for the development of atomic energy in co-operation with other nations. He could not estimate when any stated rate of output of the material would be achieved.

Discussions by the Minister of Health

On Jan. 31 Sir HENRY MORRIS-JONES asked Mr. Bevan why, in his recent interview with some representatives of local authorities concerning his proposals for hospital administration in his forthcoming National Health Bill, they were forbidden by him to consult their associations or to divulge his proposals. Mr. BEVAN replied that the Government's proposals for a National Health Service would be published in the proper manner, by the submission of a Bill to Parliament. Before settling final details of that Bill he was seeking advice on various points from expert representatives from local government and other fields. He did not ask them to commit the local authorities or other bodies to any particular proposal. His discussions with them must obviously be confidential.

Medical News

The following radiological meetings are announced: Thursday, Feb. 14, at 8 p.m., at British Institute of Radiology (32, Welbeck Street, W.), Dr. L. G. Blair, "Interpretation of Children's Chest X-rays." Friday, Feb. 15, at 2.30 p.m., at Royal College of Surgeons of England (Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.), Diagnostic Section of Faculty of Radiologists, Dr. E. Rohan Williams and Mr. Leonard G. Phillips, "The Value of Antenatal Radiological Pelvimetry," followed by a discussion to be opened by Mr. Aleck W. Bourne. Friday, Feb. 15, at 8 p.m., Radiology Section of Royal Society of Medicine at 1, Wimpole Street, W., discussion on "The Radiotherapy of Brain Tumours."

The Association of Scientific Workers, in co-operation with kindred organizations, has arranged a conference on "Science and the Welfare of Mankind" to be held at the Beaver Hall, Garlick Hill, London, E.C.4, on Friday, Feb. 15, at 7 p.m. (chairman, Sir Robert Robinson, F.R.S.), Feb. 16 at 2.30 p.m. (chairman, Sir Richard Gregory, F.R.S.), and Feb. 17 at 10 a.m. (chairman, Prof. A. V. Hill, F.R.S.) and 2.30 p.m. (chairman, Sir Robert Watson-Watt, F.R.S.). The subjects of the four sessions are science and world needs, implications of recent scientific development, the responsibilities of scientists in modern society, and the organization of science. Inquiries should be sent to the Association of Scientific Workers, 73, High Holborn, W.C.1 (telephone, Chancery 5607).

Dr. Geoffrey Evans will read a paper on "Physical Methods in the Treatment of so-called Psychosomatic States" before the British Association of Physical Medicine at 11, Chandos Street, W., on Wednesday, Feb. 20, at 5.30 p.m.

A meeting of the Clinical Society of the Royal Eye Hospital will be held at the hospital on Wednesday, Feb. 20, at 5.30 p.m., when a talk will be given by Dr. Clifford Hoyle on "Hypertensive and Arteriosclerotic Heart Disease."