

be hurried. His examination of the patient was always systematic and thorough, and his visits left his patients cheered and full of confidence. No man was ever more kind and sympathetic. We remember these words of Savonarola: "The physician that bringeth love and charity to the sick, if he be good and kind and learned and skilful, none can be better than he." And we know that no man ever more deserved them than Dr. Thin.

## The Services

### CASUALTIES IN THE MEDICAL SERVICES

#### ROYAL NAVY

Temporary Surgeon Lieut. ARTHUR CHARLES SHELFORD, R.N.V.R., who was announced as "Missing" in the *Journal* of September 21, 1940 (p. 402), is now reported to have died as a prisoner of war and to have been buried on Pellworm Island on September 26, 1940. He was born at Alnwick in 1914 and began his medical studies at the University of Edinburgh in 1932, graduating M.B., Ch.B. in 1937. He had held the posts of house-physician and house-surgeon at Sunderland Royal Infirmary. Soon after the outbreak of war he was granted a temporary commission as surgeon lieutenant in the R.N.V.R., and early in 1940 was posted to H.M.S. *Express* and assisted in the Dunkirk evacuation. He joined the British Medical Association soon after qualification.

#### ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

##### *Prisoner of War*

Lieut. John Campbell.

### DEATHS IN THE SERVICES

Colonel LEONARD WOOD, late R.A.M.C. (ret.), died at Westbury, Wiltshire, on September 27, aged 67. He was born on July 20, 1874, was educated at Mason College, Birmingham, and took the M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. in 1898. After filling the house posts at the General Hospital, Birmingham, he entered the R.A.M.C. as lieutenant in 1899, becoming full colonel in 1926. In 1910-11 he served as adjutant of Territorial Army units. He served throughout the South African War of 1899-1902, when he took part in the relief of Kimberley and in operations in the Orange Free State, receiving the Queen's medal with three clasps and the King's medal with two clasps. In the war of 1914-18 he served as a D.D.M.S. and was mentioned in dispatches in 1917. After retirement he was employed at Trowbridge. He leaves a widow.

## Universities and Colleges

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

The President of the Royal College of Surgeons, Sir Alfred Webb-Johnson, gave a luncheon party on October 9 at Claridge's. The company included members of the Council and officers of the College; the Presidents of the Royal College of Physicians and the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists; the Medical Directors-General of the Services; and Viscount Dawson of Penn and Lord Horder. Among the many other distinguished guests were the President of the Czechoslovak Republic, the Soviet Ambassador, the Egyptian Ambassador, and the Czechoslovak Minister of the Interior and Education; the First Lord of the Admiralty and the Minister of Health; the High Commissioners for Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa; Captain Crookshank, M.P., Major Lloyd George, M.P., and Colonel the Hon. John Astor, M.P.; Brigadier R. Luton, D.M.S., Canadian Forces, Wing Commander A. R. Tilley, R.C.A.F., Lieut.-Colonel J. H. Anderson, R.A.A.M.C., Squadron Leader E. H. Anderson, R.A.A.F., Captain W. M. Anderson, U.S. Navy, and Colonel Paul R. Hawley, U.S. Army.

In his speech Sir Alfred gave a special welcome to the President of the Czechoslovak Republic and said that the Royal Colleges were proud to have the privilege of conducting examinations for the medical degrees of the University of Prague. He spoke of the admiration felt by all present for the gallant Soviet Army, and their sympathy for the sacrifices and sufferings of the Russian people; the College was grateful for the Ambassador's personal support in its endeavours to establish closer liaison between the medical services of the two countries. The Egyptian Ambassador was an old friend of the College, for it had had close associations

with the Egyptian University for many years, and its Rector was an Honorary Fellow. The presence of the High Commissioners for the four Dominions was a reminder that our Royal Colleges had an imperial as well as a national importance and significance. Welcoming Admiral Dudley, General Hood, and Air Marshal Sir Harold Whittingham he expressed the hope that one outcome of this war would be that the heads of the Ministries of Defence would realize that their Medical Directors-General should have a place at the highest Council table; the war had made it clear that in tactics as well as strategy nearly every phase had its medical aspect. After a word of special greeting to medical representatives in this country of the Dominion Forces and of the United States, and to the Hunterian Trustees who attended the luncheon, the President made reference to the loss the College had sustained by enemy action. Though it might seem trivial compared with the losses and sacrifices of our Allies, yet it was a calamity of the first order—a loss to science. The Museum was unique in the world. "Our loss is serious, but in the great event it is but an incident and one which we may consider it a privilege to repair. We have a summons to a high duty, a mighty and noble task, in which we are encouraged by offers of help from all parts of the world. What high destiny to be on the Council now, when every step we take is history! It may be that this disaster will pave the way to the finest hour in the history of our College. The first step towards repair was taken with dramatic promptitude, for at the very first regular meeting of the Council after the disaster we received an inspiring message from the Bernhard Baron Trustees offering a gift of £40,000 to endow a research professorship at the College, so that, in our preoccupation with the restoration of the Museum, research should not suffer. . . . We have Hunter's plan and the inspiration of his example. On these foundations we must rebuild the superstructure—not perhaps exactly as it was, but as he would have built it had he been equipped with all the aids we have to-day."

The First Lord of the Admiralty and the Minister of Health replied to the President's toast: "To the Hunterian Tradition; to the restoration of our Museum; to the success of our Allied Arms; and to the attainment of Victory, for it is only through Victory that our goal can be won."

#### *Council Meeting*

At a quarterly meeting of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, held on October 9, with Sir Alfred Webb-Johnson, President, in the chair, Mr. D. L. Kerr was admitted as a Macloghlin Scholar.

Prof. John Beattie was appointed Bernhard Baron Research Professor.

It was decided not to fill the post of Conservator of the Museum at present. Prof. A. J. E. Cave, Assistant Conservator, will continue in charge for the time being.

The following awards were reported: A Proffit Studentship to Dr. J. Clark Davidson and a Mackenzie Mackinnon Research Fellowship to Dr. Geoffrey Bourne.

It was decided to recognize the posts of resident surgical officer and one house-surgeon at the Kent and Sussex Hospital, and the house-surgeon at the Walsall General Hospital, for the six months surgical practice required of candidates for the Final Fellowship examination.

A Diploma of Fellowship was granted to Peter Smith, M.B., B.S. Diplomas of Membership were granted to F. X. Darne, J. D. C. Gowans, D. K. Sambrook, A. L. H. Smith, and Glenys J. Wade.

Diplomas in Child Health were granted, jointly with the Royal College of Physicians of London, to the following eleven candidates: A. W. Abramson, W. W. Burnett, Winifred McK. Davidson, W. G. Daynes, Mabel A. Henderson, S. L. Mohan, D. Morris, Lorna C. Petersen, G. Prasad, I. D. Riley, Margaret M. Strange.

### UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

At a meeting of the University Council, held on October 10, Prof. G. A. Clark was reappointed representative of the University on the General Medical Council, and Mrs. Margaret G. Happey, M.B., Ch.B., was appointed assistant bacteriologist.

The Council received the resignation of Dr. R. W. John of the posts of research assistant and honorary demonstrator in pathology with regret, and accorded its thanks to him for his services to the university.

The Faculty of Medicine reported that the success which attended two short courses in industrial medicine, held during

the summer vacation, had demonstrated the growing realization of the importance of reducing health hazards among industrial workers. Lectures and demonstrations were given by some of H.M. Medical Inspectors of Factories, by members of the teaching staff of the Medical School, and by the staff of the Mines Research Board, and visits were paid to the works of Messrs. Edgar Allen and Co., Ltd., and Messrs. Hadfields, Ltd. The Faculty was glad to have fostered the spirit of co-operation between industry and medicine, and hoped to have further opportunities of doing so in the future.

#### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF EDINBURGH

At a meeting of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, held on October 15, with Dr. H. M. Traquair, President, in the chair, the following who passed the requisite examinations were admitted Fellows:

W. V. Beach, D. W. Bracey, M. S. Campbell, I. Chand, C. D. Coode, H. K. Dastur, H. De, J. C. Dick, H. L. Duncan, M. Gamal el-Din, T. Gibson, W. H. Kirkaldy-Willis, M. A. M. Labib, H. A. McDonald, W. C. McGuire, G. MacKay, J. W. Morgenthal, J. M. H. Ross.

At the annual meeting of the College, held on October 15, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

*President*, Mr. J. W. Struthers. *Vice-President*, Dr. H. M. Traquair. *Secretary and Treasurer*, Mr. K. Paterson Brown. *Representative on the General Medical Council*, Mr. Alex. Miles. *Convener of Museum Committee*, Mr. W. Quarry Wood. *Librarian*, Dr. Douglas Guthrie.

## Medical Notes in Parliament

### Psychiatry in the Army

On October 7 the Parliamentary Medical Committee, with Sir Francis Fremantle in the chair, was addressed by Colonel J. R. Rees, Director of Army Psychiatry and head of the Tavistock Clinic. He gave an account of the psychiatric work now done in each Army Command and showed that the classification of difficult cases had a good effect on Army morale. These cases seemed more prone to appear in military service than under civil conditions.

### Return of Tuberculous Soldiers from South Africa

Captain MARGESSON denied on October 9 that any special orders had been issued by his Department for forty military tuberculosis cases in the Addington Hospital, Natal, and 120 similar cases at Oribi, to be returned to this country. He said there were general instructions regarding the return to this country from South Africa of soldiers suffering from tuberculosis. On arrival in this country soldiers suffering from tuberculosis were sent to a military hospital, where they received treatment as necessary until handed over to the care of the local health authority.

### Medical Services of Soldiers' Dependants

On October 14 Dr. HADEN GUEST asked the Secretary of State for War why the privilege of medical and dental treatment accorded to the families of regular soldiers now serving, and to those of reservists called up for service, was not given to the families of the soldiers enlisted or called up since the beginning of the war. Captain MARGESSON replied that the extension to the families of soldiers enlisted since the war of the facilities for medical and dental treatment at present enjoyed by the families of regular soldiers or reservists now serving would involve an enormous increase in the numbers of Army medical and dental officers, which could only be effected at the expense of the civil medical services. Moreover, the families of regular soldiers were not eligible for medical attendance in their homes unless they lived within a mile of certain fixed points, and if the concession were extended to the families of wartime soldiers its value would therefore vary according to the family's domicile.

### Scotland's Post-war Hospital Policy

On October 14 Mr. MCNEIL asked the Secretary of State for Scotland if he could give further details of the Government's post-war hospital policy for Scotland in relation to voluntary and emergency hospitals. Mr. JOHNSTON said that he proposed

to have consultations at an early date with the various organizations, including the associations of local authorities, concerned with hospital services in Scotland. In the meantime he could not add to the statement made in the House of Commons by the Minister of Health on October 9.

### Increase of Tuberculosis

Mr. ERNEST BROWN announced on October 16 that, on the basis of provisional mortality figures for 1939 and 1940, the percentage increase in pulmonary tuberculosis in England and Wales for the population as a whole was 9.7% higher in 1940 than in 1939. The highest rate of increase was 15% among women between the ages of 15 and 25. In the first quarter of 1941 there had, however, been a reduction of 7% for the population as a whole, and of 4% for women between the ages of 15 and 25. With the co-operation of the Medical Research Council he had arranged an expert investigation into the possible causes of increase. Everything possible was being done to maintain the tuberculosis service.

### Alien Doctors' Employment

In an answer on October 16 to Sir Henry Morris Jones Mr. BROWN announced that the number of alien doctors registered under the Medical Register (Temporary Registration) Orders, 1941, by virtue of employment in approved services, was 470, apart from American doctors dealt with under the Order of 1940. Of the total of 470, 385 were employed in hospitals, 33 in public health appointments, and 52 as ship surgeons or in other miscellaneous posts. In addition, 24 received commissions in our Services, apart from those serving in Allied Forces. He recalled that the Order made on September 23 last provided an avenue of service in general practice by enabling alien doctors to be registered by virtue of employment as assistants to doctors already on the permanent *Medical Register*. The number of doctors still available was approximately 500, including those who had only recently become eligible for registration under the amended Defence Regulation 32B.

*First-aid Equipment of Home Guard.*—Mr. GROVES alleged on October 2 that the only dressing suitable for dealing with burns which had been issued to the Home Guard was tannic acid jelly, and that this jelly was by medical men considered to be more dangerous than useful in cases of burning of the hands or face or any exposed part of the body. Captain MARGESSON said he was looking into this question. Answering further questions he said all first-aid dressings issued for immediate use at Home Guard posts were impregnated with an antiseptic. Asked whether he knew that wooden splints issued to the Home Guard were so short that they would be useless for the proper control of a fractured leg, Captain MARGESSON replied on October 2 that arrangements were in hand for provision of suitable splints at regimental aid posts.

*Hospital Domestic Staffs.*—In a reply on October 9 to Miss Rathbone, Mr. BROWN said he had for some time been concerned because many voluntary hospitals were seriously hampered owing to lack of ancillary staff such as stokers, porters, and wardmaids. He had recently discussed these difficulties with representatives of voluntary hospitals. Domestic work in hospitals was recognized as one of the services of most urgent national importance for which recruitment was to be carried out by the Minister of Labour. He had issued a poster for circulation to hospitals to make this importance clear to those already employed in hospitals.

*Special Examinations for Employment Exchanges.*—On October 14 Mr. GROVES asked the Minister of Labour if he was aware that doctors were being required by certain employment exchanges to undertake urine tests over a period; if such examination was part of the ordinary services of the doctor; and if a special fee was to be paid. Mr. BEVIN: I understand that such action was taken in one district at the request of the medical board. The action was unauthorized, and steps have been taken to prevent its recurrence.

### Notes in Brief

Mr. Ernest Brown hopes to issue within three or four weeks the report for 1940 of the Chief Inspector of Factories.

In accordance with the general decision to suspend the issue of departmental reports not immediately essential to the war effort, the regular series of reports of the Ministry of Health and of the Chief Medical Officer will be suspended until after the war. Mr. Ernest Brown hopes, however, that a summary will be ready within the next two months.

Publication of the annual reports of the Chief Medical Officer to the Board of Education will be deferred till after the war.