

Mitchell's outstanding position in the surgery of the abdomen in the early years of the century brought with it a rapid increase in his work as a consultant. His advice was sought not only by the general practitioners all over the country but by the surgeons to the county and district hospitals, most of whom were brought up on pre-Listerian principles and were eager for him to demonstrate his methods in the country. The advent of the motor car made this possible, and during the ten years before the last war Mitchell's country work was enormous. The outbreak of war showed, however, that he was a general surgeon of wide capabilities. He was nominated by the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland for the post of consulting surgeon to the Forces in France. When the invitation arrived, however, he was in a nursing home, having himself undergone an abdominal operation. He had therefore most unwillingly to decline the offer. Later on, in 1916, Sir Robert Jones put him in charge of the Military Orthopaedic Hospital in Belfast. In this post he proved himself a first-rate administrator as well as an expert on the problems presented by the wounded soldiers who were arriving in great and increasing numbers. At this time his daily list included nerve sutures, bone grafting, and amputations. During the war the hospital dealt with over 3,000 cases, and this work gained for him the O.B.E.

But Mitchell's interests were not confined to his professional work. When Queen's College became Queen's University in 1908 he was appointed to the Senate. From the first he was a member of the Standing and Finance Committees, which determine the policy and carry out much of the administrative work of the university. For several years he was chairman of the Athletic Field Committee, and the spacious and attractive grounds at Cherryvale are a permanent memorial to his foresight and knowledge of the value of physical health to the student. In 1935 he became M.P. for the university in the Northern Ireland Parliament. He greatly appreciated the confidence of his medical friends which this honour conveyed, for he had never had time in his very busy professional life for political activities. In Parliament he often spoke on public health problems, especially when these entailed the improvement and extension of medical services. Whatever Mitchell's activities may have been, and they were widespread, he allowed nothing to interfere with his work for the Royal Victoria Hospital. At his retirement from the active staff he joined the board of management, and for twelve years up to the end held the office of chairman. Under his direction recent extensions were made to the wards, and the new fracture department now in process of building had his constant support.

Mitchell's greatest asset was the charm of his personality. His rapid success in his early surgical career did not fail to cause some jealousy. Most of this, however, was ill founded, and he lived to gain the undivided esteem and affection of his colleagues on the staff of the hospital and its board of management. He had many friends, too, among the leading surgeons of his time. Two of his most cherished possessions were letters of appreciation from Lord Moynihan and Sir Robert Jones.

Dr. EDWIN LANCELOT HOPKINS died suddenly on Sept. 10 at the age of 53. He had been medical superintendent of the Derbyshire County Mental Hospital since June, 1931. E. L. Hopkins was a Somerset man, lived for some time in Southern Ireland, and studied medicine at the London Hospital, qualifying M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. in 1916, after which he at once joined the R.A.M.C. and saw service first with the 39th Field Ambulance, and later with the 6th Battalion South Lancashire Regiment in Mesopotamia, being awarded the M.C. for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty while attending the wounded under fire. Upon the termination of his military service he secured an appointment in the Ministry of Pensions and took the D.P.H. in 1921, after which he joined the L.C.C. Mental Hospitals Service, and was A.M.O. at Bexley and Hanwell Hospitals, and deputy medical superintendent at the Ewell and West Park Hospitals at the time of his appointment to the Derbyshire County Mental Hospital at Mickleover. He was a man of charming personality, and displayed a kindly sympathy which endeared him to his patients and to those with whom he came in contact in his various outside activities. During his term of office at Mickleover he added much to the amenities of the patients, improving their living conditions and methods of treatment, and creating a fuller sense of security and freedom in the outlook of the mental sufferer. He inaugurated

psychiatric clinics at Derby and Chesterfield and helped many neurotic subjects by his calm, kind, and tolerant attitude. He avoided hasty decisions and proved himself a man of sound judgment.

On Sept. 16 there passed away Judge DIGBY COTES-PREEDY, one of the few medical men who have forsaken medicine and thereafter attained distinction at the Bar. The outstanding instance in our time is the late Lord Finlay. He was born in 1875, and after taking his degree at Cambridge, from Emmanuel College, he studied at St. George's Hospital; but he always had one eye on the law, and this delayed his qualifying as L.S.A., about which he appeared to be in no great hurry. He held a house appointment at his own hospital, however, and was "called" not long after. Always a man characterized more by knowledge of the world than by aptitude for academic distinction, he applied himself to his second profession with great energy. He became law reporter for the daily press (actually, for the *Daily Mail*, if memory serves) and attended the Courts most assiduously. This, together with his natural shrewdness and native wit, with which he was well endowed, presently led him to adopt the Divorce Division as his province, and there he soon obtained a very considerable practice as a junior. In 1925 he took silk, and continued to enjoy even greater success, becoming a Bench of the Inner Temple in 1932. He was promoted to a County Court Judgeship in 1936, but had to resign owing to ill-health in 1941. He had been a member of the Coroners Committee in 1935 and served on two select committees during the war of 1914-18. He was also Chancellor of the Diocese of Worcester. Cotes-Preedy was an interesting and amusing raconteur; and the County Court Bench was exactly his right *milieu*. He married in 1908 Margaret, younger daughter of the late Mr. S. Bradley of Blakedown, and had one son. His father was the late Rev. D. H. Cotes-Preedy, minor canon of Worcester Cathedral.

The Services

The M.C. has been awarded to Capt. A. A. Byrne, C. R. Tilly, E. Townsend, and J. Watt, R.A.M.C., and to Capt. R. B. Sule, I.M.S., for gallant and distinguished services in the Middle East.

Capt. J. H. Annan, A. C. D. Parsons, and I. McD. G. Stewart, R.A.M.C., have been mentioned in dispatches in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Middle East.

CASUALTIES IN THE MEDICAL SERVICES

Temp. Major JOHN MACMILLAN, R.A.M.C., died on active service in July. He was born on May 18, 1912, and was educated at Aberdeen Grammar School and at the University of Aberdeen, where he graduated M.B., Ch.B. in 1936. He held house posts at Walsall and Kettering hospitals and was in general practice for eighteen months before being appointed A.R.P. assistant medical officer for Southgate. He entered the R.A.M.C.(T.A.) in Aug., 1937, was promoted capt. a year later, and was called up immediately war broke out. He was posted to the Middle East early in 1940 and served in Palestine, Iraq, and Syria. In April, 1941, he was mentioned in dispatches for distinguished services. He leaves a widow. He was a member of the B.M.A.

Temp. Major THOMAS GERALD MARTIN, R.A.M.C., is included as "died" in an Army Council Casualty List published on Sept. 25. He was born on Aug. 24, 1906, and graduated M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. (with honours) at the National University of Ireland, and gained the Blayney prize and the Pearson gold medal in 1931. He also took the D.P.H.Lond. He had held house posts at Sheffield Royal Hospital, and in 1937 settled in practice in London. He entered the R.A.M.C. in Nov., 1939, and was promoted capt. a year later.

An India Office Casualty List announces the death of Lieut.-Col. BISHAMBHAR SAHAI, I.M.S. He was born on Oct. 17, 1888, and was educated at the University of Calcutta and at Charing Cross Hospital, qualifying M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. in 1916. He immediately took a temp. commission in the I.M.S., and in 1920 received a permanent commission, being ranked as capt. from 1919. He became lieut.-col. in 1931. He served in France and Flanders during the war of 1914-18, receiving the medals.

Prisoners of War.—Major J. A. G. Carmichael, R.A.M.C., War Subs. Capt. H. D. Fleming, R.A.M.C., War Subs. Capt. C. D. Holdstock, R.A.M.C., Capt. W. O. James, R.A.M.C., War Subs. Capt. J. C. Mustardé, R.A.M.C., Capt. P. Turner, R.A.M.C.

Missing.—Capt. C. V. Lewis, R.A.M.C.