

Obituary

LEONARD KIDD, M.D.

The death has taken place at Enniskillen, Northern Ireland, of Dr. Leonard Kidd, who for forty years held the post of medical superintendent of Fermanagh County Hospital, and for thirty-six years was direct representative for Ireland on the General Medical Council. Dr. Kidd, who was in his eightieth year, had been ill for a long time.

He was a native of County Louth and spent his early youth in Armagh. At one time he was a master at Foyle College, where he taught classical and modern languages. He was a keen player of rugby football, and once played for Ireland. He received his medical training at Trinity College, Dublin, and at Edinburgh, qualifying L.R.C.P.&S.I. in 1887, and taking his Dublin medical degrees in the following year. After various nospital appointments he settled in practice in Enniskillen, where his "monument" is the county hospital which he served as medical superintendent for so many years with marked ability and devotion. He transformed the institution from a comparatively small, poorly equipped building for the aged and infirm into one of the most modern and best furnished hospitals in all Ireland. It was no longer necessary for patients, well-to-do or poor, to undertake the hundred miles' journey to Dublin to undergo an operation. A theatre was installed, trained nurses introduced, proper accommodation for nurses provided, and the progress went on until, just before his resignation in 1937, a new maternity ward and children's clinic were added. Dr. Kidd was also for forty years medical officer to Portora Royal School, and took a deep interest in the welfare of its boys, including its old boys. A portrait of him was unveiled in the hall of the school early during the present year. He was president of Enniskillen District Nursing Society, and the high state of efficiency of nursing in Fermanagh was due largely to his efforts. For a time he was a member of his urban district council, where he zealously advocated improved housing, water supply, and sanitation.

In medical politics he was a prominent figure. One of his ideals was a Ministry of Health for Northern Ireland, and he had many consultations with the Prime Minister, the late Viscount Craigavon, and the Ministry of Home Affairs on the subject, but his advocacy was unavailing. He became a member of the British Medical Association as long ago as 1889, and in 1906 he was a very acceptable president of the Ulster Branch. He had also been chairman of his own, Fermanagh, Division. When the Association visited Belfast in 1937 he acted as vice-president of the Section of Medical Sociology. He had also been president of the Irish Medical Association (now merged with the B.M.A. in the Irish Free State Medical Union). His long membership of the General Medical Council, from 1906 until quite recently, introduced him to prominent medical men in Great Britain, by whom he was greatly esteemed. In the war of 1914-18 he served in the R.A.M.C., holding the rank of major. A deserved honour which came to him a few years ago was his appointment as Deputy Lieutenant for his county.

LOUIS C. PARKES, M.D.

The death of Dr. Louis Coltman Parkes at the age of 84 will recall to senior members of the Public Health Service a man who in his day did notable work in sanitary science and was long known to students and practitioners as the author of a standard textbook on hygiene which passed through eight editions. From University College Hospital he graduated M.B.Lond. in 1880 and M.D. in 1882, and he was one of the first to take the D.P.H. For many years Dr. Louis Parkes was medical officer of health for Chelsea and consulting sanitary adviser to H.M. Board of Works, retiring from the service of the Metropolitan Borough of Chelsea in 1923; he was also honorary sanitarian to the East End Maternity Hospital. He had been vice-president of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and was a Foreign Associate Member of the Société Française d'Hygiène. He held office at three Annual Meetings of the British Medical Association—as honorary secretary of the Section of Public Medicine in 1890, vice-president in 1895;

and president of the Section of Hygiene and Public Health in 1909. He was the originator and sole author of the early editions of *Hygiene and Public Health*; Prof. H. R. Kenwood joined him later as co-author of that work, and collaborated in 1929 with Prof. Harold Kerr in preparing the eighth edition. Dr. Parkes also wrote small books on *Infectious Diseases: Notification and Prevention* in 1893, on *Elements of Health* in 1895, and on *House Drainage, etc., in Relation to Health* in 1909. He edited the third edition of Corfield's *Treatment and Utilization of Sewage*. He died in retirement at Holmbury St. Mary, near Dorking, on Oct. 11.

Dr. ROBERT APPLGARTH HENDRY died at Rugby on Aug. 13, and medicine was the poorer for the loss of a general practitioner and gynaecologist who overcame his own disabilities in so heroic a manner that his fellows and patients always looked to him as the leader of local medical thought. He was a sufferer from arthritis for many years, but this he never allowed to interfere with the needs of his patients. He was always the same kindly administrator to the sick and suffering, wherever or whenever he was called. I have watched him operate late at night, and his thoughtfulness towards the theatre staff was a model for any young surgeon. Whenever a meeting was held at which controversy might arise he was an automatic choice as chairman, so respected was he by his colleagues for scrupulous fairness and honesty of thought. His academic career was brilliant, and he took the gold medal at the M.D.Lond. examination in obstetrics and gynaecology in 1908. He then became demonstrator of obstetrics and gynaecology, subcurator of the obstetrical and gynaecological museum, and Ethel Boyce Fellow, University of Liverpool; and honorary assistant gynaecological surgeon, Hospital for Women and Liverpool Royal Infirmary. When the highest honours in his specialty appeared within his reach, illness snatched them from him, and in 1925 he gave up his work in Liverpool and entered general practice. His love for gynaecology was so strong that in 1936 he again took up hospital work, joining the honorary staff of the Hospital of St. Cross, Rugby. He was elected chairman of the Medical Board, was chairman of the Rugby Division of the B.M.A., and had held the chair of various other committees, including the local Rotary Club. Dr. Hendry leaves a widow and two sons. The elder, Capt. Preston Hendry, R.A.M.C., is on active service in the Middle East. Shortly before his death Dr. Hendry received the news that this son had been mentioned in dispatches.—P. T. D.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Dr. Alexander M. Cooke, F.R.C.P., May Reader in Medicine, has been elected to a professorial fellowship at Merton College.

In Congregation on Oct. 20 a decree was passed establishing a professorship of social medicine. This gives effect to the decision announced in these columns on July 25 (p. 101) to establish at Oxford an Institute of Social Medicine and to appoint a professor to be in charge of it. The Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust will devote £10,000 a year for the next ten years for the purposes of the chair and the institute in which the professor will work.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Prof. H. R. Dean, M.D., Master of Trinity Hall, has been elected the representative of the University on the General Medical Council for the five years from Oct. 22, 1942.

The late Sir Joseph Larmor, F.R.S., has bequeathed to the University £2,000 to be devoted to providing medical and surgical assistance and sick nursing to junior members of the University.

At a Congregation held on Oct. 16 the following medical degrees were conferred by proxy:

M.B., B.Chir.—R. M. Emrys-Roberts, A. J. Rook, W. F. Felton, M. Koettlitz, J. B. Stanton, G. Wetherley-Mein, I. N. Darbyshire, M. M. Brown, K. H. Lim, W. P. U. Jackson, R. J. F. H. Pinsent.

M.B.—J. Mackellar.

Cecil Clifford Dobell, M.A., F.R.S., of Trinity College, protistologist to the Medical Research Council, has been approved for the degree of Doctor of Science.

UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

Drs. H. Le Brun and W. A. Harney have been appointed temporary demonstrators of anatomy. The University Council has accepted, with regret, the resignation of Mrs. M. G. Happey, M.B., of the post of assistant bacteriologist, and has accorded its thanks to Dr. Happey for her services.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY OF BELFAST

Dr. William Lyle, a medical graduate of Queen's University, Belfast, and County Director of the Red Cross in that city, has been returned unopposed as a representative of Queen's University in the Northern Ireland Parliament, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Col. A. B. Mitchell, F.R.C.S.I.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

It is proposed to hold a meeting of Fellows and Members at the College in Lincoln's Inn Fields on Thursday, Nov. 19, at 2.30 p.m., when a report from the Council will be laid before the meeting.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF EDINBURGH

At a meeting of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, held on Oct. 21, with Mr. J. W. Struthers, President, in the chair, the following who passed the requisite examinations were admitted Fellows:

W. R. Black, D. G. W. Clyne, P. G. L. Essex-Lopresti, T. B. FitzGerald, R. A. Fleming, L. Gillis, E. Giedhill, J. E. V. Jones, A. N. Reid, E. I. Salingar, M. Sugar, H. Winter.

The Services

CASUALTIES IN THE MEDICAL SERVICES

In an Admiralty list of casualties in H.M. minesweeper *Leda*, published on Oct. 16, the name of Temp. Surg. Lieut. WILLIAM WILSON TENNANT, R.N.V.R., is included as "missing, presumed killed." He was born on May 21, 1909, and was educated at the University of Glasgow, where he graduated M.B., Ch.B. in 1940. He entered the R.N.V.R. soon after qualification.

Surg. Lieut.-Cmdr. MAURICE CAY, R.N., who is reported "missing, presumed killed" in Oct., was the son of the late Capt. Cay, R.N., and graduated M.B., Ch.B. at the University of Edinburgh in 1934. After holding the post of assistant medical officer at the Hope Hospital, Salford, he entered the Royal Navy in Jan., 1935, and was recently promoted. He leaves a widow.

Missing.—Lieut. P. T. Chopping, R.A.M.C., Capt. L. B. Gunn, R.A.M.C., Temp. Surg. Lieut. B. H. O'Neill, R.N.V.R., Surg. Lieut. J. G. Reed, R.N.V.R.

Medical Notes in Parliament

Nutrition Council

On Oct. 20 Sir E. GRAHAM-LITTLE asked whether the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food would consider the desirability of setting up a Nutrition Council, consisting of clinicians, laboratory workers, and medical officers of health, as urged from many authoritative quarters. Mr. ERNEST BROWN, who replied, said: I have read with interest the expressions of opinion about possible developments in the realm of nutrition, and have had an opportunity of discussing them with my colleagues. Though the advocates of the establishment of a Nutrition Council appear to differ somewhat among themselves both about methods and objects, the main purposes which they appear to have in view are already secured by existing arrangements. Technical investigation and research are adequately provided for through the Medical Research Council, the Agricultural Research Council, and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. A great volume of work is continuously in progress under the auspices of these bodies, and the first-named comprises among its members and officers a number of scientists outside the medical profession, and from the outset much valuable research on nutritional problems has been conducted on its behalf. The application to current problems of the results of scientific investigation is primarily the responsibility of the Health Departments, to which the Ministry of Food and the Agricultural Departments look for guidance in nutritional matters when framing their programmes of production, import, and distribution of foodstuffs. Co-ordination of the policies of the various Ministries concerned is fully provided for by appropriate interdepartmental machinery. As regards the international aspects of the subject, the Allied Governments last year appointed an interallied committee to prepare estimates of post-war relief requirements, and I understand that this committee has already arranged for a subcommittee of Allied nutrition experts to examine the estimates from the nutritional standpoint.

Mass Radiography

Mr. ERNEST BROWN stated on Oct. 15 that production of the standard apparatus for mass radiography had not reached a stage at which its cost could be closely determined, but it was

expected to be in the region of £1,500. Apparatus of this kind was not subject to purchase tax. It was not proposed to make special grants towards this particular item of cost to those county councils and county borough councils who would be concerned, but Exchequer assistance was given towards the cost of the treatment of tuberculosis.

Diphtheria

Replying on Oct. 15 to Mr. James Griffiths, Mr. BROWN said the number of cases of diphtheria notified during the first three quarters of this year was 29,939. This represented a decrease of about 6,500 on the corresponding period last year. The provisional mortality figures for the first half of 1942 showed a decrease of 0.8% on the corresponding figures for 1941.

Making Sea-water Drinkable

The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research has investigated on behalf of the Minister of War Transport various methods of converting sea-water into drinking-water, and the conclusion has been reached that the most suitable apparatus for use in a lifeboat would be a small still. Such a still must have a high standard of efficiency in view of the restricted space available for storage of fuel in lifeboats. Experimental stills have been made and are now under test.

The Glasgow Small-pox Outbreak

Mr. LEACH inquired on Oct. 14 whether the Glasgow sanitary authority had tried to ascertain the vaccinal condition of the electrical engineer who was found to be suffering from confluent small-pox when removed to hospital from a steamer at Glasgow on May 29. Mr. JOHNSTON said this patient had been too ill to be questioned and the vaccination marks, if any, could not be seen because of the rash. The patient's companions stated that he had never been vaccinated. Inquiries to his relatives would have been difficult because they were in Australia. Answering further questions on the same date, Mr. Johnston said that when the outbreak began revaccination was offered to all staffs likely to come into contact with small-pox. A medical officer was vaccinated on May 29 without success, after he had been in contact with infection on a ship. The shipping company was not responsible for notifying small-pox on this ship, as the ship's doctor had diagnosed the case as measles complicated with pneumonia. No blame attached to a ship doctor who made a mistaken diagnosis in good faith. The case was recognized as small-pox on admission to hospital.

Fees for Medical Certificates

On Oct. 20 Mr. MOLSON asked the Minister of Health whether he proposed to take powers to restrict the fees charged by doctors for certificates recommending extra diet or fuel on account of ill-health. Mr. BROWN replied in the negative, but said he understood that the B.M.A. had recommended practitioners to forgo any fees for certificates of this kind where they believed that hardship would result to the individual.

Prevention of Frost-bite in Seamen.—Full instructions have, Mr. NOEL BAKER announced on Oct. 14, been given by the Minister of War Transport to seamen for the prevention and treatment of frost-bite. Every man sailing in Arctic waters is provided with a rubberized protective suit to guard against exposure in lifeboat or raft. Oil is also provided for further protection and for massage. Other aspects of protection are under consideration.

HOSPITAL REGIONALIZATION IN LANCASHIRE

The Manchester Joint Hospitals Advisory Board, which represents the voluntary and municipal hospitals of Manchester, the University, the local Division of the British Medical Association, and the Local Medical and Panel Committee, has issued its fifth annual report, which covers the two years 1940-1. An account is given of the institution in Manchester of the blood transfusion service, whereby four hospitals are centres for the distribution of stored blood to fourteen. The service is under the general direction of the medical officer of health and the administration of a medical committee of which Dr. J. F. Wilkinson of the Royal Infirmary is chairman. The other matter dealt with in the report is an account of the events following the adoption of a resolution by the Board supporting the proposals of the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust, but requesting the Trust to approve of the Board being accepted as responsible for the inauguration and formation of a properly constituted regional council for a wider area. These views were accepted by the Trust, and steps have been taken for extending the area of the Board by approaching adjacent hospital authorities. An invitation has been accepted by the hospital authorities of Salford and Stretford to become members of a reconstituted Joint Hospitals Board covering these two municipal areas as well as that of Manchester. The amendments to the constitution and functions of the Joint Board are being made.