

of his best, and his death leaves a gap which will ever remain in the memory of the present generation.

He was laid to rest at St. Agnes's Cemetery, Conway, on March 15th, amid manifestations of general grief. The funeral was attended by representatives of all the public bodies, and it was with difficulty that the route to the parish church, where the first portion of the service was held, could be kept clear, so anxious were the inhabitants of the whole district to pay their last tribute of respect to their old doctor.

Mr. Arthur Prichard was a widower, his wife having predeceased him by a few years. Though he leaves no near relatives, yet he leaves a host of friends to mourn his loss, and his memory will ever be blessed by the poor of Conway, who have lost in him a true, sympathetic, and helpful friend.

THE LATE SIR WILLIAM ALLCHIN.—"R.A.M.C." writes from the other side of the world: Your recent obituary notice of Sir William Allchin contains a pleasing reference, by an old Westminster man, which I am sure many would endorse. Allchin emphatically hated second-hand methods of acquiring knowledge; he encouraged students to exercise observation and reason, and to let memory occupy a secondary place. He had a certain caustic but at the same time genial humour, and, although I do not believe he ever maliciously "sat on" a student in his life—for he was the kindest of men—he had a peculiarly expressive manner, which the present writer knows to his cost, of showing his appreciation of textbook erudition in the wards. That Allchin's principle was essentially sound no reasonable person can doubt, and if more widely followed it would go some way towards replacing an infinity of useless facts by a certain quantity of useful knowledge.

THE LATE DR. T. L. PENNELL.—At the request of members of University College, London, of which, as stated last week, Dr. Pennell was a distinguished student, a memorial service was held on March 28th at St. Pancras Church. University College was represented by the Provost (Dr. T. Gregory Foster) and the Secretary (Mr. Walter W. Seton); University College Hospital Medical School by the Dean (Mr. Raymond Johnson); the Church Missionary Society by the Rev. Cyril Bardsley; the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel by the Rev. Canon Robinson; and the University College Christian Association by the President (Mr. F. Rowan), and the Secretary (Mr. R. T. Elworthy).

Medico-Legal.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT.

THERE seems, as the magistrate at the Thames Police Court said when hearing a case brought by the Stepney Borough Council, to be some friction caused by the way in which the Notification of Births Act is administered in that borough. Dr. Harry Roberts, of Mile End, who was summoned for failing to notify the birth of a child on January 8th until February 23rd, pleaded that there had been remissness on the part of the public health department of the borough in supplying cards for notification. He pointed out that under the Act the council was bound to supply stamped cards. The magistrate, while, as we have noted, observing that friction had arisen, said that it was clear that the defendant's attention had been called to the matter and imposed a penalty of 7s. and 23s. costs, and added that he hoped the friction would now stop. The medical officer of health seems to have admitted that he had received 280 cards out of a total of 310 supplied to Dr. Roberts.

INFORMATION TO CORONERS.

DR. J. C. BHUTTACHARJI.—(1) A medical man, one of whose patients has died as the result not of a natural disease, but of an injury, has fulfilled his legal duty when he has either (a) refused to give a certificate, or (b) given a certificate making the primary cause of death perfectly clear. (2) When the case is one in which it is known that an inquest will have to be held, it is sometimes a convenience to all parties to send information to the coroner of the occurrence, but there is no statutory obligation to do so. (3) No one has a right to complain of the omission to send information not required by law to be supplied, and a coroner who desires to secure that the medical man in his district shall give such information is likely to defeat his object by public animadversions on the subject.

Public Health

AND

POOR LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

SUPERANNUATION.

R. R. asks: (1) Whether he "can claim superannuation on his vaccination fees." (2) Being medical officer for a workhouse and a district, whether he can "claim superannuation for the former and retain the latter," the two appointments "going together," but with separate salaries.

* * (1) Public vaccinators cannot claim superannuation under the Act of 1896. (2) As the two appointments in question are described as "going together," we much question whether our correspondent would be able to resign one and to claim superannuation thereon while still holding the other; even if this could be arranged, he would in the future be under the disadvantage of having to submit to his superannuation allowance being lessened by the amount of salary he might receive so long as he continued to hold any office under the guardians.

Medical News.

At the meeting of the Medico-Legal Society to be held at 11, Chandos Street, W., on Tuesday, April 16th, at 8.30 p.m., Dr. F. J. Smith will read a paper on the law and practice of *post-mortem* examination.

At a well-attended meeting of medical men of Wimbledon and district on March 29th it was decided, on the motion of Dr. Powell Evans, seconded by Dr. Cowie, to form a Division of the British Medical Association for the district, and Dr. E. A. Purcell, 44, Queen's Road, Wimbledon, was appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

ARGYLLS, LIMITED, inform us that they have received from San Julian, Patagonia, a letter stating that an Argyll car, standard colonial type, in use there is giving every satisfaction, being well suited to the trying conditions of the country.

DR. WILLIAM SLINGSBY MANN of Edgbaston was presented recently by a number of friends with a cheque, a bicycle, and an illuminated address testifying to their regret at his approaching departure from the town and to the esteem which he has gained during his forty-eight years' work therein. For many years Dr. Mann served as honorary secretary to the Midland Medical Society, and for upwards of twenty years was honorary surgeon to the Birmingham Lying-in Charity, to which he is now consulting surgeon.

AN interesting lecture on "The Ideal Garden City of the Future" was delivered by Dr. A. Herbert Hart at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on March 28th in connexion with the third annual Simple Life and Healthy Food Conference and Exhibition. The ideal site for a garden city was, he said, London itself, but a transformed London, with a limited radius of twelve miles from Charing Cross, encircled by a wide road and a belt of forest land. This "national circumferential fringe or breathing space" would form the city lungs, and beyond it would be the garden city proper, the residential portion of London, the land within the twelve mile radius being reserved for factories, offices, etc., each constructed on sound hygienic principles. Without the garden city would be a chain of garden suburbs extending from Harrow to Eton, and gradually spreading throughout England. The lecturer declared that the only real antidote to the horrible evils of the slums, and the only real cure for the submerged tenth, lay in some such system of garden cities, where the poorest people could live a healthy outdoor life amid decent surroundings. The need for garden cities in all parts of England, he concluded, was all the more imperative inasmuch as they provided a means of checking infant mortality, the death-rate amongst the children in garden cities showing a drop of 10 per cent. as compared with the mortality in other places.

THE annual meeting of the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic (Albany Memorial), Queen Square, Bloomsbury, was held on March 29th at Devonshire House, Piccadilly. Sir Frederick Macmillan was in the chair, and amongst those present were the Duchess of Albany, the Duke of Devonshire, the Dean of Canterbury, Sir William Baillie-Hamilton, Dr. Buzzard, Dr. Turner, Dr. Ormerod, Mr. Reginald Lucas, and Mr. Arnold Royle. The Chairman presented the annual report, in which it was stated that 1,254 in-patients and 7,281 out-patients had been