

were mentioned in dispatches and received recognition by the award of the C.M.G. During the great war Mr. Skirving again acted as a surgeon, attached, in the first place, to the Second Scottish General Hospital, and afterwards to the Bangour War Hospital; and for about a year he served in France as a temporary major in the British Expeditionary Force. His interests outside medicine were many. As a student he was senior president of the Students' Representative Council at Edinburgh University, and he played Rugby football for the Edinburgh Academicals. He was a keen sportsman, his recreations being fishing, shooting, and motoring, and he constantly took a great interest in the work and sports of his old school, the Edinburgh Academy. Here he was the leading figure in connexion with the preparation of such things as the school register, the war memorial, and the war register.

Possessed of a generous, open, and kindly disposition, he was universally popular, and greatly beloved by his medical colleagues. His cheery, bright, and amusing temperament made him a much sought raconteur at medical gatherings, and his charming personality, as well as his surgical skill, will be greatly missed by a wide circle of colleagues and friends. Mr. Skirving is survived by a widow.

DR. THOMAS TREFERY COCKILL, who died on June 12th, after some months of confinement to bed, was the son of the late Rev. W. R. C. Cockill, and was born in India in 1866. He entered Middlesex Hospital in 1887, where he gained an entrance scholarship, the Broderip scholarship, and the Lyell gold medal. He qualified as M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. in 1891. After service as house-physician at the Middlesex and the North Staffordshire Infirmary he entered into general practice at Hanley, and was appointed assistant physician to the North Staffordshire Infirmary and Eye Hospital. Later he removed to Richmond, Surrey. Dr. F. Jupe, assistant medical officer to King Edward VII Sanatorium, Midhurst, writes: Commencing with a gastric ulcer Cockill was dogged by ill health, which would have kept any ordinary man in an armchair. But he believed in spending himself for others and, although obliged to relinquish general practice, he filled his years with work. In 1916, although very much a C3 man, he consented to set Dr. Bardswell free for war work by acting as medical superintendent of King Edward VII Sanatorium, and only those who know him most intimately at that time realized at what cost to himself and his devoted wife he managed to carry on during the following three years. Really in need of treatment himself, he sacrificed his own health to give hope and the ideals of a new life to his patients. Since 1920 Dr. Cockill acted as secretary to the Surrey Local Medical and Panel Committee, in which capacity his broad-mindedness and sense of humour has made his counsel invaluable. Lately, in addition, he undertook the work of the secretaryship of the Surrey Branch of the British Medical Association. As an old patient and colleague of his I owe more than I can ever tell to his example of cheerfulness and unselfishness. His legion of friends have lost one whose inspiration has made life a far richer thing for all of us.

The death of Dr. JOHN CHARLES GRANT of West Boldon in the county of Durham (writes Professor Grey Turner) removes certainly the most popular figure from that village and from the neighbouring colliery. His father was an old Crimean veteran, and the son, whose death is so much deplored, was born sixty-seven years ago in the house where he died on June 2nd. As a young man, he helped his father in the practice, but he was rather late in qualifying, which explains how he and I came to be fellow students for a time. After the death of his father, Charles Grant carried on and largely extended the old practice almost up to the day that he died. His activities can best be described by saying that he was always "on his rounds," for I never knew anyone so continuously occupied in professional duties. He was most devoted to his practice and to the people among whom he lived and laboured. He

did most of his work on a bicycle, except on those rare occasions when he allowed himself the luxury of a hire from "Mark," who for many years was the local cabman, and afterwards motor proprietor. Grant was always courteous and dignified, and with an attractive old-world bearing, and although he lived among the people of the large colliery district where he held sway, he always remained the same, and was universally looked up to and respected. He had a great sense of the dignity of the profession, and worthily upheld that ideal often under difficult and trying circumstances. Though he sent numbers of patients to the infirmary, he always politely acknowledged every communication sent by the members of the staff who saw his cases, so that we were all very familiar with his bold penmanship. There is no doubt that his devotion to work shortened his life, for, in spite of his continuous day and night exertions, he could scarcely ever be persuaded to take a day off, much less a holiday; but though his death in harness is so much regretted, I feel sure that he would not have wished it otherwise. No name will ever be better remembered in Boldon, and none ever mentioned with more respect. His funeral was a remarkable demonstration of affection. The little church of St. Nicholas, where he had worshipped during the whole of his lifetime, and where he was remembered as a choir boy, was packed to overflowing during the beautiful service preceding interment, and the mourners at the cemetery made a great throng, who came out of affection for their lost friend.

The death took place on May 30th, at his residence, Redhurst, Dunoon, Argyllshire, of Dr. JOHN BANKS, who had attained the age of 81 years. Dr. Banks graduated M.B., C.M. at Glasgow in 1872, and was one of the few remaining medical practitioners who studied under Lister in that medical school. He commenced practice in Dunoon in 1877, and shortly afterwards obtained the position of medical officer of health for the burgh, taking the D.P.H. in 1889. He held this post for over fifty years, retiring in January of the present year, when he was a recipient of a presentation from his patients. Dr. Banks was a widower, and leaves a family of two sons and two daughters.

The Services.

HONORARY SURGEON TO THE KING.

MAJOR-GENERAL W. R. Blackwell, C.M.G., late R.A.M.C., has been appointed honorary surgeon to the King, vice Major-General H. P. W. Barrow, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., late R.A.M.C. (ret.).

Medico-Legal.

ATTENDING WORK WITH SMALL-POX.

DOROTHY BEECH was fined at the Lambeth Police Court, on June 11th, for having, on April 17th, travelled across London to her employment while suffering from small-pox. The summons alleged that she had wilfully exposed herself without taking proper precautions against spreading the disease. In pleading ignorance, the defendant stated that she had been vaccinated twice and considered herself immune from infection. As evidence that she was aware of her condition, Mr. Roberts, who prosecuted on behalf of the Lambeth Borough Council, referred to certain statements made by the defendant to Dr. Ashley Thompson, the borough medical officer of health.

SPECTACLES FOR A SCHOOLBOY.

ON June 13th Henry Ford was summoned, at the Bromley Police Court, Kent, by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children for neglecting to provide optical treatment for his son, aged 12, when ordered to do so by the school medical authority. He was fined 40s., and ordered to pay £5 5s. costs. It appeared from the evidence that the school medical officer ordered spectacles for the boy in January, but the father, resenting outside interference, declined to get them for four months, although the society was prepared to pay the cost if necessary. The prosecution was undertaken on the ground that permanent injury to the boy's eyesight might have resulted from this delay.