

Hughes was well fitted, both by his natural gifts and by his training and experience, to carry out the task which now lay before him. He was a remarkably capable organizer and administrator, and he had those attributes of personality and of character which won the loyal support and unstinted co-operation of his officers and staff. He was thorough in all he undertook. The hospital in 1907 was up to date, but its functions were not suffered to become stereotyped. Suggestions for improvement were constantly being considered, and, if approved, they were adopted as soon as practicable. Hughes fully realized the importance of skilled nursing in the treatment of mental diseases, and he paid great attention to the training of the nursing staff. In 1909 he contributed a valuable article on mental nursing to *The Science and Art of Nursing*.

Barnsley Hall was one of the first mental hospitals to possess its own permanent cinematograph installation. Dr. Hughes always did his utmost to promote the welfare and comfort of his patients, and he was rewarded by their confidence in and affection for him. He loved good music, and took a keen interest in training and practising with the choir of the hospital chapel. He was lecturer on mental diseases in the University of Birmingham, and his advice in consultation was frequently sought throughout a wide area.

A. H. F.

For the following personal appreciation we are indebted to Sir HUBERT BOND:

Percy Hughes was one of a group of some half-dozen men each of whom was at Haileybury and all of whom went up to Edinburgh about the same time. Their Haileybury friendship served as a close bond, reflected in the fact that, throughout their undergraduate days, they used to meet once a week in each others' "digs" by turn. At Edinburgh Hughes was very popular, no doubt because, notwithstanding that he was a hard and earnest worker, of his fondness and zest for games, of his high spirits and infectious gaiety, and not least because of his sterling qualities of straightness and readiness to help others. He excelled at football, and played for "The Wanderers." He was house-physician at the Royal Infirmary to Alexander James, a clinician of the first rank and a most inspiring teacher. Before leaving Edinburgh he was also resident surgeon at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children—a clinical experience which, although not directly connected with mental hospital practice, is of no small value in overcoming difficulties in the examination of certain types of mental disorder. It was not long after graduating in medicine that he became attracted to its mental branch and to mental hospital service as a career. It was, in fact, to equip himself more thoroughly for this work, and with an eye especially to securing a vacancy at the new Bexley (County of London) Mental Hospital, that he secured a post in one of the metropolitan fever hospitals and worked for and obtained the D.P.H. In those days there was no D.P.M.: ten years were to pass before any diploma in psychological medicine was instituted, and twenty years before the custom of proceeding to one became general among medical officers in mental hospitals. If the especially valuable experience Hughes had at Bexley was a strong recommendation to the committee of the new Worcestershire Mental Hospital in their decision to appoint him as their first medical superintendent, he was not lacking in personal assets and claims of his own. He had a striking personality, both strong and of peculiar charm, and a general appearance upon which responsibility obviously sat well. He possessed a stimulating enthusiasm and had thrown himself into every scheme and effort to develop Bexley on modern and progressive lines. In all this he was not only a loyal supporter of the work of his seniors,

but he had many original suggestions of his own to offer. In particular, it was largely he who suggested that a trial might be made of various new forms of occupations for the patients which hitherto had not been practised in mental hospitals, and, being given a considerably free hand in these endeavours, it was in no small measure due to his tireless efforts that Bexley won the fame it did as an example of what could be done for the systematic organization of occupations for the patients—differing, however, from the conception now commonly spoken of as occupational therapy. He was an active and valued member of the Departmental Committee set up by the Board of Control in 1922 to inquire into mental hospital dietaries. The work and recommendations of this committee have done much to advance the health and comfort of patients in mental hospitals.

On March 29th there passed away, at the age of 70, an old and faithful member of the British Medical Association—Dr. WILLIAM ARTHUR JOHNSTON of Ravensglass, Cumberland. He was for many years a member of the Furness Division and North Lancashire and South Westmorland Branch, having been divisional chairman in 1921 and branch president in 1923; he also served on various committees. In spite of his isolated position, and the scattered nature of the Branch, he could almost always be found at the meetings, wherever held. He was born at Hawkshead, where his father was in practice, and was one of four medical brothers, well known in Lakeland. A student of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland, he obtained the L.R.C.S.I. in 1885 and L.R.C.P.I. in 1886. A colleague writes: He was a very fine type of country practitioner, who never forgot the dignity of his profession or the courtesy due to a colleague. His friends regretted the various adversities which made his last years difficult. He is survived by his widow, who was always a very staunch partner. Dr. Johnston was laid to rest in the peaceful cemetery of Muncaster, in the presence of his friends on a beautiful afternoon, when the sun shone down on a peaceful scene, with the lovely Cumberland hills surrounding us. A good man has gone.

The death took place on March 23rd of Dr. ARTHUR BRYANS, who had practised in Middlesbrough for over thirty years. Dr. Bryans was a native of Sunderland, and after obtaining the Scottish triple qualification in 1900 went into partnership with, and ultimately succeeded, the late Dr. Young in Middlesbrough. For many years a member of the British Medical Association, he had served the Cleveland Division on its Executive Committee, as honorary secretary, and as chairman. He was a member of the Middlesbrough Panel Committee from its inception, and for two years had been chairman of the local Public Medical Service. For thirty years he was medical officer to Middlesbrough Football Club. Despite the demands of a large general practice, Dr. Bryans's outside interests were many and varied. He was a keen golfer—for some years he had been president of the Middlesbrough Golf Club—and an enthusiastic photographer; he was interested in Rotary and rarely missed a meeting of the local Rotary club. During the war he served in the R.A.M.C., and after a period as battalion medical officer did much valuable work at Brighton Grove Hospital, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Dr. Bryans is survived by two daughters. The funeral, which took place on March 25th, was attended by a large number of friends, including many of his medical colleagues.

Dr. WILLIAM RUSSELL WATSON, who died at the age of 46 at Sandymount, Dublin, after two years' illness, was the third son of the late Samuel Henry Watson, Dublin, a much-beloved member of the Society of Friends. Dr. Watson graduated at Trinity College, Dublin, in 1910 as M.B., B.Ch., and also obtained the Liverpool diploma in tropical medicine. Three years later he became a