

## L. S. ASHCROFT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Dr. L. S. Ashcroft, who had been a bacteriologist in Liverpool for many years, died at his home at Levens, Kendal, on December 8, 1959. He was 76 years of age.

Lionel Spence Ashcroft was born in Liverpool and studied medicine at Liverpool University and the Pasteur Institute, Paris. He was lecturer in bacteriology at Liverpool University and held appointments on the staff of several hospitals in the area. For some years he was also deputy city bacteriologist. In 1958 he was made a life member of the Liverpool Medical Institution. He retired some years ago and went to live at Levens.

Lionel Ashcroft served in the Royal Navy in two world wars, and was a keen member of the R.N.V.R. for many years, being awarded the Officers' Decoration. He was promoted to the rank of surgeon captain, and, although retired for age in this rank in 1940, he continued to serve until 1946, when he did very useful work in the Royal Naval Medical School. From 1937 to 1940 he was Honorary Physician to King George VI. He was a most competent bacteriologist, whose ability, knowledge, and charm will be remembered by many of those with whom he worked in Liverpool and the Royal Navy. A keen Freemason, he was a member of two Lodges. Hockey was one of his favourite games, and he played for Lancashire and the North of England. He was past president of the Northern Hockey Association and for many years president of the Lancashire Hockey Association.

Dr. Ashcroft leaves a widow, to whom we extend our sincere sympathy.—R. W. M.

## D. S. CHOWDHARY, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Dr. D. S. Chowdhary, who had practised at Laindon, Essex, since 1931, died in St. Andrew's Hospital, Billericay, on December 30, 1959. He was 57.

Dharm Sheel Chowdhary was born at Muradpur in the Punjab on February 7, 1902, and studied medicine at Lahore University, graduating M.B., B.S. in 1927. Later he came to London, obtaining the Conjoint qualification in 1930, and the Diplomas in Public Health and Tropical Medicine. In 1931 he went into practice at Laindon, where his record of public service for the people there was a distinguished one, for he took part in many charitable and religious activities. He was divisional surgeon in the St. John Ambulance Brigade and in 1953 was appointed a Serving Brother in the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. During the second world war he was surgeon in charge of the Laindon first-aid post and he also served in the Home Guard. A member of Tilbury and South Essex Hospital Management Committee, he was medical adviser to the planning committee. His main interest outside his profession was in maintaining close links with the Indian community in London, and he was a founder member of the India Club.

Dr. Chowdhary leaves a widow, one son, and a daughter, to whom our sympathy is extended.

## MARGARET S. MUNDAY, O.B.E., M.B., Ch.B.

Dr. Margaret S. Munday (née Macdonald), formerly professor of physiology at the Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi, died on December 14, 1959, in a London nursing-home. She was 60 years of age.

Margaret Stewart Macdonald was the eldest daughter of the late Professor John S. Macdonald, F.R.S., of the physiology department at Liverpool University, and was educated at Sheffield High School, Liverpool College of Girls, and Liverpool University, where she was awarded the Holt fellowship in physiology and worked in that department for some time before graduating M.B., B.Ch.

in 1924. She then went out to India in the Women's Medical Service as professor of physiology at the Lady Hardinge Medical College in Delhi, and continued in that post until her marriage in 1927.

For the next 11 years she devoted herself to her home life in and about Delhi, bringing up a family of three sons and one daughter. In 1938 she agreed to reappointment to her old post at the Lady Hardinge College, which she held until the time came to leave India in 1947. During these years she was at different times examiner in physiology for the universities of the Punjab and Lucknow and a regular lecturer at the Lady Reading Health School and the Lady Irwin College of Nursing in Delhi. In 1947 she was appointed O.B.E. for her services to women's medical education in India. A short time after retirement she accompanied her husband and some of the family to Australia and remained in Sydney for some years, but finally decided to return and settle in England in 1958.

Medical women in India will long remember her with gratitude as a clear thinker and excellent teacher, and those who were privileged to know her more intimately as a person whose character was marked by great integrity, loyalty, utter unselfishness, and full understanding of the needs of others. Our deep sympathy goes to her husband and family.—G. S.

## JULIA L. PRINGLE, M.B., Ch.B.

Dr. Julia L. Pringle, who formerly practised in Dundee, died at Edinburgh on January 18. She was 81 years of age.

Julia Letitia Pringle was born on August 23, 1878, the daughter of the late Robert Pringle, Writer to the Signet, Edinburgh, and studied medicine at the Medical College for Women, Edinburgh, graduating M.B., Ch.B. in 1903. Among the appointments she held after qualification were those of senior demonstrator in anatomy at the Edinburgh Medical College for Women, house-surgeon at Ainwick Infirmary, Northumberland, and resident medical officer at Drumcondra Hospital, Dublin. She then went into practice at Dundee, becoming assistant ophthalmic surgeon to the Eye Institute, visiting physician to the Dundee Infants Hospital, and consulting physician to the Blackcroft Baby Clinic. During the early nineteen thirties she spent about two years in the United States.

M. F.-B. writes: I well remember my first meeting with Dr. Julia Pringle in my schooldays, when taken by the famous Dr. Elsie Inglis with her niece to see the young doctor in her first modest home in Dundee, bright with flowers, as her houses always were. A woman doctor in a real practice and a real home of her own—it seemed the bright vision at the end of the long dark tunnel of medical studies, for, although at that time there were no perils for the woman student, still the road was not broad and cheerful as it is now. Dr. Pringle came of a distinguished and versatile family. Her maternal uncle was Sir Starr Jamieson, of South African fame, and her sister, Starr Stuart, died during the second world war on the platform of a dockers' meeting, trying, and succeeding by her eloquence, to avert a strike. Julia Pringle was a woman of versatile intellect, great courage, great moral rectitude, and humour, all well balanced, and on no subject under discussion did she fail to grasp the essential instantly. If she had made the stage her vocation she would have emulated the reputation of Ruth Draper, for her versatile mimicry was equally at home with the negro of the "deep South" on her cousins' plantations, the cultured Virginian planter, the Baltimore professor, the Dundee "shawlie-wife," the pompous civil servant, and the Edinburgh "char." She was loved and harassed by her patients, but never spared herself to ensure their welfare and happiness. Her colleagues have indeed lost a "Good Companion."