

In local B.M.A. affairs he gave valuable assistance for many years. He was chairman of the North Glamorgan and Brecon Division in 1931-2, and later was honorary secretary of the Division and of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Branch. A member of the Welsh Committee from 1934 to 1937, he also served on the Charities Committee and as a representative at several Annual Meetings.

A keen sportsman, he was chief medical officer to the Welsh Amateur Boxing Association and an administrative steward of the British Boxing Board of Control for many years. Well-grounded in the classics, he read widely, thus adding zest to his natural talent as a conversationalist. He was a most entertaining companion. His kindness and broad humanity endeared him to his patients, to his colleagues, and, not least, to the many past graduates who had the gift of his wise guidance. In his retirement he lived at Tunbridge Wells.

Dr. Hiley leaves a daughter, to whom goes the sympathy of his many friends.—J. F. H.

**J. DOUGLAS ROBERTSON, M.D., Ph.D., D.Sc.
F.R.C.P.**

Dr. J. Douglas Robertson, consultant in chemical pathology at the West London Hospital, died at his home in Harley Street on March 14. He was 57 years of age.

John Douglas Robertson, who was born in Arbroath, Scotland, on June 30, 1903, was the son of Alexander Maclaren Robertson, magistrate and provost of Arbroath. He graduated M.B., Ch.B., with distinction in chemistry, at St. Andrews in 1926. In his student days, and later, he was a great games player, representing his university at rugby, hockey, and cricket. Later he acquired renown as a competitive squash player. In 1929 he took the D.P.H., and in the following year he proceeded M.D., with honours and gold medal.

In the year that the Courtauld Institute was founded at the Middlesex Hospital Dr. Robertson was appointed assistant biochemist there, remaining in that post for nearly 20 years. For the greater part of this time he was in charge of the clinical section of the institute. Being excellent with patients, he was regarded by many of those with chronic disorders, such as diabetes, as a great personal friend and influence in their lives.

As a research worker he would become interested in a particular subject and then devote himself to it with fanatical zeal, working all hours of the day and night. His great interest was the determination and investigation of the basal metabolic rate in human beings. He probably knew as much on this subject as anybody in Britain. The series of British standards he built up are much more satisfactory than those in use when he began his work on basal metabolism. Another of his experimental interests was intraocular tension, and he published a series of important papers on the mechanism of the maintenance of the tension. A great self-experimenter, he was attracted to all kinds of strange diets, and he also succeeded in burning himself to a deep mahogany colour by exposing himself to ultra-violet light.

During his years at the Courtauld Institute he extended the scope of his academic achievements, taking the M.R.C.P. in 1938 and graduating D.Sc. at St. Andrews and Ph.D. at London. A Territorial, he served as a captain in the R.A.M.C., being attached to the Scottish Horse, and after the war he visited the United States as Mayo Foundation Lecturer and as Alpha Omega Alpha Lecturer at Wayne University, Michigan. Elected F.R.C.P. in 1946, he joined the staff of the London Clinic as director of the department of clinical investigation. Some years later he became consulting chemical pathologist at the West London Hospital. He was also consulting pathologist to British European Airways and honorary secretary of the Research

Defence Society. In the latter capacity he did much good work. When he took on the post in 1947 the Society was at its lowest ebb, and it was due to Robertson's efforts that the decline was reversed and that the Society has been slowly but steadily gaining ground ever since. He changed the name of its journal from *The Fight Against Disease to Conquest*, and collected enough authoritative articles on the contribution of animal experiments to medicine to publish *Conquest* four times a year. He also arranged for the publication of the first edition of *Notes on the Law Relating to Animal Experiments in Great Britain*.

Dr. Douglas Robertson was greatly respected by his colleagues and always very helpful to those in any difficulty. He leaves a widow and stepson.

LLEWELYN REES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Dr. Llewelyn Rees, who had practised in Cardiff for nearly thirty years, died in hospital on March 22. He was 55 years of age.

Llewelyn Rees was the younger son of the late Dr. John Morgan Rees, of Pontypridd. Born on May 4, 1905, he was educated at King's School, Worcester, the Cardiff Medical School, and St. Thomas's Hospital, qualifying in 1931. After holding the posts of house-surgeon and casualty officer at Cardiff Royal Infirmary he went into practice in Cardiff, where he remained for the rest of his life.

J. W. T. T. writes: Dr. Llewelyn Rees had suffered from serious illnesses in the past few years, but in spite of this had maintained a cheerful outlook with great courage and fortitude. He came of a medical family. His brother, Dr. Teddy Rees, who died last August, was in practice in Pontypridd, where their father had practised for many years. All three doctors took an active interest in B.M.A. affairs and held office in responsible positions. Between the two brothers there was a strong affection, and in the B.M.A. they found a great deal of common interest. Dr. Llewelyn Rees was honorary secretary of the Cardiff Division of the B.M.A. for seven years, and was a devoted and valuable member of committees.

By his earnest and friendly nature he earned the esteem and high regard of his colleagues in South Wales and of a large circle of friends. He was known to his friends as "Bonzo," and somehow this seemed to indicate the geniality of spirit which was his. His cheerful presence at many of our functions will be sadly missed, and so will his valuable help, so readily given, at B.M.A. meetings. It can indeed be truly said of him that he was dearly beloved by all who knew him. He leaves a widow, a son, who is a student at St. Thomas's, and two daughters, to all of whom we extend our deep sympathy.

A friend writes: The medical background to his early life, and the closely knit family of which he was a part, gave something to Llewelyn Rees which was to stand him in good stead. His student friends realized from the start that he was going to be a good doctor, though, unfashionably, he tended to be as much interested in patients as in their diseases. Consequently, even as a young man he had an unusual understanding of human foibles. And as a friend he had all the prime virtues—loyalty, steadfastness, cheerfulness, and tolerance. The news of his death has brought sadness to many.

The winter number of the *N.O.T.B.A. Bulletin*, issued by the National Ophthalmic Treatment Board, appears with a cover for the first time. The chairman, Dr. R. W. STEPHENSON, takes the opportunity in an introductory letter to reaffirm the main object of the N.O.T.B.A.—namely, to facilitate a medical eye examination for the general public.