

OBITUARY.

PHILIP HENRY MULES, M.R.C.S., M.B.,

Ophthalmic Surgeon, Wrexham Infirmary; formerly Surgeon to the Royal Eye Hospital, Manchester.

We regret to announce the death at the age of 62 of Dr. Mules at his residence, the Old Parsonage, Gresford, Denbighshire, on September 1st. Dr. Mules received part of his medical training at St. George's Hospital, London, and part in Edinburgh, where he took the degree of M.B. in 1870. After devoting some years to general practice, Dr. Mules began to specialize in eye diseases, and attained great distinction as an ophthalmic surgeon, for his reputation extended beyond England. In 1884 he gained the Prize Medal of the International Society for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Blind, awarded by the Paris Society. While in Manchester Mr. Mules was Surgeon to the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital and Altrincham General Hospital. In Altrincham, where he was Chairman of the Gas Committee, he practised for many years. On leaving Manchester he took up his residence in Gresford, and his practice extended to Chester and Wrexham. About five years ago Dr. Mules succeeded the late Dr. Charnley as Ophthalmic Surgeon at the Wrexham Infirmary. In his quiet and picturesque home he devoted much of his spare time to gardening. His garden at Gresford was quite unique in its way.

Dr. Mules made many contributions to the literature of his subject, and added some useful operations. His best known contributions to medical literature were papers on evisceration of the globe and the introduction of an artificial vitreous (1885) and on ptosis (1894). Dr. Mules also wrote on tubercle of the organs of vision, septic ophthalmitis, and the lymphatic system of the eyeball in relation to Graves's disease. Dr. Mules leaves a widow, two sons, and four daughters.

SURGEON ALEXANDER WILLIAM FLOOD, R.N., F.R.C.S., died at Bundoran, co. Donegal, on the 3rd instant. He entered the Royal Navy Medical Service as Surgeon, March 11th, 1871, and retired therefrom, July 3rd, 1874.

SURGEON-GENERAL WILLIAM M'CONAGHY, M.D., Indian Medical Service, died at 5, Granville Place, Portman Square, on September 3rd, aged 60. He joined the department as Assistant Surgeon, October 1st, 1869, and was appointed Surgeon-General with the Government of Bombay, October 30th, 1902. He had no war record.

BRIGADE-SURGEON-LIEUTENANT COLONEL MATHEW MORIARTY GALLWEY, late Royal Army Medical Corps, died at 3, Suffolk Place, Pall Mall, on August 30th, aged 63. He entered the Army Medical Service as Assistant Surgeon, October 1st, 1867; was promoted to be Surgeon, March 1st, 1873; Surgeon-Major, October 1st, 1879; granted the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, October 1st, 1887; made Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, August 1st, 1893; and retired August 22nd, 1897. He had no war record.

DEATHS IN THE PROFESSION ABROAD.—Among the members of the medical profession in foreign countries who have recently died are Dr. A. J. Kunkel, Professor of Pharmacology in the University of Wurzburg; Professor Heinrich Laehr, of Zehlendorf, the Nestor of German alienists, aged 85; and Dr. Paul Schubert, of Nuremberg, a well-known ophthalmologist, and a recognized authority on the history of medicine, aged 56.

ROYAL NAVY AND ARMY MEDICAL SERVICES.

EFFICIENCY OF THE ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE.

"PROGRESS" writes: The information given by the Army Council as to the measures taken to improve the efficiency of the Medical Service, so far as can be gathered from the leading article in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of August 26th, omits some important points. The Council does not state what has been done to fix responsibility on combatant officers for omitting to carry out the reasonable recommendations of the sanitary officers, or how far instruction has proceeded in the direction of making combatant officers acquainted with the ordinary measures calculated to maintain

themselves and the men under their command in good health. This instruction is now given to pupils in some of the public schools in the country, I believe.

Army medical officers have always known what to do and how to do it, but it was not the duty of any person to carry out their recommendations; and the War Office, according to its tradition, was always careful not to fix responsibility in that respect on the combatant. If things went wrong and sickness resulted the combatant was not asked to explain. It was always the doctor who could only recommend and had no power to carry out sanitary measures except with the assistance of the officer commanding the unit. Has all this been changed? The Army Council does not inform us.

Some years ago a principal medical officer at Aldershot induced the general to permit quartermasters of regiments to be instructed in sanitary duties, after the manner of sanitary inspectors in civil life. The instruction was given by Royal Engineer and medical officers. It was very popular, and almost every quartermaster in Aldershot volunteered to undergo it. At the end of the course several of those officers paid £1 to be examined by the Royal Sanitary Institute, and I understand passed creditable examinations and received certificates from the Institute, which probably would be of use to them when they retired from the army. Has this system been continued? I may explain for non-military readers that in a regiment the quartermaster has to attend to the cleanliness of the barrack, and occupies somewhat the position of an inspector of nuisances from a sanitary point of view.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL THOMAS HENRY FIASCHI, D.S.O., of the Australian Army Medical Corps, has been granted the fifth class of the order of "S. Maurizio e Lazzaro" and the fourth class of the order "Corona d'Italia" in recognition of valuable services rendered to His Majesty the King of Italy.

THE MILITARY OPERATIONS IN NIGERIA.

DISPATCHES relating to operations in Northern and Southern Nigeria in 1904 appear in the *London Gazette* of August 25th; but, with the exception of a reference by Sir F. D. Lugard, the High Commissioner, to "the good services of Dr. Ellis, West African Medical Staff," they do not contain anything of special interest to medical readers.

AN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF MILITARY SURGEONS.

COLONEL NICHOLAS SENN, Surgeon-General of the State of Illinois, has recently suggested that a Congress devoted to military medicine, surgery and hygiene should be organized. They whose duty it is to plan and carry on war, to kill, maim, starve, and disable, says the distinguished Chicago surgeon, have secrets to guard, that they may accomplish their designs with the least sacrifice and with the greatest loss to the enemy. But medical officers, he adds, have no secrets to observe, for their duty consists in saving life, and their services, not limited by strategical lines, are given to the sick and wounded without distinction between friend and foe. Dr. Senn explained that under the term "military" he included the medical corps of navies. The Congress which he wishes to see brought into being would concern itself as much with the naval as with land forces.

SERVICES OF VOLUNTEER MEDICAL OFFICERS.

SURGEON-CAPTAIN JOHN ORTON, M.D., 2nd Volunteer Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment, writes: As a Volunteer medical officer, I am desirous of raising in your columns the question of remuneration for our professional services which we render to this branch of the military service. The recent Army Order, which has attracted so much public attention, has imposed a great deal of extra labour upon medical officers who are held responsible for the medical efficiency of Volunteers in their respective battalions, and it is, in my opinion, quite time that we combined to press upon the Government our claim for some payment for our services. In the case of the battalion to which I belong, over 900 men attended camp this year, and as I am the sole medical officer a great deal of my time has been required to carry out the Army Council's Order; and as to do this I have had to report upon the general physique, number of teeth, etc., with a view to the men being called upon to go upon active service abroad—in fact, to act as a recruiting medical officer, is it not our right to ask that we shall be recompensed at so much per head? Some medical officers I know spent most of their time whilst in camp doing nothing else but medical examinations—truly a poor holiday for a general practitioner, who requires a little rest from routine work when he gets away.

FACTORY GIRLS' COUNTRY HOLIDAY FUND.—An appeal signed by the Bishops of Southwark and Kensington, Mrs. Creighton, Mrs. Garrett Anderson, and Mr. Arnold White, is made for subscriptions to this fund. 3,700 girls have already been sent away for a week or fortnight. We are informed that the money already subscribed is exhausted. Subscriptions and donations will be thankfully received and acknowledged by the Honorary Secretary, Miss Paget, or by the Honorary Treasurer, Mrs. Bedford, St. Peter's Rectory, Saffron Hill, London, E.C.