

was also the local Poor Law medical officer and public vaccinator. He lived and worked at Cowes until 1944, when continuing ill-health compelled him to curtail his activities considerably, and he went to live in the village of Brading. There he soon established himself just as successfully as in Cowes, though of necessity on a much smaller scale. Ten years later, in 1954, a further deterioration in health forced him to retire completely. He leaves a widow, one son, and three daughters, to all of whom we offer our sympathy.

J. J. O'D. writes: Dr. Hay was a shining example of all that is best in the family doctor tradition of this country. To hundreds of families and for many years he was not only "the doctor" but also the guide, philosopher, and friend, and he achieved that enviable position by the simple process of mixing, quite subconsciously, the ingredients of competence and conscientiousness with those of cheerfulness and generosity. His large practice was matched only by his own capacity for hard work: though he led an extremely full and busy life, he was never too rushed to spare a few moments for conversation, never too tired to be cheerful, and never too irritated to be good-tempered. Despite his own heavy commitments he was ever ready to come to the aid of a harassed colleague, especially one junior to himself; and his arrival, almost invariably accompanied by an amusingly told and reassuring tale of a similar occurrence in his own practice, raised morale and relieved the situation. He was devoted to his family and they to him, and within the family circle he attained a happiness and contentment of mind that were a joy to witness. He will be sadly missed by them as well as by a multitude of patients who will mourn the passing of a fine doctor and a truly great character.

IVOR CHANCE, M.B., B.S.

The obituary of Dr. Ivor Chance was published in the *Journal* of November 15 (p. 1234).

A friend writes: Ivor Chance possessed an amazing capacity for friendship. He endeared himself to all who knew him, irrespective of class or background. His Christian faith was simple and childlike and expressed itself in a life that was truly dedicated to his fellow-men. He loved people and always aimed to heal the whole man. He entered wholeheartedly into the life and work of his Church. Whatever he undertook, whether in his professional sphere or in private life, he did with the utmost enthusiasm, and he had the capacity for infusing in others a comparable zeal. Fearless in his denunciation of injustice of any kind, he had a particular dislike for anything that savoured of cant or hypocrisy. He was blessed with a great capacity for fun: aided by his sense of humour he was able to meet and overcome many difficult situations. A true man of God, he lived out in his daily life his own inward personal faith, and he earned for himself the designation given in the Scriptures to St. Luke—"A beloved physician."

D. B. G. and D. W. D. write: It was our privilege to meet Ivor Chance when he commenced his medical studies with us at the Middlesex Hospital medical school in 1941, and our lifelong friendship which followed was inevitable. He had an unflinching sense of duty to his patients and friends, and was fundamentally sincere in all he said and did. He had an extraordinary ability to make friends in all walks of life, regardless of age, creed, or colour. His firm Christian faith, tireless energy, and great sense of humour enabled him to live a full, though sadly short, life and to overcome cheerfully all obstacles and disappointments. These qualities, coupled with his clinical ability and perseverance, inspired the love and respect of colleagues and patients alike. The memory of Ivor Chance's way of life is sure to remain a refreshing example to those who knew him. We extend our sincere sympathy at his untimely passing to his family, and especially to his wife, who shared his many ideals and Christian conviction and was able to contribute so much to his work as a medical missionary during their three years in Uganda.

Medical Notes in Parliament

INTERIM PAY AWARD

Sir HUGH LINSTED (Putney, Con.) asked the Minister of Health on November 20 what action, in the light of his recent estimate that the Royal Commission would not report until next summer, he proposed to take in respect of the remuneration of doctors and dentists employed in the Health Service. Mr. D. WALKER-SMITH stated that the Government proposed to make a further interim increase of 4% in the current basic remuneration of doctors and dentists in the National Health Service with effect from January 1, 1959. This interim increase would, of course, be without prejudice to the recommendations of the Royal Commission, but he had consulted the chairman and he had informed him that it would not embarrass the Commission in any way. The method of distributing the additional remuneration would be discussed with the two professions.

Mrs. LENA JEGER (Holborn and St. Pancras South, Lab.) referred to this reply on November 24, when she said it had given in the country the impression that these rather stingy and *ad hoc* handouts to the medical and dental professions indicated a complete lack of Government policy for the Health Service. Could the Minister of Health say that in these days of expanding economy this concession could be taken as encouragement by all the other ancillary workers who had claims before the Minister and who were entitled to better treatment from the Minister? Mr. WALKER-SMITH said that if the country had formed any such impression it would be an erroneous one through a wrong understanding of the facts. This was neither stingy nor piecemeal. It was a 4% increase costing £5m., and was given because the Royal Commission was taking longer to report than was originally thought probable.

OTHER ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Queen Mary's Hospital, Carshalton

Mr. ERIC FLETCHER (Islington, East, Lab.) asked the Minister of Health on November 17 whether he was aware of the feeling among parents and others against the proposal to close Queen Mary's Hospital for Sick Children, Carshalton; and whether he would reconsider the matter. Mr. WALKER-SMITH said that he had received representations from several sources about the proposal to change the use of this hospital, and he would certainly take these and all relevant factors into account before coming to a decision.

Mr. FLETCHER asked if the Minister would bear in mind that for many years this hospital had enjoyed a high reputation among parents for its special work among children. There would be great concern among parents if it were closed. Mr. WALKER-SMITH said there was no proposal to close the Queen Mary's Hospital, as might appear from Mr. Fletcher's question. The proposals were merely concerned with the change of use. He readily accepted that the hospital had a high reputation, but it was nearly half empty because of the welcome fall in the need for the accommodation for children. Mr. KENNETH ROBINSON (St. Pancras, North, Lab.) said there was a desperate need at Fountain Hospital, which had an equally high reputation, for decent, modern accommodation. Mr. WALKER-SMITH said he had that very much in mind.

Crawley Hospital

Mr. F. GOUGH (Horsham, Con.) asked what progress had been made in the building of Crawley Hospital; and on what date it was anticipated the hospital building would be completed. Mr. R. H. M. THOMPSON, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health, stated that tenders had been invited for the first stage of building, with a view to work starting before the end of the financial year. It was estimated that this work would take about two years.