

OBITUARY NOTICES

Brigadier W. M. CAMERON

C.B.E., M.B., CH.B., late R.A.M.C.(Ret.)

Brigadier W. M. Cameron died at Nicosia, Cyprus, on 30 November. He was 82.

William Moore Cameron was born on 21 March 1892 and educated at Glasgow Academy and Glasgow University, where he graduated in medicine in 1916. Almost immediately he joined the R.A.M.C. and became regimental medical officer to the 2nd battalion Black Watch, serving with them in Mesopotamia and Palestine and being twice mentioned in dispatches. In 1919 he went to India and while serving on the Frontier with the Wana Column and the Waziristan Field Force was again twice mentioned in dispatches. After a short period at home he went to Constantinople and for his work there was appointed O.B.E. In 1925 he attended the Senior Officers Course at Millbank and gained distinction. He was then posted as a specialist in medicine to the Citadel Military Hospital at Cairo. After five years' service in Egypt he returned home to Northern Command as medical specialist at York Military Hospital, but before long was overseas again for service in Malta. Returning home in 1939, he was posted to command a field ambulance and sent to France, where he again was mentioned in dispatches. After the evacuation from France he commanded the R.A.M.C. depot and training establishment at Leeds. Later he went to India to a staff appointment in a field formation, then as A.D.M.S. of a division in Iran, where he was again mentioned in dispatches, and then to Italy as D.D.M.S. 8th Army. In this appointment he was responsible for the medical arrangements for the battle of Cassino and during the further advance of the Army through Italy. He received two more mentions and was appointed C.B.E. On the termination of hostilities he served in Austria and then with the British Army of the Rhine until his retirement as a brigadier in 1949.

Always an active man, he excelled at tennis, and during his time in Egypt and Malta played for the Army. After his retirement he became chief medical officer to the Overseas Food Corporation, Tanganyika, and later A.D.M.S. (Civil) to the Government of Cyprus at Nicosia, where he settled and made his home, staying there throughout the recent troubles. Moore Cameron was always good company and a generous host. A member of two professions, he was efficient in both, being a careful and shrewd physician and a brave and gallant officer. He is survived by his wife and two sons, who are both Army officers and were serving in Cyprus at his death.—W.J.O.

J. E. MERRELL

B.S.C., M.B., B.CH.

Dr. J. E. Merrell, who until recently was in general practice at Bargoed, Glamorgan,

died suddenly on 19 November. He was 49.

John Evans Merrell was born at Newquay, Cardiganshire, on 21 September 1925 and graduated from the Welsh National School of Medicine in 1952. After house appointments at Swansea and Aberystwyth he spent two years in national service in the R.A.M.C., most of his time on stations in the Far East, mainly in Hong Kong. On his return to civilian life, and after an appointment at Newport, he entered general practice in Carmarthenshire, but the reaction to a period of ill health forced him to give up practice in 1963 and he became an assistant senior medical officer at the Welsh Hospital Board. While admitting that this period of his life had its interests, he was never entirely happy to be away from practice and the day-to-day contacts which this brings. When an opportunity presented itself he returned to practice in partnership with two old friends at Bargoed. Once again his health broke down and he was forced to retire prematurely a year or so before his death.

John was a man who carried with him the gentle demeanour and quiet determination characteristic of his native west Wales. His concern and interest enfolded all about him and none more so than his wife and two children, for he was a devoted family man. It was this devotion to family that gave him infinite patience with the problems of the very old and very young, and this made him popular with his patients. His conscientiousness caused him to undertake many kindnesses for which he will be remembered and which taxed him frequently to his physical limits. There was no one more ready to make himself available in times of trouble and his capacity to attract friendship was unflinching and generous. His career was chequered with recurrent ill health and he was supported throughout by the affection and concern of his wife Ann and his great joy in his two children.—M.L.C.

R. C. WILLIAMS

M.B., CH.B.

Dr. R. C. Williams, formerly in general practice at Birchfields, Birmingham, died at his home on 23 November. He was 81.

Reginald Clifford Williams was born on 27 March 1893 and graduated in medicine from Birmingham University in 1923. After house appointments at Birmingham General Hospital he entered general practice.

D. M. writes: I first met Clifford Williams in 1919 in the dissecting room at the old Mason College of the Birmingham medical school. He had served in the Royal Naval Sick Berth Reserve and we formed a friendship which lasted 55 years. On many visits to his busy home I recognized in him the ideal general practitioner. His concern for his patients, especially those seriously ill, amounted almost to an acute anxiety. In

his earlier days he visited by bicycle, covering many miles. Later by car he drove always at maximum allowable speed. He acquired an interest in ophthalmology and became an expert refractionist, retaining this skill after retirement and holding regular clinics at Nuneaton. As a lecturer and examiner he did a great deal of work for the St. John Ambulance Association, and continued the work in spite of deterioration in health. He hated being separated from active medicine and had few outside interests. Clifford was fortunate in having a loyal wife who devoted the whole of her married life to his support and welfare. He survives him with two daughters.

MARJORIE F. M. MARTIN

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

Dr. Marjorie Martin, formerly in practice at St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex, died at her home in Suffolk on 25 November. She was 80.

Marjorie Florence Madeline Martin was born on 22 October 1894 into a Non-conformist family and her Christian background characterized her whole life. Educated at Clapham High School, she was an inspector of the Navy and Army Canteens for the Food Economy League during the first world war. She then entered the London Hospital and qualified in 1925. Joining her husband in practice at St. Leonards-on-Sea, she remained in practice there until 1946 except for the period 1941-5, when she was assistant county medical officer of health in Devonshire with special responsibilities for evacuated mothers and children. As medical officer to the Hastings and East Sussex maternity and child welfare clinics she was much concerned with giving family planning advice in cases where such counselling was indicated on medical grounds, this at a time when these advisory services were in their infancy. Her interests in welfare were continued when in 1946 she moved to Suffolk and served for many years on the executive of the Family Planning Association and the West Suffolk Old People's Welfare Association Committee. She was an officer of both the British Red Cross and the St. John Ambulance Association and was appointed a serving sister of the Order of St. John.

At the age of 73 she joined her husband in a tour of work as a relief doctor in the United Missions Hospital at Katmandu, Nepal. Her active professional life ended typically with two further trips with her husband in 1968 and 1969 when they undertook similar work in missionary hospitals in Zululand and the northern Transvaal. In Suffolk she will be remembered with affection by the multitude of patients with whom she came into contact during many years of locum work, and by many members of the profession as a kind, understanding, and cheerful colleague.—A.J.R.