

Obituary Notices

R. E. HORSFALL, M.D.

Dr. R. E. Horsfall, formerly a consultant physician to the Victoria Hospital, Blackpool, died on 11 June at his home near Blackpool. He was 67.

Robert Eric Horsfall was born near Burnley, Lancashire, on 12 December 1898, and was educated at King Edward VII School, Lytham St. Annes. On leaving school he joined the Army and was commissioned in the Royal North Lancashire Regiment, in which he served until he was wounded at Givenchy in 1918. After demobilization he entered Liverpool University, graduating M.B., Ch.B. in 1925 and proceeding M.D. six years later. After a period of general practice near Bath he went to Blackpool, where he took over an old-established practice, remaining there until 1948. During this period he had been appointed honorary assistant physician and consultant dermatologist to the Victoria Hospital, Blackpool, and had been medical officer to Rossall School. He had a lifelong interest in rugby football, and for many years followed regularly the fortunes of Rossall rugby and also the Lancashire county team. With the inception of the National Health Service in 1948 he gave up his general practice and was appointed consultant physician at Victoria Hospital. In addition to his work there he conducted outpatient clinics at Lytham St. Annes and Fleetwood Hospitals, and was consultant in charge at Wesham Park and Rossall Hospitals. In 1963 he retired under the age limit from his consultant posts and was appointed honorary consultant physician to the Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

Of a rather shy and reserved nature, Dr. Horsfall was endowed with a most courteous and kindly manner, and was held in the highest affection and esteem by all his patients. In addition to medicine he was deeply interested in poetry and the works of the English novelists of the nineteenth century. He was a physician of the old school and will be very greatly missed. To his widow and his son and family we extend our warmest sympathy.—J. W. A.

H. S. DE SILVA, M.B., B.S.

F.R.C.P., D.C.H.

Dr. H. S. de Silva, formerly consultant paediatrician, Lady Ridgeway Children's Hospital, Ceylon, died on 1 June after a short illness. He was 58.

Harris Stanley de Silva was born in Ceylon on 5 January 1908, and was educated at St. Thomas's College, Mount Lavinia, and University College, Colombo, qualifying L.M.S. with distinction in 1932. After holding appointments in Ceylon he came to Britain to take up postgraduate studies at King's College Hospital, London, where he graduated M.B., B.S. in 1946. He took the M.R.C.P. and the D.C.H. in 1947. On his return to Ceylon he was appointed physician to the Lady Ridgeway Children's Hospital, and visiting paediatrician to the Soysa Maternity Hospital. He became physician-in-charge,

and later consultant paediatrician, at Lady Ridgeway Hospital, and also held the appointment of visiting paediatrician at the Castle Street Maternity Hospital. He was also editor of the *Journal of the Children's Hospital, Colombo*. At the time of his death he was immediate past president of the Ceylon Medical Association, and an active member of its council.

A colleague writes: The reorganization of the care of the newborn baby under the purview of the paediatrician, which had hitherto been the domain of the obstetrician, was pioneered in Ceylon by Stanley de Silva. The change-over was by no means smooth, and he had to weather many storms before finally clearing the path for paediatricians to follow. In this and in other branches of his professional work he pursued the British pattern of practice, adjusting it to suit local conditions. He was a popular teacher of undergraduate students, and his trainee house-officers learned under him the art of being a good doctor.

To his widow and daughter, and to his son, who is a medical student in Britain, we offer our deepest sympathy.

S. SZUTOWICZ, M.B., B.S.

Dr. S. Szutowicz, consultant pathologist to the Rochdale and District Group of Hospitals, died on 5 April. He was 50.

Stanislaw Szutowicz was born in Wilno, Poland, on 17 July 1915, and studied science and medicine at Wilno University. He was called up on the outbreak of war as an officer of the army reserve and saw service on the Western Front, where he was taken prisoner by the Germans. He escaped and returned to Wilno, where he was later arrested and taken as a prisoner to Russia. On the outbreak of hostilities between Germany and Russia, Poles in Russia were allowed to form their own army units, and he arrived in the Middle East with one of these Polish units. He saw some active service there, but his experiences as a prisoner had undermined his health, and the army authorities decided he could serve his country better by finishing his medical studies. In December 1941 he arrived in Edinburgh and recommenced his medical studies at the Polish School of Medicine there, where he graduated M.B., Ch.B. in 1947. He held a post as an assistant bacteriologist at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary for a year, and in 1949 went to the Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle, as a senior registrar in the pathology department. In 1949 he became a naturalized British subject. In 1955 he took the post he held at his death with the Rochdale Group of Hospitals, going to the Group first as a senior hospital medical officer and later being upgraded to consultant status. He was an active member of the Polish Medical Practitioners' Union in Manchester and a member of the committee, actively engaged in the work of this small but tightly knit Polish community, which will miss him very much indeed.

He leaves a widow and three daughters, to whom our sympathy is extended.—Z. S. L.-L.

D. S. L. writes: Although primarily a bacteriologist, Dr. Szutowicz was always ready to help out in other departments, and this characteristic helpfulness and his unfeeling courtesy were the attributes which most endeared him to his colleagues and technical staff. Although his wartime experiences inevitably left their mark, he will be remembered by his friends for what he essentially was—a Polish gentleman.

J. M. MACKINTOSH, M.A., M.D.

LL.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.P.E.D., D.P.H.

W. G. W. writes: Professor Mackintosh (obituary, 30 April, p. 1118) took a keen interest in public health work in Ceylon, and always spoke with appreciation of the progress made in the improvement of health conditions by the elimination of the major communicable diseases, the control of malaria, hookworm, and yaws, and the introduction of the new scheme of health unit work. When Ceylon gained independence in 1948 the Department of Health decided to appoint an international expert to evaluate the public health services, and the assistance of the World Health Organization and of the Commonwealth Relations Office was sought to secure the best available person for this work. Along with the then Ceylon High Commissioner in London, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, I was asked to make the selection, and we had no hesitation in selecting Professor Mackintosh, who was willing to undertake this task. Unfortunately at the last moment ill-health prevented Professor Mackintosh from accepting the appointment, and Ceylon lost the services of one of the most eminent men in the field of public health, and of a sincere friend.

S. L. M. writes: Everyone who knew Professor Mackintosh will be deeply shocked when they hear of his passing away. To his lectures at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine he brought a wide experience allied with a penetrating mind, and spiced with wit and humour. Respect for him was universal, but so, too, was affection; his passion for the furtherance of education and social well-being was tempered by warmth and kindness of heart and a compelling sense of purpose. Sincere in friendship, imaginative in approach, modest and humble in his bearing, and a passionate advocate of improvements to housing and family life, from which he believed all happiness arose, he was a practical idealist in whom were embodied the finest qualities of the human race.

Correction

In the obituary of Dr. M. Rabbani (2 July, p. 57) the words "the partition of Pakistan" should have read "the creation of Pakistan" where the obituary recorded Dr. Rabbani's appointment as Professor of Pharmacology at the King Edward Medical College, Lahore. We regret the error.