

JOHN RUHRÄH of Baltimore died on March 10th of this year. To many of the profession in this country his name is probably unknown, but to those who had the privilege of his friendship—and they were not only doctors—it means the loss of one who had, to an unusual degree, the gifts which bridge over the limits of nationality and distance. In the U.S.A. he was well known as a paediatrician before he had begun the studies which made him known in this country—the writings on the history of medicine, especially on the early literature of paediatric study. Some years ago he had written, with Dr. Mayer, a book dealing with poliomyelitis, and then in the summer of 1933, while he was in Naples, he himself was severely stricken with the disease. He struggled back to a moderate degree of physical activity, and though crippled and often in considerable pain he remained entirely undefeated in mind and resolution. His example and his insistence on the brighter aspects of his existence made him an inspiration to his fellow sufferers, and encouraged his friends on this side to the hope that he might once more visit England. He had intended to make the effort this year, and he would have had a warm welcome from all those who had once felt the charm and exhilaration of spirit which his personality always exercised. This brief note is a tribute from one who has known Dr. Ruhräh for a quarter of a century, and though meeting him but rarely in the last few years has always had him for a constant and valued correspondent who wrote (as he talked) wisely, wittily, and as if he had but just left your side and was to see you again to-morrow.

We regret to learn of the death of Dr. JAMES CRAN, O.B.E., V.D., at Belize, British Honduras, on February 8th. Dr. Cran was a member of the British Honduras Branch of the British Medical Association since its inception, and was generally recognized by his fellow practitioners as the doyen of the profession in that Colony. He studied medicine at Aberdeen, and graduated M.B., C.M. in 1895, proceeding M.D. in 1904. He went to British Honduras forty years ago and speedily built up a large practice, and actively identified himself with its social and political life. He served at varying periods of his career on the Legislative and Executive Councils, and on the Belize Town Board; he also acted on several occasions as P.M.O. for the Colony. He was instrumental in building up the British Honduras Defence Force, which sent a large quota of men to the front during the Great War. For his services he was given the rank of lieutenant-colonel and decorated with the O.B.E. Dr. Cran was a man of great personal charm, and was always deeply interested in the welfare of the Colony. The hurricane of 1931 was a disaster for him. Many of his old friends were killed, and the town and country he laboured in all his active life were laid in ruins. It was a terrible blow, from which he never seemed to recover. The medical profession and the community at large have expressed to his widow and surviving children their sincerest sympathy in the great loss they and the Colony have sustained.

By the sudden death of Dr. H. W. PARNIS, on March 8th, the London County Council Mental Hospitals service loses a valued medical officer. Henry William Parnis, the eldest son of Judge A. Parnis, was born in Malta on April 13th, 1889. He took the degree of B.Sc. of Malta University in 1907 and the M.D. in 1910. He then came to England, and in 1913 qualified M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond. The house appointments he held were at the Prince of Wales's General Hospital, Tottenham, the Royal Hospital, Richmond, and the London Temperance Hospital. In March, 1914, he was elected to the London County Council Mental Hospitals service and posted at Colney Hatch, but being seconded the following September he joined the R.A.M.C., and went to France that month with the 7th Division as medical officer to the South Staffs Regiment. He served in the Army, being mentioned in dispatches, until he was demobilized in July, 1919; nearly the whole of his war service was over-seas as

regimental medical officer. On demobilization Dr. Parnis returned to his post at Colney Hatch Mental Hospital and in 1920 gained the D.P.M. Later he was promoted in the service and went to Claybury Mental Hospital. At the time of his death he was deputy medical superintendent at Bexley Mental Hospital, a post he had held since 1929. In 1931 he was appointed consultant in mental diseases to St. Alfege's Hospital, Greenwich. Dr. Parnis was a very able clinician and a most conscientious and painstaking medical officer. He took the greatest interest in all the activities of the hospital and in the welfare of his patients; indeed, his patients looked upon him not only as a physician but as a guide, philosopher, and friend. He will be sadly missed by a large circle of friends.

The death of Dr. E. M. FANNIN, Sliema, Sutton, County Dublin, which occurred on March 8th at a nursing home in the city, has caused deep regret among his many friends and patients. Dr. Fannin graduated B.A., M.B., B.Ch. of Dublin University in 1897, and was for many years attached to the Drumcondra Hospital. He was a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland, and at one time took an active interest in its administration. It was Dr. Fannin's grandfather who founded the old-established firm of Fannin and Company Ltd., Grafton Street, Dublin, which does the largest business in Ireland in medical and surgical supplies and an extensive trade in medical books. Dr. Fannin took a personal interest in the working of the Grafton Street premises, and contributed in its medical aspects to its general usefulness to the medical profession. A member of the Dublin Rotary Club, he attended its weekly meetings regularly, and helped a good deal in the success of its philanthropic undertakings on behalf of children.

The news of the death, on March 20th, of REGINALD JANSON HANBURY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of Foxbury, Woldingham, Surrey, will come as a shock to many friends in the medical profession, and to a wide circle of those engaged in the drug and chemical industry. Mr. Hanbury, who was in his fifty-eighth year, was the second son of Mr. Frederick J. Hanbury, the present chairman of Allen and Hanburys Limited. He was educated at Marlborough, and on leaving school became a student at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where, in 1903, he obtained the English conjoint diplomas. Later he joined the business of Allen and Hanburys Limited, of which his grandfather, Cornelius Hanbury, was then chairman, and in 1912 was elected to the board. Mr. Hanbury was a governor of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, for several years serving on its Finance Committee, and had been a member of the British Medical Association for thirty years. He was a man of great personal charm, which won for him the affection and respect of all who came into contact with him, both in business and in private life. He leaves a widow and three children.

JAMES ROBERTSON REID, M.D., whose death has occurred at Newby, Scarborough, was born in Aberdeen in 1859, and studied medicine at Aberdeen University. While a student Dr. Reid joined the Aberdeenshire Royal Engineers, becoming a sergeant. He was present with this unit at Queen Victoria's review of the Scottish Volunteers at Edinburgh in 1881. After graduating M.B., C.M. in 1883 he practised at Helmsley, Yorkshire, for fifteen years before leaving for Southport, where he was in practice for twenty-five years. He served in the King's Liverpool Regiment, retiring with the rank of captain and honorary major. On the formation of the Territorial Force he received a commission in the R.A.M.C., in which he served until retired by the age limit. He held the Territorial Decoration. Dr. Reid was elected honorary associate of the Grand Priory of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England in 1909. He was the author of the recently published *History of the Clan Robertson*.