

he came to visit, to see how the patient was progressing, he would conclude with a friendly chat and then jump up and say, "I must be off, I have the half of Scotland to see to-night." Now one has the happy memory of a man who gave of his best and who believed, as did Lord Lister, that his work was "to tend the fleshly tabernacle of the immortal spirit."

#### J. C. McCALLUM, M.B., D.P.H.

Dr. J. C. McCallum, formerly an assistant county medical officer of health for Argyle and one-time captain of the Scottish Rugby fifteen, died last month in Edinburgh. He was 74 years of age.

John Cameron McCallum, the son of the Rev. Malcolm McCallum, was educated at George Watson's College and Edinburgh University, where he graduated M.B., Ch.B. in 1910. Two years later, having decided to follow a career in public health, he took the D.P.H., and for many years thereafter was assistant county medical officer of health for Argyle. During this time he lived at Oban. In 1927 he went into general practice at Edinburgh, retiring in 1948 to a farm near Oban. Three years ago, however, he returned to Edinburgh. Dr. McCallum was one of the finest forwards who have ever played for Scotland, being as fast as any of the backs. He was capped 26 times between 1901 and 1912, and captained the Scottish fifteen. He also captained the Watsonian team for a good many years.

Dr. McCallum is survived by his wife and a daughter.

#### HOLDEN CARSON, M.B., B.Ch.

Dr. Holden Carson, who, after over ten years as a general practitioner at Ashton-under-Lyne, was a medical officer, first in the Ministry of Health and then in the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, died on December 8, 1957. He was 73 years of age.

Holden Carson was born on January 18, 1884, and studied medicine at the former Queen's College of Belfast and in Dublin, graduating M.B., B.Ch. from the old Royal University of Ireland in 1906. After graduation he held the appointments of assistant house-surgeon at Taunton Hospital, junior house-surgeon at the Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary, and resident medical officer at the Grimsby and District Hospital. He served with the R.A.M.C. throughout the first world war, being twice mentioned in dispatches. From 1918 to 1931 he was in general practice at Ashton-under-Lyne, where he became also assistant physician to the infirmary. Appointed a deputy regional medical officer under the Ministry of Health in 1931, he later transferred to the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance, retiring in 1954. A member of the British Medical Association for very nearly fifty years, he was chairman of the Ashton-under-Lyne Division in 1924-5. In 1917 he married Nesta Elizabeth Thomas, and she survives him together with his younger son, Major J. H. Carson. His elder son was killed in the Battle of Britain while serving as a pilot in the R.A.F.

#### A. P. AGNEW, M.B., F.R.C.P.Ed.

Dr. A. P. Agnew, senior consultant physician to the Southern Ayrshire group of hospitals, died suddenly at Ballochmyle Hospital on December 3, 1957. He was 59 years of age.

Alan Percy Agnew was born on February 10, 1898, the son of Dr. Alexander P. Agnew, who was formerly in practice at Padiham, near Burnley. From St. Peter's School, York, he went on to Glasgow University to study medicine, graduating M.B., Ch.B., with honours, in 1920. After holding resident appointments at the Glasgow Western Infirmary and at the Weymouth and District Hospital, he joined his father in practice at Padiham. He remained there until shortly before the second world war, during which he served in the Emergency Medical Service, being appointed physician to the Hospital at Gleneagles. He transferred in 1942 to

Ballochmyle, where later he became chief consultant physician. When the National Health Service came into being in 1948 he remained in the hospital service, becoming consultant physician to other hospitals in the Southern Ayrshire group, including the Ayrshire Central Hospital, Irvine, and the Garrick Hospital, Stranraer. He was elected M.R.C.P.Ed. in 1938, becoming a Fellow of the College in 1951. Dr. Agnew married Mary, daughter of the late Bailie Stephen Alexander, and she died three weeks before him.

H. S. writes: Dr. Alan Agnew has passed on, and he is greatly missed by his colleagues, patients, and friends all over Ayrshire. He was a well-loved physician, painstaking and scrupulously careful in establishing a correct diagnosis. In this he influenced the careers of numbers of his junior physicians on the hospital staff. He was also an unfailing friend of the nursing and administrative staff. The general practitioners found him to be untiring in his efforts to share their problems, and a domiciliary visit was a source of great encouragement and inspiration. The patients loved him for the deep personal interest he took in their troubles and for his unfailing memory for their faces and illnesses, even years after. We have lost a truly great physician and a loyal and dependable colleague.

#### E. A. THOMSON, M.B., Ch.B.

Dr. E. A. Thomson, who had practised ophthalmology at different times in Jerusalem, Beirut, and Truro, among other places, died on December 10, 1957, at Bristol, where he had been living in retirement. He was 72 years of age.

Eric Alexander Thomson was born on April 1, 1885, and was educated at St. Andrews University, where he graduated M.B., Ch.B., with distinction, in 1907. For a time he assisted the professor of physiology in St. Andrews University, but later went out to the Ophthalmic Hospital of St. John in Jerusalem as a junior surgeon. During the first world war he was ophthalmic surgeon to the Falmouth Military Hospital, and after the war he spent some years at Beirut, where he founded an eye hospital. Some years later he returned to England to practise as an ophthalmic surgeon in Truro. He is survived by his widow and two daughters.

C. H. C. writes: A small tribute to that outstanding but retiring member of our profession, Eric Thomson, may be of some interest. His grandfather resigned from a professorship of Hebrew in Scotland to become an ordained missionary in the old Turkish Empire and was the first to translate the Bible into Turkish. His father became manager of the Ottoman Bank in Constantinople, and hence Eric Thomson's early career was spent upon the shores of the Bosphorus, at Bebek, a little outside the city. He remembered, so he would say, seeing eunuchs from the Sultan's palace throwing a sack containing a human being into the Bosphorus; and one of his friends, if not his nurse, was governess to the Sultan's son, and lived in the palace. He therefore grew up familiar with what was probably the most cosmopolitan city in Europe, and he could converse well in English, French, German, Russian, Turkish, and Italian, and, later, he added to these a good knowledge of Arabic, Hebrew, Spanish, and Egyptian hieroglyphics. His career at St. Andrews University was outstanding, and he took a great number of prizes and medals. When at Jerusalem he was, as I know, *persona grata* among the Turkish, Arabic, and Christian communities and had many patients and friends among them, including the Mufti of Jerusalem, who caused so much trouble during the British regime in the Holy Land. He also had the distinction of being, with others, a traveller from Jerusalem to Jericho who fell among thieves, who would have left him dead had it not been for his resistance and tenacity. He winged one of his assailants, who were dragging him, his housekeeper, and a Russian woman pilgrim towards a precipice on the road edge. The walk to Jericho continued, but the next afternoon Thomson

presented himself to me in Jerusalem with a dislocated second right rib at the costochondral junction, and he was spitting blood.

During the first world war he became ophthalmic surgeon to the Military Hospital, Falmouth, and after the war he did an extensive study tour in America and the great European medical centres. He then returned to the Near—now erroneously called Middle—East, and established an eye hospital in Beirut; there his work had great success. He had first- and second-class private beds and a section for the poor, who were helped and kept through the fees obtained from the others. It was here in 1919 or thereabouts he began stitching the detached retina into position with some success. Whether he was the first to perform this operation or not I do not know, but I believe he was early in the field. In this private hospital he was ably assisted by his first wife, formerly Leishman, who was a talented artist in water colour and an excellent pianist as well as a first-class Arabic scholar. There was a hospitable and kindly hospital towards men and women of all nationalities and of whatever condition or calling. Also, while in Beirut, he did new work upon dacryocystitis, which led to the publishing of his paper upon dacryocystenocleisis in the *Transactions of the Ophthalmological Society* in 1925. In the late 1920's he returned to England to enter a private ophthalmic practice in Cornwall, based upon Truro. In 1938 he married again, his cousin. There was still more useful time before him until he was afflicted with the very condition he had tried to relieve—detached retina, first one and then the other. Friends who were ophthalmic surgeons rallied round him, but in spite of a number of operations in these skilled hands he became blind but for light and shade.

Eric Thomson was an aesthete; his love of music and art, his delight in flowers of field and garden, his love of animals and knowledge of birds, and his gentleness and even tenderness of manner and of hands all proclaimed this. A walk with him along a country lane, in spring or summer specially, with his knowledge and interest in flowers and grasses and birds, was a delight. He had also a fair knowledge of archaeology, but his chief hobby was in mathematical calculus. He would read into the early hours. When he found himself regularly reading until 4 a.m. he would decide that it was too close to his rising time of 6 a.m. for him to go to bed.

#### NATHAN KRAMER, M.B., B.S.

Dr. Nathan Kramer died at St. Thomas's Hospital on December 12, 1957, after a long illness. He was 50 years of age.

Nathan Kramer was born on July 9, 1907, and qualified M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. from St. Bartholomew's Hospital in 1929. Two years later he obtained the London degrees of M.B., B.S. After completing an appointment as house-physician at St. John's Hospital, Lewisham, he went into practice at Raynes Park, where he remained for over twenty-five years. He was a careful worker, never sparing himself on his patients' behalf, and soon acquired a large practice. His notes were always accurate and he displayed a wide knowledge of medicine. Particularly interested in children's welfare and paediatrics in general, he was as much liked by his young patients as by their parents. During the second world war he was one of the most active medical men in the district, being attached to a first-aid post near the Nelson Hospital: he used to tour the bombed areas so as to be on hand during emergencies.

Kramer was a founder member and trustee of the Reform Wimbledon Synagogue. In his spare time he did devoted work for Israel and particularly for Israeli educational institutions. He loved the countryside and was an expert gardener, being successful in developing new types of chrysanthemum blooms. Tennis and golf were his favourite sports until ill-health put a stop to these activities. He leaves a widow, two sons, and a daughter.—G. L. S. K.

#### IAIN S. BERGIUS, M.B., Ch.B., B.Sc.

His many friends at home and abroad will have heard with profound sorrow of the sudden death of Dr. Iain S. Bergius on December 22, 1957, in Hong Kong. He was 41 years of age.

Educated at Sedbergh, Iain Somerled Bergius went on to Glasgow University, where he took the degrees of B.Sc. in 1936 and the M.B., Ch.B. three years later. During the second world war he served as a medical officer in the R.N.V.R., and saw service in both the Atlantic and Pacific theatres. He first went to Hong Kong with the British Pacific fleet at the liberation in September, 1945, and organized with his marked efficiency an emergency hospital on his ship. For his services he was mentioned in dispatches in 1946. After being demobilized he returned to Hong Kong in the summer of 1946 to enter practice with the firm of Drs. Anderson and Partners, with whom he remained till his death. Dr. Bergius was a man of diverse interests. A keen yachtsman, he was also an accomplished artist and latterly took an increasing interest in astronomy. Always a popular man, with a keen sense of humour and ready wit, he could talk with reasonable authority on almost any subject. For several years he proved to be a most efficient and assiduous treasurer of the Hong Kong and China Branch of the British Medical Association. He leaves a widow and three children.—G. S. W.

#### J. KALMANSON, M.B., B.Ch., L.M.

Dr. John Kalmanson, who died in London on December 26, 1957, at the age of 57 after a protracted illness nobly borne, had a distinguished career in two fields, the first in medicine, the second in industry.

John Kalmanson was born on December 7, 1900, and was educated at King Edward VII School, Johannesburg, the University of Capetown, and Trinity College, Dublin, where he graduated M.B., B.Ch. in 1923. He was good at Rugby football and tennis. Coming to London in the late 'twenties he soon established himself in the field of physical medicine. He was a man who loved his fellow men and in return was beloved and esteemed by everyone who knew him. His patients adored him, and his personal influence was great. Because of continuous ill-health he was obliged to give up his practice, and in 1936 returned to his native South Africa. After some years he recovered his health sufficiently to take part in the family business. He was able to build this up—under the name of Amalgamated Packaging Industries Ltd.—until it became the largest paper and packaging company in the Union of South Africa, with subsidiaries in Rhodesia, Jamaica, and Trinidad.

When Dr. Kalmanson's health failed the medical world lost an outstanding physician of inspired understanding and empathy. When he died the world at large lost a great and beloved personality and his wife and two sons a devoted husband and father.—W. E. T.

#### T. L. CLARK, M.D., F.R.C.S.Ed.

Mr. T. L. Clark, senior consulting surgeon to Halifax Royal Infirmary, died on December 29, 1957, aged 71.

Thomas Lindsay Clark was a native of Sorn, Ayrshire, where he was born on August 21, 1886. Having graduated in medicine at Edinburgh in 1915, he soon joined the R.A.M.C., seeing service chiefly in the Palestine campaign. He retained his interest in the R.A.M.C. for many years, and after holding commands at Netley and later at Bangor he retired after the last war with the rank of lieutenant-colonel. Returning to London after service in the first world war, he held several hospital appointments, including one at St. Peter's Hospital, where he gained experience in genito-urinary surgery which was to stand him in good stead in his later years as a surgical consultant. He proceeded to the M.D. in 1921 and took the F.R.C.S.Ed. two years later.