

kind is much more likely to give to the lay public a comprehensive idea of the conduct of a modern university than many pages of verbal description.

LIVERPOOL.

The offertory at the annual medical service on behalf of the Royal Medical Benevolent Fund amounted to £90 10s. The honorary treasurer, Dr. J. Ernest Nevins, received in addition £7 6s. from medical men who were unable to be present at the service. The expenses were £9 14s. 6d., and it is gratifying to note that the amount to be transmitted to the Fund is among the largest since the institution of the annual medical service. The biennial dinner of the Liverpool Medical Institution was held on Thursday, November 10th, at the Adelphi Hotel.

Scotland.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

A CONFERENCE of representatives of local authorities and others interested in the prosecution of active measures in Scotland for combating venereal disease will be opened in the City Chambers by the Lord Provost, at 11 a.m., on Friday, December 2nd. Sir Malcolm Morris, Vice-President of the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases, will give an address on the prevalence of these diseases and the work of the National Council; he will be followed by Sir Leslie Mackenzie, medical member of the Scottish Board of Health, who will open a discussion on the prevalence of venereal diseases in Scotland and the need for an educational campaign. In the afternoon Dr. J. McGregor-Robertson, Chairman of the Scottish Committee of the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases, will explain the functions and proposed operations of that Committee, and subsequently the problem will be discussed as it affects urban and rural districts respectively. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, Mr. W. E. White, 30, Renfield Street, Glasgow.

COMPULSORY RETIREMENT OF MARRIED MEDICAL WOMEN.

The Glasgow Corporation passed a resolution on September 8th dispensing with the services of married women whose husbands were in regular employment. In consequence of this resolution a large number of women retired on October 31st from the service of the Corporation, including Dr. Moore, Dr. Williams, and Dr. Norrie, assistant medical officers in the public health department. Dr. Moore, who had been six years in the service of the Corporation, was associated with the tuberculosis branch of the department; Dr. Norrie and Dr. Williams, who had three and two years' service respectively, were connected with the child welfare branch. It is stated that the work performed by these ladies will be carried on, but no permanent appointments to their posts have yet been made. A similar case, which recently occurred in London, has been widely discussed in the lay press.

GLASGOW HOME FOR INFIRM CHILDREN.

The forty-seventh annual meeting of East Park Home for Infirm Children, Maryhill, Glasgow, was held on October 19th, with Mr. James Graham in the chair. The directors' report stated that the growth of the ordinary income was again much more than counterbalanced by the increase in ordinary expenditure, and the sum of £1,666 had had to be taken from the extraordinary account to meet the deficiency in the ordinary revenue; the medical report was read by Dr. A. B. Sloan, and Sir Alexander Gracie, in moving the adoption of the reports, spoke of the great amount of useful and unostentatious work accomplished in the institution.

RECTORSHIP OF ABERDEEN.

Sir Robert Horne, Chancellor of the Exchequer, was on November 5th elected Rector of Aberdeen University in succession to Lord Cowdray, whose three years' term of office has just expired. The voting in the contest was as follows: Sir Robert Horne (Coalition), 557; Sir Donald Maclean (Independent Liberal), 400; and Professor Soddy, of Oxford University, formerly of Aberdeen University (Labour), 253.

EDINBURGH STUDENTS' COUNCIL.

In the annual report of the Edinburgh Students' Representative Council reference is made to the part played in the industrial crisis last March. The Council was appealed to by the authorities to raise a force of students to assist in the maintenance of food supplies and the essential transport services. In less than a week over 600 students had given in their names and large numbers enrolled in the Defence Force, the special constabulary, and as pumpmen at the mines. The principal of the university gave an assurance that those who were absent on public service would not be thereby prejudiced in their university course; the Secretary for Scotland had expressed the gratitude of the Government to the students.

Ireland.

LOSS TO IRISH HOSPITALS.

At the annual meeting of the Linen Guild connected with Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, Sir John Ross, in proposing the adoption of the reports of the executive committee and of the treasurer, spoke of the work done by the War Hospital Supply Dépot in Merrion Square during the war and the efforts made to raise money in connexion with it. He had at one time hoped that it would be possible to dispense with the Linen Guilds, but it was clear that they must be continued. Under the cruel taxation that was falling particularly on the middle classes they had not the means to give as they had done formerly. "In addition," the Lord Chancellor went on, "owing to the disturbed state of the country, a great number of those who formerly were our best supporters are leaving the country. I am sorry for that. I think everybody should stand his ground. But still the fact remains that they are going. We cannot ask them to stay here. Ireland is being impoverished of these good people, and England and Scotland are getting them." In proposing a vote of thanks to Sir James Craig, M.D., the President of the Royal College of Physicians referred to the State support of hospitals. Ireland's proportion of the £500,000 given by the Government to English and Scottish hospitals should have been at least £50,000, but the Chief Secretary had said that they had a Parliament of their own, and that already a Government grant was being given to Ireland.

PROPOSED REDUCTION OF CERTIFICATION FEES UNDER THE INSURANCE ACT IN IRELAND.

The following letter has been addressed to the Irish Medical Committee:

National Health Insurance Commission, Dublin.
November 1st, 1921.

I am directed by the National Health Insurance Commission (Ireland) to state, for the information of the Irish Medical Committee, that they have been instructed by His Majesty's Government, in common with other public departments, to take steps with a view to securing a reduction in the cost of expenditure on public services which are borne out of Exchequer Funds. The whole cost of the scheme in operation in Ireland for the provision for insured persons, free of charge, of the medical certificates required in connexion with the administration of the Sickness and Disablement Benefits under the National Health Insurance Acts is defrayed from an Exchequer Grant. In view of the fact that the sum available up to January 1st, 1920, was increased as from that date by 40 per cent. it is imperative upon the Commission to secure a reduction of the cost of this scheme at present falling upon Exchequer Funds, the expenditure under which is almost wholly due to the payments to doctors for issuing medical certificates. In these circumstances I am to request that the Irish Medical Committee, which has on previous occasions arranged, on behalf of the medical profession in Ireland, the terms of the remuneration to be paid to doctors under the scheme referred to, will be so good as to send as early as possible representatives to confer with the Commission as to what reduction is to be made.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

J. HOULIHAN.

Dr. T. Hennessy, Medical Secretary,
Irish Medical Committee.

A "FAITH HEALER" has been arrested at Los Angeles on a charge of manslaughter in connexion with the death of a patient whom he had treated; the patient had suffered from rheumatism for some years, and the coroner's jury decided that she died as the result of manipulations by the healer which fractured her limbs.