

ever, is abundantly justified in the public interest. People who have experienced benefit from homoeopathy, or have witnessed what it has done to others, have a right to know where they can obtain this treatment. So long as this valuable therapeutic method is unrepresented in the voluntary and public assistance hospitals of this country homoeopathic hospitals must remain homoeopathic hospitals. There is no need to label any famous London hospital "allopathic." No patient runs the slightest risk of being treated homoeopathically there!

No, Sir, I do not think that we can be accused of unethical conduct. I wish I could say the same of our critics. Every member of our society has been the victim of conduct on the part of his professional brethren which violates the canons of ordinary decency, and I myself have had more than one occasion for instituting libel proceedings against medical men, a course which would be repugnant to me. Perhaps if medical students were given an outline of the principle of homoeopathy during their materia medica course, instead of hearing their professors hold it up to ridicule by way of enlivening an extremely dull set of lectures, we should be spared some of the many rather stupid letters which are written on the subject.—I am, etc.,

Liverpool, Sept. 7th.

F. B. JULIAN.

## Medico-Legal

### TREATMENT BY OSTEOPATH: CORONER'S COMMENTS

At an inquest held at Camberwell on September 4th the coroner, Mr. Douglas Cowburn, made some indignant references to the treatment given by an osteopath in the case. It was stated that the deceased, a woman named Adams, aged 32, had suffered from diabetes for several years. She was recommended to a Mr. William Mellor, an osteopath, of Balham Park Road, S.W., and first visited him a week before her death. A few days later, when she was very ill, he was called in, but she became worse, and on being sent for again Mellor recommended that she should see her insurance doctor.

Mellor, in evidence, after being cautioned by the coroner, said that he carried on business at Peckham Rye as an osteopath and homoeopath. A plate outside his surgery bore the words: "Dr. William Mellor, Osteopath, U.S.A., Homoeopath, India." He obtained the degree of osteopathy at the First National University, Washington, N.J., and he was an associate of the Western University, Kapurthala, India. It was put to him by the coroner that there was no Western University, Kapurthala, nor any college, but only a place which issued diplomas on payment of a fee. The witness said that he was surprised to hear that; he had sat for an examination in homoeopathy in London under the Indian Education Scheme. He called himself a doctor because he held a doctorate of osteopathy. He did not practise as a physician, nor was he a surgeon or a general practitioner. He held a degree of doctor of medicine from the American Academy of Medicine and Surgery, Washington, and he was a member of the British Homoeopathic Association.

Dr. D. P. McGrath said that he was called to the deceased a few hours before her death; she was then in a state of coma. A relative told him that she had been under treatment by an unqualified person, and accordingly he refused a death certificate. Sir Bernard Spilsbury testified that death was due to diabetes. The treatment given by Mellor, which was an old one for diabetes, would not have shortened her life, but it would have been perfectly useless.

The coroner, in summing up, described Mellor as a "quack," and his treatment as "arrant rubbish."

A verdict of "Death from natural causes" was accordingly returned.

## Obituary

The death took place at Aberdeen on September 1st of Dr. GEORGE ROSE, who had been for many years medical officer to the education authority of Aberdeen. Dr. Rose was born in Aberdeenshire in 1855, and prior to taking a medical course had worked as a mason and granite merchant in America. He graduated M.B. at Aberdeen University at the age of 33, and after some years in private practice became surgeon to the Sick Children's Hospital at Aberdeen, and later full-time medical officer for the schools of the city, a post which he held for twenty years until his retirement in 1930 on the transfer of educational affairs from the education authority to the town council. Dr. Rose is survived by a widow, one son, Major Gilbert W. Rose, R.A.M.C., and one daughter.

The following well-known foreign medical men have recently died: Professor FONZES-DIACON, dean of the Montpellier faculty of pharmacy, aged 67; Dr. FERNANDEZ PEREZ, formerly Ambassador of the Argentine Republic in Rome, aged 70; Dr. BRAEMER, formerly dean of the faculty of pharmacy at Strasbourg and corresponding member of the Académie de Médecine; Dr. STANY E. RISACHER, professor of clinical obstetrics and gynaecology at Beirut; Dr. ERNEST LACKNER, an eminent Chicago paediatrist, aged 83; Professor GEORGE BENNO SCHMIDT, for many years director of the surgical department of the University Children's Clinic at Heidelberg, aged 75; Professor ALOEF, director of the medical institute at Kazan; and Baron GUGLIELMO ASCIONE, professor of bacteriology at the Institute of Hygiene at Naples, aged 48.

## Medical News

### ANNUAL MEETING AT MELBOURNE

According to a press message 1,500 medical men took part in the opening ceremony of the British Medical Association which was held at the Town Hall, Melbourne, on September 10th. The following reply to a loyal telegram sent to the King was received by the President, Sir James Barrett:

"Please convey to the members my sincere thanks for the assurance of loyalty and devotion. I am convinced that the interchange of ideas on these vital matters among the nations of the Empire must benefit mankind. As Patron of the Association I send best wishes for the successful issue of your deliberations."

It is intimated that the King has been pleased, on the recommendation of the Secretary of State for Scotland, to appoint Professor Duncan MacCallum Blair to be Regius Professor of Anatomy in the University of Glasgow in succession to Professor T. H. Bryce, who has resigned as from September 30th, 1935. In 1927 he was appointed to the chair of anatomy at King's College, London, a post which he still holds, being also Dean of the Medical Faculty.

The King has appointed Mr. J. R. Learmonth, Ch.M., F.R.C.S.Ed., to be one of the Honorary Surgeons to His Majesty in Scotland in the place of Sir John Marnoch, K.C.V.O., C.M., who has been appointed Extra Surgeon to His Majesty in Scotland.

In connexion with the opening of the new session in October next, the Faculty of Medicine, Birmingham University, has arranged to hold a series of post-graduate lectures at the General, Queen's, and Children's Hospitals for old students of the school on October 11th and 12th. There will also be an address by Sir Walter Langdon-Brown, on October 11th, in the Medical Theatre, Edmund Street, and the annual dinner will be held at the Grand Hotel at 8.15 the same evening. Further particulars may be had on application to the dean.