

so deficient and the general public so credulous as to measure a doctor's capability by these criteria? Surely the hypochondriac is in need of careful and sympathetic treatment, and even the malingerer requires not short shrift but a most careful investigation, first as to the accuracy of the opinion, and secondly of the economic factors leading to such conduct.

If this is to be the aggressive spirit animating the new health service let the profession and the general public take warning before it is too late.—I am, etc.,

Bournemouth.

E. D. GRANGER.

Obituary

ERNST FREUND, M.D.

Prof. Ernst Freund, born in Vienna in 1863, died in London on June 2, 1946. He studied medicine at the University of Vienna, was a brilliant student, and obtained his M.D. at the age of little over 22. In the mid-nineties of the last century he became director of the biochemical department of the "Rudolf-Spital," and remained in that position for almost forty years. When later he was made professor of pathological chemistry in the university, he worked in his old laboratory until he reached the retiring age. At that juncture, when Freund was in danger of being left without any opportunity to continue his work, Mr. F. F. A. Pearson put into being the "Pearson Cancer Research Foundation" to enable him to carry on his research. When Austria was overrun by the Nazis Mr. Pearson transferred the Foundation to London, where Freund worked to his last day.

The early years of Freund's career (writes F. S.) coincided with a glorious period of continental science. At that time Freund did some outstanding work on the problem of blood clotting. One of the results of his experiments was the use of sodium citrate as an anticoagulant. At a meeting of the "Gesellschaft der Aerzte" in Vienna he suggested the use of it for blood transfusion (1891). Freund's researches covered a wide field. His institute was a part of one of the best Viennese hospitals at its best time. At the beginning of this century he worked in close collaboration with men like Paltauf, Pick, Sternberg, Kraus, Bamberger, and Obermeyer. Many new methods of biochemical analysis were devised by Freund and his co-workers. Special care was given to urine analysis, and Freund was able to demonstrate the presence of enzymes or enzyme-like substances which were believed to be specific for various diseases. Another line of research for many years successfully pursued by Freund was concerned with the physiology and pathology of digestion. He tried not only to explore and to determine the products of digestion in normal and pathological conditions, but he also aimed at elucidating the mechanism of the absorption of these metabolites through the intestinal wall. These studies were followed by investigation on the mechanism of protein synthesis within the living body.

From his early days Freund devoted much zeal and time to the study of tuberculosis and published several papers dealing with biochemical aspects of this disease. Also rheumatism fell within the scope of his work. His main interest, however, was the problem of malignant growth. Freund came to conclusions which are well in keeping with the results Warburg obtained more than 40 years later. With his collaborator, G. Kaminer, he described the cytolytic reaction which he modified and revised in many respects in later years. The technique of this test was much too complicated to become a routine method. It is, however, fair to say that those few who have mastered the technique agreed that the results were better than those achieved with any other cancer reaction. Freund's belief in biochemical changes in cells as a predisposing factor of malignant growth led him to therapeutic assays. He tried to influence the pace of growth by dietetic means; long before the importance of *B. coli* for the vitamin contents of the body was known he stressed the importance of maintaining a normal bacterial flora in the gut. He also suggested several therapeutic methods aiming at the restoration of the normal intestinal flora.

More than 200 papers are the scientific inheritance that Freund has left to posterity. With an unquenchable spirit he devoted his life to science and to the fight against disease.

The death occurred at Bath on June 12 of Dr. HERBERT CASTLEMAN JEFFREYS, who had had a very varied career in many different parts of the globe. His father, Herbert Jeffreys, was one of the early settlers in Victoria; but H. C. Jeffreys, his only son, was actually born in 1874 near Taunton, though his father returned with him to Australia while he was a boy. He was educated at Sydney Grammar School, then at Melbourne

University, and then at New College, Oxford. After taking his arts degree with honours he studied medicine at St. George's Hospital in London, whence he qualified as M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. in 1898. After holding the usual resident appointments at his own hospital, he next served in the South African war as civil surgeon with a yeomanry field hospital unit. After that he entered the Colonial Medical Service and spent a few years in British Honduras. Returning to Australia, he found it uncongenial and rejoined the Colonial Service, this time in Nigeria, when he finally retired in 1925. He had taken the D.T.M. at Liverpool in 1906 and the D.P.H. at Cambridge in 1912. In Nigeria he was for a time inspector of a leper colony, and after his retirement he indulged freely in his hobby of foreign travel. A further African experience fell to his lot as medical officer to the Tanganyika Concessions Expedition to Angola, in Portuguese West Africa. An earnest, kindly, hardworking, and yet modest man, Jeffreys had many friends and few enemies. He was unmarried.

The death of Squadron-Leader ROBERT WILLIAM STANLEY MARSHALL has now been officially announced. The only son of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Marshall of 9, College Gardens, Belfast, he was born on July 12, 1916, and was educated at Methodist College and Queen's University, Belfast, graduating M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. with honours in June, 1940. He was then appointed house-surgeon and physician at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast, and joined the R.A.F.V.R. early in 1941. He married, in 1941, Hilary, elder daughter of Prof. and Mrs. P. T. Crymble. He served in Persia, Iraq, and India for three years before being appointed S.M.O. to No. 909 Wing, R.A.F., Burma, where he was killed on June 3, 1945, while on flying duties. J. B. Y. writes: His untimely death at the age of 28 removes from our midst one of the most promising of the younger members of the Belfast Medical School. To have known him as a boy at school, as a student at the University, as a houseman in the Royal Victoria Hospital, and in a more intimate sense in his own home, is to appreciate the grievous loss sustained by his family and many friends. Robert Marshall was characterized by his great natural charm and cheerfulness, by his thoughtfulness and loyalty. A cultured conversationalist with a broad outlook on life, his ready wit and love of humanity marked him as outstanding among his peers and was an indication of his maturer manhood. A brilliant scholar and undergraduate he gained many distinctions. He was a fine golfer and swimmer, a keen motorist and an ardent photographer. His work as a resident student and houseman in the wards of the hospital testified to his thoughtfulness and kindness to those in suffering and distress and to his knowledge of essentials and thoroughness in the practice of medicine.

Dr. GEORG KOSAK, who died at the early age of 38 on June 16 at his home in Winchmore Hill, London, was an M.D. of Munich and came over here as a refugee from Nazi oppression. After further studies he became L.R.C.P. & S.Ed. and L.R.F.P.S.Glas. A colleague writes: He soon took to the ways of life of this country which he grew to love very much, and when he eventually set up in practice he became a very successful doctor whose patients sought his professional and friendly advice alike. He was of a quiet and amiable disposition whose depth of feeling showed itself by some casual remark, and he had an unflinching sense of humour.

The following tribute to Mr. W. McADAM ECCLES comes from Mr. A. P. Bertwistle. A man's life is divided into three well-defined phases: The first, of education; the middle, of his life's work; and the third, of his retirement. This last only too often means lone rounds of golf, visits to deserted clubs, half-hearted efforts at gardening, etc., all leading to a premature decease. On the other hand it may mean a change in work; this was the case with Mr. Eccles. I first knew him at the end of the middle phase. One's first impression of him was of an aloof, picknickety man, but this rapidly disappeared as one discovered his kindness. He was religious and a teetotaler, neither of which was an asset in popularity among medical students. For his teetotalism he had excellent reasons; he took a keen interest in drink addicts. He was a past-master with trusses. He had sound business instincts—his opinion on a financial question was always of the greatest help. He was a perfect correspondent, prompt and to the point. When the last war broke out he threw himself whole-heartedly into A.R.P. first-aid work. Towards the end of his life he took up the question of medical films with a vigour rarely found in a man of his years. He originated a scheme for obtaining the best out of them. He produced a "short" showing how blitzed casualties were dealt with; when it was shown at the local cinema so realistic was it that 14 people fainted, and the sheepish looks on those who had succumbed, when they saw how it had been faked, was a study. As a diagnostician he had few equals; I, for one, will ever be grateful for his discovery of a dental focus of infection.