

to 1913 he served at the Royal Naval Hospital at Plymouth, where he began his work in radiology. During the first world war Connell served in H.M.S. *Prince of Wales* in the Channel and at the Dardanelles, and later with the Italian fleet. From 1917 to 1921 he was in charge of the department of radiology and electrotherapy at the Royal Naval Hospital, Haslar. In 1921 he was invalided out of the Royal Navy, with the rank of Surgeon Commander, and was appointed honorary radiologist to the Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle, a post he held until his retirement in 1946. He was also honorary radiologist to Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary and Workington Infirmary.

Such is a brief summary of the working life of Richard Connell, but of the man himself it is much more difficult to convey an adequate appreciation. "Dick," as he was known to his friends, was a man of complete integrity, combined with humility. He gave rather than received, praised rather than criticized. If he had nothing good to say of an individual he kept silent. As a native of Southern Ireland, he had a keen sense of humour and a sense of the ridiculous, which made him excellent company at all times. To these were added a ready wit, which was never used unkindly. He was an excellent doctor, proud of his profession, whose primary concern was the welfare of his patients, and as such he gave his whole-hearted attention. Nothing was too much trouble where they were concerned, and, at times, he worried unduly about them. He was constantly on the alert to learn and apply the latest diagnostic methods in radiology in the interests of his hospital and his patients. Though working single-handed, and living a long way from London, he was a regular attender at meetings of the B.I.R. and the R.S.M. for more than 30 years. He was a foundation member of the Radiologists' Visiting Club, whose meetings he seldom missed, and in 1939 he was elected a Fellow of the Faculty of Radiologists. He and his devoted wife were generous and frequent hosts to their many friends, and those who were privileged to be their guests at Scotby or Wetheral will treasure the memory of such occasions.

Connell was a man of deep religious convictions, which guided his life. He took a deep interest in his church, and served as churchwarden for 20 years. After his retirement from practice he became a lay reader, a further personal contribution to the church that he loved. During the long months of his final illness, with increasing bodily weakness, he faced the inevitable with calmness and courage, and even a sense of quiet expectancy.

In his family life he was supremely happy, and his wife was the ideal partner for him. He is survived by her and by two sons, Captain R. H. Connell, D.S.C., R.N., and Dr. M. C. Connell, and three daughters. To Mrs. Connell and the members of her family we offer our deep sympathy.—F. P. M.

T. McL. G. writes: The death of Dick Connell is a personal loss to each of his colleagues in Cumberland and the south-west of Scotland, but none can grudge him his rest after these last few months of increasing weakness of body. During them his mind and spirit seemed to become less and less hampered by the flesh, and to view it with a remarkable objectivity and detachment. He never once complained, and he retained his poetic Irishness and niceness of mind until a few hours before the end, or, as he staunchly believed, the beginning. He was full of enthusiasm and he inspired enthusiasm in others. He had an intellect above the average, he was a cultured man, he was a gracious host, he had a delicious sense of humour, but his most outstanding gifts were his compassion, his humility, and his humanity.

R. MARKHAM CARTER, C.B., F.R.C.S., D.T.M.

The obituary of Lieutenant-Colonel R. Markham Carter was published in the *Journal* of March 25, p. 908.

Major S. GORDON writes: I had the honour to serve under Colonel Markham Carter in the first world war and would like to add my tribute to his memory. Certainly he was

not the sort to gain favour with those at high administrative levels. As a C.O., however, he won the respect and affection of his subordinates. No one knew better how and when to trust those under him. If an honest decision had to be made you could rely on his support. In those days such characters were rare in the medical services. To risk one's career takes courage of a higher order than is usually forthcoming.

H. J. SHORVON, M.B., B.S., D.A., D.P.M.

The obituary of Dr. H. J. Shorvon was published in the *Journal* of May 27 (p. 1546).

Mrs. B. M. HART writes: As a former colleague of the late Dr. H. J. Shorvon, may I add my deep personal regret that his friendly, bustling figure will now be absent from all the hospitals he served so well? He commanded the highest respect and affection from both colleagues and patients. To me he always appeared a most human, sane, and wise psychiatrist—a combination not commonly found. Our most sincere sympathy is extended to his wife, who enabled him to devote all his time and energies to his patients, and to his three little sons.

Medical Notes in Parliament

BILLS IN DANGER OF EXTINCTION

[FROM OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT]

When the calendar opens at July the summer recess, marked at its beginning by the August bank holiday, is approaching rapidly, and everyone begins measuring according to his own interests the time available in the session in relation to what remains to be done. There is usually a tailpiece to the session, lasting a fortnight or so and occurring at the juncture of October and November. But it looks very much this year as though the tail is likely to be docked.

Road Traffic and Weights and Measures

Some of the Government's major Bills have a very low expectation of life, prominent among them the Road Traffic and the Weights and Measures. The House of Lords has done a lot of work on both of them—ask Lord TAYLOR about the clauses on the alcohol test for drivers, for example—but nobody will give any but the longest odds on their reaching the statute book. Both have made their first formal bows to the Commons (the Weights and Measures Bill as long ago as mid-February), and that is all that seems likely to happen. The Lords have protested strongly about the disappearance of the Road Traffic Bill, and the Commons have asked anxiously about its future; but, since its third reading in the Upper House deprived Mr. R. A. BUTLER of his defence that it was still there, he has fallen back on the terse "No statement to make."

Public Health and Suicide

Not all the prospects are as gloomy as that. Some Bills of less controversial content (and less compass) which were introduced in the Lords have suddenly appeared in the Commons time-table after a long spell in obscurity. The Public Health Bill, dormant since March 3, is scheduled for second reading in the Commons on June 30; and the Suicide Bill, which in its official description of "Suicide Bill (Lords)" has pointed many a party gibe, has also appeared in the business after an interval nearly as long.

Human Tissue and Affiliation Proceedings

There are some big gaps, too, in the record of business which began in the Commons. They have finished the Criminal Justice Bill and the Licensing Bill (this has still