

Obituary Notices

J. R. RICKETT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Dr. J. R. Rickett, for many years a general practitioner in the Portsmouth area, died suddenly on 15 November at the age of 63.

James Reginald Rickett was born at Ecton, Northamptonshire, on 20 August 1905, and received his medical education at Guy's Hospital, qualifying with the Conjoint diploma in 1927. After serving house appointments at Guy's Hospital he joined the partnership of Drs. Levick, Glanville, and Soames, and settled in Havant. The comprehensive general practice of those days satisfied his limitless energies and interests. Within a few years his personality and ability built up a reputation that extended far beyond the area of his practice, and led him to acquire a multitude of devoted patients and friends. His surgical technique and judgement were brilliant, and as the chief surgeon in Emsworth Cottage Hospital (for those were the days of the general-practitioner surgeon and obstetrician) he operated several times a week and achieved outstanding results. In the homes of the patients he dealt with the obstetric complications of the practice, and there was no problem, it seemed, in the human predicament that he was unable to tackle and solve.

At first, when the second world war came, he could not be spared. Restlessly and indefatigably he added defence commitments to his heavy work. At last, in 1942, he was able to join the R.A.M.C. as surgical specialist, and from the North African cam-

paign and Italy was posted to the Island of Vis, off the Dalmatian coast, in support of the commandos and the Yugoslav partisan army. In primitive conditions, in a make-shift hospital and with unusual patients and colleagues, he carried out administration and surgery so apparently improbable that his adventures became the subject of a book of reminiscences, *The Island of Terrible Friends*, by Bill Strutton, which is a fitting memorial of this period of his life. Sadly, his health never recovered. Soon after his demobilization and return to general practice in 1946 he developed tuberculosis, and although later he gallantly attempted to resume full work, an inexorable chain of clinical sequelae followed which reduced his physical powers and led to his final retirement in 1960. To the last his advice was sought and valued on matters of medical policy, although further active work was impossible; yet into his limited time he had crowded the effort and achievement of two normal lives. He was a member of the British Medical Association for many years, and chairman of the Portsmouth Division in 1958-9.

To his old friends his name brings memories of a brilliant all-round doctor, a fine shot, a companion who radiated vitality and wit, and a man of complete integrity. For his wife, Dorothy, and their three children, the elder son also a surgeon, he was the centre of a wonderful hospitable home. A light has gone out from the lives of many people.—E. B. McD.

B. A. PROTHEROE, LL.B., M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P.

Dr. B. A. Protheroe, a general practitioner at Briton Ferry, Glamorgan, died suddenly at the Cuddington Hospital, Epsom, on 22 November at the age of 52.

Benjamin Arthur Protheroe was born at Cardiff on 13 April 1916, and received his medical education at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, qualifying with the Conjoint diploma in 1940. After a short period as assistant in Kidsgrove, Staffordshire, he joined the R.A.M.C. during the second world war and saw service with the 14th Army in India, Burma, and Indo-China. He attained the rank of lieutenant-colonel, was officer commanding the 59th Indian Field Ambulance, and was mentioned in dispatches. After demobilization in 1946 he returned to his native Wales and settled in practice at Briton Ferry. Keenly interested in the law, he studied during his spare time as an external student of the University of London, and in 1962 graduated LL.B. In addition to his busy practice he was medical officer to the British Petroleum (Chemicals) Ltd. plant at Baglan, Port Talbot, and to Messrs. Ward's shipbuilding organization at Briton Ferry. He was divisional surgeon to the Briton Ferry St. John Ambulance Corps.

For many years he was secretary of Neath Medical Society, later becoming its chairman.

A member of the British Medical Association, he was chairman of the Mid-Glamorgan Division in 1966-7, and had at one time been its treasurer. He was a member of the Royal College of General Practitioners. "Bill" Protheroe will be remembered for his committee work, for, among others, he represented Neath on the Glamorgan Local Medical Committee, Glamorgan on the Welsh Association of Local Medical Committees, and since 1967 was the Welsh representative on the Medical Practices Committee. For many years he served on the Glamorgan Executive Council, and with his legal background was a valuable member of its services committee. He was the current chairman of the local obstetric committee, and was also a member of the trainers' committee.

He had the interests of general practice at heart, and practitioners from far and wide would consult him about the workings of the National Health Service and the ethics of the profession. A most agreeable man, he enjoyed an equable and an infectiously cheerful temperament, with a firm but gentle character. A lifelong member of the Glamorgan county cricket club, he kept detailed statistics of the achievements of its players purely as a hobby. He was a keen Rotarian and a faithful churchman, and was held in high regard

by his colleagues, patients, and the general public.

A staunch friend, he will be greatly missed by all, and to his wife, Stella, and their son, Nicholas, we extend our heartfelt sympathy.—T. J. A. P.

T. W. TURNER, M.R.C.S., M.R.C.P.

Dr. T. W. Turner, who was engaged in general practice in Godalming for 35 years, died on 11 November after a long illness. He was 75.

Terence Watson Turner was born on 19 June 1893, and received his medical education at Guy's Hospital, qualifying with the Conjoint diploma in 1921. He became house-physician and medical registrar at Guy's Hospital before being appointed physician in 1922 at the New Lodge Clinic at Windsor with the late Sir Arthur Hurst, a post he held until 1933. For the next ten years he was honorary consultant physician at the Royal Surrey County Hospital at Guildford. He then decided to go into general practice in Godalming, where he continued to work until his death. From 1937 to 1951 he was assistant medical officer at Charterhouse School.

He was a most courageous and honest man, triumphing over a painful childhood hip condition which would have daunted most men, but to him was simply a constant annoyance as it made it more difficult for him to get around to his patients. He was a thoroughly modern man, even to the very end. A keen enthusiast for a group practice centre in Godalming, he just lived long enough to see it completed and be able to work in it for a month before his final illness overtook him. His compassion and honesty and courage were bywords in Godalming, and he was held in high esteem by his many patients and friends.

He is survived by his wife and daughter, to whom we extend sympathy.—R. M. B.

H. B. writes: Terence Turner and I first met at the time of his appointment to the Royal Surrey County Hospital in 1933 when we were both applicants for the post of assistant physician. I was already working at the hospital as clinical assistant, and was naturally disappointed when the appointment was given to Terence. It is a measure of his honesty and generous nature that we could continue to work together in the hospital on the most friendly basis. At that time a physician on the staff of a provincial voluntary hospital was financially dependent on a successful general practice. The demands on time and energy required by this dual role were very great. Terence, who was handicapped physically by lameness, found the strain too great and in 1942 resigned his appointment from the hospital staff. As a result of this decision the hospital lost a skilled and understanding physician, but

general practice gained the undivided care of a man whose clinical acumen and wise advice were widely appreciated. Straightforward, sometimes to the point of brusqueness, his realistic, sometimes stringent, comments will be greatly missed by his professional colleagues. His kindness and compassion were always available for those who needed it.

G. T. STOCKINGS, M.B., B.S., D.P.M.

Dr. G. T. Stockings, a former deputy medical superintendent at Winson Green Hospital, Birmingham, and a medical practitioner in Saskatoon, Canada, died in Saskatoon on 2 May 1968 at the age of 56.

George Tayleur Stockings was born in London on 13 December 1911, and received his medical education at King's College Hospital, graduating M.B., B.S. in 1936 and taking the Conjoint diploma in the same year. After holding early resident appointments at St. John's Hospital, Lewisham, and St. Giles's Hospital, London, he undertook post-graduate study at Oakhurst Mental Hospital, and obtained the D.P.M. in 1939, later becoming assistant medical officer at Warlingham Park Hospital. During the second world war he joined the R.A.M.C. as a specialist in psychiatry. After demobilization with the rank of major he was appointed deputy medical superintendent at Winson Green Hospital, Birmingham, before emigrating to Australia, where he set up in private practice at Rockhampton, Queensland. In 1961 he went to Canada, where he was a general practitioner in Govan, Saskatchewan, until 1964, when he moved to Saskatoon, where he continued in general practice until his death.

He is survived by his wife, Enid, who has returned to England, and by their son, Adrian, who lives in Saskatoon.

E. H. WALKER, M.B., B.S.

Dr. E. H. Walker, a well-known general practitioner at Torrington, Devon, died on 17 November at the age of 78.

Ernest Haines Walker, the son of a doctor, was born in 1889, and was educated at Epsom College and St. Thomas's Hospital, graduating M.B., B.S. in 1914 and taking the Conjoint diploma in the same year. He immediately joined the staff of Hellingley Mental Hospital, and on the outbreak of the first world war he joined the R.A.M.C. He had a natural flair for surgery, which he was able to exercise to the full at various military hospitals to which he became attached. After demobilization with the rank of captain he was for a time in general practice in Kent, and surgeon at Sevenoaks Hospital, before going to Seaton in Devon. A few years later he moved and finally settled in Torrington, where he was medical officer of health to Torrington Rural District Council and honorary surgeon at Torrington Hospital. For some years he had a busy practice at Torrington, but retired in 1948.

In his younger days he was a first-class sportsman, playing cricket for school and hospital. He also played hockey for St. Thomas's Hospital. In Kent, he played for the Mote cricket club at Maidstone, and for

the Embryos, a touring team in Kent and Sussex. At Torrington he joined all the sporting activities, and was an enthusiastic follower of the local packs of otter hounds. He and his wife hunted with the Torrington Farmers' foxhounds until ill-health forced him to give up riding. However, this did not damp his ardour, and, driven by his devoted wife in his car, he was a keen follower up to his terminal illness. He will be much missed around Torrington, where he was so universally liked.

In 1917 he married Dorothy Hyde, of Tunbridge Wells, and they had three sons, two of whom were killed in the second world war. Our sympathy is extended to his wife and his son, Kenneth.—R.

W. ISBISTER, M.B., CH.B.

Dr. W. Isbister, a general practitioner in Old Trafford, Stretford, Manchester, until his retirement in 1963, died on 13 October at the age of 71.

William Isbister was born on 15 November 1896, and was educated at Kirkwall Grammar School and Edinburgh University, where he graduated M.B., Ch.B. in 1920. He held appointments in Doncaster and Edlington before he joined Dr. A. G. N. Weatherhead in Old Trafford. For many years he was medical officer for the Royal Deaf School and Henshaw's Blind School at Old Trafford. His other appointments included that of factory doctor for Stretford and local treasury medical officer. For ten years he was medical officer to Manchester United Football Club, a post he greatly enjoyed. He was a member of the Association of Factory Surgeons for 16 years. During the second world war he was in charge of No. 2 Centre of Stretford Casualty Service. An enthusiastic worker for St. John Ambulance Service for 30 years, he was made a Serving Brother of the Order in 1952. He was secretary of the Stretford Medical Society for many years, ending his service with this active society as president. Owing to ill-health he retired from general practice in 1963, but still continued some industrial appointments until his death.

"Bliss," as he was affectionately known by his colleagues, bore his illness with courage, and his bright cheery manner made him loved and respected by patients and colleagues alike.

Our sympathy is extended to his wife and to his son, who is a member of the medical profession.—D. F. S. F., J. W.

H. P. HANNIGAN, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O.

Dr. H. P. Hannigan, for many years a general practitioner on Tees-side, died on 22 November at the age of 82.

Harry Patrick Hannigan was born on 5 October 1886, and graduated M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. from the National University of Ireland, Dublin, in 1911. After holding early house appointments at the Coombe and Mater Misericordiae Hospitals in Dublin he worked for many years in the Argentine with charge of a company hospital, his time there being interrupted by service during the first world war with the R.A.M.C. in France and India.

In 1924 he started work in Stockton-on-Tees, where he spent the rest of his career until his retirement a few years ago. He was on the staff of the Stockton and Thornaby Hospital as honorary physician. He was in partnership with the late Dr. E. T. Willans, who was honorary surgeon to the Stockton and Thornaby Hospital. Between them they coped with all that was needed in the realms of surgery, obstetrics, and anaesthetics, and they ran a very well organized, successful, and entirely private practice, which is still in existence.

Harry Hannigan was a delightful man, and a sound, thorough, and conscientious doctor, one of that generation of doctors who served the community faithfully both in hospital and in general practice. He was a loyal colleague, and had a courteous and charming personality, and a wonderful sense of humour. With his death Tees-side has lost one of its best known and most respected practitioners.—B. W.

R. DUNLOP, M.B.E., M.B., B.CH., B.A.O.

Dr. R. Dunlop, a general practitioner at St. Columb, Cornwall, died suddenly on 9 November at the age of 56.

Robert Dunlop was born on 11 July 1912, and received his medical education at Queen's University, Belfast, graduating in 1942. He joined the medical branch of the Royal Air Force during the second world war, and was appointed M.B.E. for gallantry in rescue operations from a crashed aircraft. Years afterwards his bravery again asserted itself when he was recognized by the Queen for his courageous conduct in dealing with an armed mental patient who was menacing the police. Soon after demobilization with the rank of squadron leader he entered general practice in St. Columb, where he remained until his untimely death.

Robert was utterly selfless in his devotion to his patients, and without doubt his life was cut short by the physical and mental efforts he made on their behalf far beyond the bounds of duty. He is mourned by his many patients and friends, who were shocked and stunned by his sudden and unexpected death.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth, his daughter, Elizabeth, and his two sons, Robin and Michael.—R. G. M.

J. D. LEONARD, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Dr. J. D. Leonard, assistant principal medical officer, Glasgow Corporation health and welfare department, died suddenly at his home in Glasgow on 30 November at the age of 47.

John Dalton Leonard was born on 15 January 1921, and received his medical education at Glasgow University, graduating M.B., Ch.B. in 1951. He served in various hospitals and engaged in general practice for a short time before joining the Corporation in 1954 as a school medical officer. He took the D.P.H. in 1965, and the following year was promoted to assistant principal medical officer.

Dr. Leonard was well known in schools in the northern area of the city, and he special-

ized in the ascertainment and treatment of children with hearing defects and the mentally handicapped. He was one of two brothers, both members of the medical profession.

He is survived by his wife and five children, to whom we extend sympathy.—M. P. M.

G. RALSTON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Dr. G. Ralston, formerly a medical practitioner in Central London, died on 13 September in University College Hospital after a long illness. He was 72.

Gerald Ralston was born on 23 February 1896, and after service with the Royal Garrison Artillery during the first world war, he entered the London Hospital for his medical training and qualified with the Conjoint diploma in 1924. He held early appointments as resident casualty officer and house-physician at the National Temperance Hospital, and resident medical officer at Booth Hall Hospital for Children, Manchester, and later worked in general practice in the Manchester Square area of London for several years. He was a clinical assistant at the British Red Cross Clinic for Rheumatism. During the second world war he served in the R.A.M.C. After demobilization he conducted a very busy general practice in Shaftesbury Avenue, and was an appointed factory doctor.

Dr. Ralston was a quiet and reserved man who was devoted to and highly thought of by his patients. His practice was mainly around Drury Lane and Gower Street. The high population density of that area meant that many of his patients lived in flats, and much of his visiting was done on foot. A number of postgraduate students worked for him part-time and benefited a great deal from his long experience of general practice.

He had to retire from active work in 1962 on account of ill-health, but he retained a lively interest in medical topics, and wrote a provocative article in a medical newspaper in 1964 on "Cigarette Smoking and Cancer—Fact or Fiction?"—J. F. S.

O. RICHARDSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Dr. O. Richardson, who was in general practice at Bitterne Park, Southampton, for nearly 30 years, died suddenly on 3 November at the age of 75.

Oswald Richardson was born on 22 November 1892. During the first world war he served with the Church Army Ambulance and later with the R.A.M.C. in France, Palestine, and the Balkans. After demobilization he embarked on his medical training at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, qualifying with the Conjoint diploma in 1926. He was an assistant at Chandler's Ford, Hampshire, for three years, and then went into practice at Bitterne Park, Southampton.

"Ossie," as he was affectionately known, was a very active and popular figure among his colleagues. In his early days he played tennis; he was an accomplished pianist, a music lover, and always a strong supporter of the local church. He retired in 1958 to Milford-on-Sea, but his activities did not cease. He amassed a large circle of new

friends, and his activities there included gardening and organ-playing at the parish church. He was also treasurer of the British Leprosy Association. Until a few days before his death he was doing locum work. All of us who knew him well regret the passing of a good Christian whose service will be remembered.

He is survived by his wife and two married daughters, who have our deepest sympathy.—F. C. W. R. and P. G. T.

W. G. EDWARDS, M.C., M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P.

Dr. W. G. Edwards, a general practitioner at Cwmavon, Port Talbot, died suddenly on 20 September at the age of 52.

William Gerald Edwards was born at Capel Hendre, Carmarthenshire, on 11 November 1915, and was educated at the Amman Valley country school and the Welsh National School of Medicine, qualifying with the Conjoint diploma in 1940. After a house appointment he joined the R.A.M.C. and was stationed first in the Dover area and later with the 8th Army in North Africa and Italy as regimental medical officer to the 1/7 Queen's Regiment. He was awarded the Military Cross for retrieving wounded while under heavy enemy shell fire at Mersah Matruh. After demobilization he entered general practice.

Gerry suffered greatly from ill-health throughout his adult life, but he never permitted this affliction to affect his work, nor did he allow his pain and discomfort to reduce his sympathy and consideration for his patients. It was this faculty and his quiet humility that endeared him to everyone. His sudden death was a great shock to the town, and his patients mourn the loss of a conscientious and understanding friend. He was fortunate during his long illness in having the help and assistance of his wife, without which he could not have continued in practice during the last few years.

He is survived by his wife, son, and daughter, and to them will go the deepest sympathy of patients and friends.—J. W. M.

Lieutenant-Colonel J. CUNNINGHAM C.I.E., M.D., F.R.S.ED., I.M.S.(RET.)

T. N. S. R. writes from Madras: As an Indian colleague of the late Lieutenant-Colonel John Cunningham (obituary, 24 August, p. 503) I would like to add my loyal and affectionate tribute to his memory. I served with him at the King Institute of Preventive Medicine in Madras and it was considerably expanded during his tenure as director, becoming a place of importance within the field of bacteriological and public health research. The mass production of prophylactic vaccines against influenza, cholera, and typhoid, and of glycerinated vaccine lymph for smallpox, was started by him. His great interest lay in public health problems, particularly in water and sewage purification, which took practical shape in the construction of experimental filter stations, the first of their kind in India. His research into bacillary dysentery while he was

director of the Pasteur Institute at Kasauli was also of a pioneering nature. He was a great disciplinarian, and we, his colleagues, used to interpret his M.D. to mean "master of details." Of a shy and retiring disposition, he was a man of few words, yet he was quick to appreciate the co-operation of those who worked with him. I had the great privilege of working with him, and of learning a considerable amount of valuable technical detail of bacteriological and public health research. He kept up correspondence with me until as recently as three months before his death, and maintained an interest in social and economic progress and research in India.

Sir FRANCIS SHIPWAY, K.C.V.O. M.A., M.D., F.F.A. R.C.S.

F. M. writes: I was one of Sir Francis Shipway's students at Guy's (obituary, 7 December, p. 649). He was a splendid anaesthetist and a magnificent teacher, and was universally popular. The relations between surgeons and himself were very good. I remember one surgeon saying, at the close of an operation, "If the anaesthetic had not been perfect this operation would have been impossible." On another occasion I was helping a consultant anaesthetist with a case where an intratracheal catheter had to be passed; the consultant could not get it to go in. Sir Francis Shipway was passing at that moment, and I was asked to get him to come in and help. The trouble was that the stilette was too short, as Sir Francis saw at once; a longer stilette was obtained and the catheter went in easily. This was a lesson I have never forgotten. He was a great character, and many persons, patients and operators, have reason to be very grateful to him.

I. S. LORANT, M.D.

R. W. A. writes: Dr. Stephan Lorant (obituary, 23 November, p. 522) became known to us in Blackburn through his work in Calderstones Hospital, then still part of the Emergency Medical Service. When the E.M.S. came to an end and the National Health Service was inaugurated, Dr. Lorant worked for a short period in the Rochdale Hospitals and then joined Dr. M. S. Spink as consultant pathologist in the Blackburn and district group of hospitals. Here his expert knowledge and great experience, especially in biochemistry and its clinical applications, were greatly appreciated. His conversation was always interesting and often humorous, but not all appreciated this because his English was inclined to be complicated. During this time Dr. Lorant published articles on blood sugar estimation and megaloblastic anaemia in British and American journals. Shortly before he retired in 1956 he was invited to lecture at Los Angeles and several other American medical centres, where his scientific achievements had been followed since his time as a Rockefeller scholar at Collip's laboratory. We extend our sympathy to his wife, Margaret, and his son, Steve.