Consultants and Specialists Committee. All these duties he accepted and carried out with great competence and thoroughness and in a manner that has placed the B.M.A. deeply in his debt.

His life with his charming wife was particularly happy and it was always a pleasure to accept the hospitality which they so readily to extend. The deep sympathy of a wide circle of friends goes out to his widow and family. His practice will be carried on by his two sons, while his daughter is the wife of Dr. Kenneth Allanby, a consultant physician in Peterborough.—G.I.S.


Dr. R. J. Hamer Hodges, consultant anaesthetist to the Portsmouth group of hospitals, died suddenly on November 10. He was 42.

Robert James Hamer Hodges was the son of a general practitioner in Portsmouth. He studied medicine at St. Mary's Hospital, qualifying in L.M.S.S.A. in 1944. Thereafter he gained wide experience in hospital posts, being resident medical officer at St. Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth, the Miller General Hospital, Greenwich, and the Royal Cancer Hospital, London. Later he was senior surgical registrar at the Miller General Hospital. Having decided to make anaesthetics his career, he took the D.A. in 1952, was elected F.F.A. R.C.S. two years later. He was appointed consultant anaesthetist to the Portsmouth group of hospitals in 1954. He soon made his mark as one of the leading younger men in his specialty, contributing original papers of high quality to this and other journals and being called upon to address conferences both at home and abroad. A few years ago he held the temporary post of associate professor of anaesthesia at Western Reserve University, Cleveland.

D.E.A. writes: The sudden death of Jim Hodges has left a gap in the ranks of anaesthesia which will be hard to fill. Despite poor health for some years he did not spare himself, and there are many of his friends who consider that this played a major part in his early death. His great love was his work, especially in the field of obstetric anaesthesia and the resuscitation of the newborn, while his research into neuromuscular transmission and the action of relaxant drugs was a major contribution in this complex field.

His writing was prolific and interspersed with a wealth of detail and reference, while his clarity of exposition was second to none. Only three days before his death his work culminated in a paper read before the South-Western Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Portsmouth which was hailed by many as the acme of the conference. He reviewed the work of four years, demonstrating conclusively how much his approach to the problem of obstetric anaesthesia had reduced maternal and neonatal mortality.

An enthusiastic teacher, he imbued in all a sense of purpose which reflected his own single-mindedness: the patients came first, last, and always. His friends and colleagues, not only in this country but all over the world, have suffered a great personal loss but will nevertheless treasure the memory of a great man.

J. R. B. writes: The premature death of Dr. J. Hamer Hodges is a great loss to all of us who had the good fortune to know him professionally and personally. He was a man devoted to his specialty and who worked unceasingly for its greater knowledge. In spite of ill-health for some years past he drove himself unselfishly for the benefit of his patients. Living on borrowed time, only three days before he died he delivered an address at Portsmouth which was a great triumph and will long be remembered by all who were present. We, his colleagues, deeply mourn his passing, for he was indeed a great man and an example to us all. Our deep sympathy goes out to his wife and four children.

L. R. W. PRICE, M.D.

Dr. L. R. W. Price, director of pathology at Queen Mary's Hospital for the East End and pathologist to the West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases, died at his home in Roehampton on November 14. He was 64 years of age.

Leslie Roopie Woodhouse Price was born at Walton-on-Thames on July 31, 1897. His father, Dr. A. E. Price, was a physician in London, and his mother's family was well known in the legal world. Educated at Harrow School, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, and St. Bartholomew's Hospital, he qualified in 1923, graduated M.B., B.Chir. ten years later, and proceeded M.D. in 1936. After completing his house appointments he became interested in pathology and was fortunate enough to be trained by Sir Bernard Spilsbury, under whom he worked until 1929, when he was appointed director of pathology at the Glasgow Royal Cancer Hospital. In 1942 he returned to London as director of pathology at the Royal Cancer Hospital (now the Royal Marsden Hospital), and six years later he became director of pathology at Queen Mary's Hospital and Plaistow Hospital, Stratford.

Dr. Price's diagnostic skill with the microscope was outstanding, and his knowledge and experience will be missed by a large number of his colleagues. His advice and company were much in demand. He wrote numerous papers, two of the more recent being entitled "Pathology of Lymph Node Enlargement" and "Necrotic Nodules in Rheumatoid Arthritis." He was able to find time to become an expert photographer and was an adept in making coloured slides: his lantern demonstrations gave much pleasure and instruction to his friends and acquaintances. He also became interested in painting, and some of his pictures were hung at the Medical Art Society's exhibitions and at the Royal Institute of Oil Painters. Among his other interests were Masonry and fishing.

In May this year he underwent a major operation, which he faced with great fortitude. His wife Marguerite (Rita) helped him during his life and was a tower of strength in his last illness. He also leaves a son and a daughter.—R.J.

Medico-Legal

HOME-GROWN INDIAN HEMP

[FROM OUR LEGAL CORRESPONDENT]

In 1959 we reported three convictions arising out of the growing of hemp from budgerigar seed in Cardiff. On October 30 a young man was convicted as a result of growing a large quantity of hemp in Bushey Park (The Times, October 31).

Jonathan Gabriel Phillips, aged 18, of "Will o' the Wisp," Summer Road, East Molesey, Surrey, pleaded guilty at Kingston-on-Thames Magistrates Court to being in unlawful possession of a quantity of Indian hemp. He was remanded in custody for reports on his suitability for Borstal training.

When accused by the police in Kingston market place, Phillips had on his person 50 cigarettes made from Indian hemp in ordinary cigarette packets. At the Will o' the Wisp, a tumbledown chalet by the river Mole, where Phillips was living, the police found 55 hemp cigarettes, a cigarette-making machine, and hemp and hemp seed sufficient to make another 500 cigarettes. A detective told the court that he had been informed that hemp cigarettes had been taken to teenage parties and sold at 6s. each. Phillips denied that he had sold any: he said that he had only grown the hemp for himself.

REFERENCE