

ing specially attractive equipment, quarters, and facilities—a procedure which would have the advantage of enticing the better doctor into the area. A combination of these two measures would probably be more effective than either alone.—I am, etc.,

B.A.O.R.

R. W. CROCKET,  
Squad. Ldr.

### Questionnaires, Past and Future

SIR,—Dr. Robert Ritchie makes a very timely suggestion that an up-to-date questionnaire should be drawn up forthwith and sponsored by the B.M.A. The seven questions he offers for consideration are straightforward and unequivocal. If the B.M.A. really claims to reflect the recent views of its members can it offer any cogent reason why this questionnaire should not immediately be issued, or can it suggest how better such recent views could be ascertained?

There is little doubt about the meaning of the apparently generous offer of the State to buy up practices; it is nothing other than a political manoeuvre to gain control of medical men who hitherto have been a little difficult to regiment, but who, with their livelihoods at stake, may the more readily be persuaded to "eat from the hand" if they be but fools enough to accept at its face value this transparent act of generosity and sell their souls for a "mess of pottage." Who is Mr. Aneurin Bevan that he should decree that "it is highly improbable that I will permit the sale and purchase of practices"? Hitler issued just such edicts. We do not look with equanimity on similar pronouncements in this country. Are we freemen or bondsmen and are we to sit idly by while, by the stroke of a pen or the issuing of a regulation, our liberty and freedom of livelihood are filched from us?

Cannot our Association be strong enough to give us a lead when leadership is obviously needed? Armed with the mandate from a fresh questionnaire our negotiators would then be in touch with "up-to-the-minute" professional feeling. Until housing, feeding, clothing, and education are adequate State medicine at this juncture can be but a parrot cry to trap the unwary in so far as it offers improved health to the community; but State control of the doctor is a powerful political weapon for controlling all units of the population through a medical civil service owing allegiance only to a soulless State, from whom alone then would come its daily bread.—I am, etc.,

St. Annes, Lancs.

G. H. URQUHART.

## Obituary

J. FALCONER HALL, C.M.G., M.B., C.M.  
Surg. Rear-Admiral, R.N. (ret.)

We regret to announce the death of Surg. Rear-Admiral J. Falconer Hall at Chudleigh, Devon, on Jan. 15. After his retirement from the Navy, at the end of a distinguished career afloat and ashore, he was appointed in 1931 a Commissioner of the Board of Control for England and Wales, and held that post until 1938.

John Falconer Hall, son of William Hall, was born on Feb. 23, 1872, and studied medicine at the University of Aberdeen, graduating M.B., C.M. in 1893 and entering the R.N. Medical Service in 1895. After active service on the China Station, for which he was mentioned in dispatches, specially promoted to staff surgeon, and awarded a medal, he won the Gilbert Blane gold medal in 1902 under a deed of trust held by the Royal College of Surgeons of England from Sir Gilbert Blane, F.R.S., the Naval sanitary reformer. In the war of 1914-18 he served in the battleship *Hannibal* at Scapa, in the battle-cruiser *Australia* with the Grand Fleet, and as senior medical officer of the hospital ship *Soudan*. For these services he was again mentioned in dispatches and created C.M.G. In 1919-20 he was Deputy Director of the Medical Department of the Admiralty, and in 1920-3 second in charge at Haslar Hospital at Malta. He held the appointment of Honorary Surgeon to the King from January, 1925, until September, 1938.

Admiral Falconer Hall had joined the B.M.A. in 1899 and sat on the Council as representative of the R.N. Medical Ser-

vice from 1928 to 1932; he was also a member of the Naval and Military Committee and the R.N. Subcommittee and of the Committee on Medical Branches of the Fighting Services which reported fifteen years ago. In 1942-3 he held office as president of the United Services Section of the Royal Society of Medicine.

H. A. B. WHITELOCKE, T.D., M.Ch., F.R.C.S.

Hugh Whitelocke, who died in the Acland Home on Jan. 8, will be sincerely mourned by a host of friends in Oxford and elsewhere.

He was born in Oxford in 1891, the eldest son of Mr. H. R. A. Whitelocke, himself a well-known surgeon and a member of the honorary staff of the Radcliffe Infirmary. He was educated at Summerfields, Rugby School, and Christ Church, and completed his medical training at King's College Hospital in 1915. After qualification he saw service in the Sudan and elsewhere during the 1914-18 war, after which he returned to Oxford and specialized in surgery. He became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 1924 and of England in 1925, and in 1926 he became a Master of Surgery of Oxford University, one of the highest surgical qualifications. He was a Fellow of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland, ex-president of the Oxford Medical Society, and the author of numerous articles on surgery. He was elected an honorary assistant surgeon to the Radcliffe Infirmary in 1919, and became a full honorary surgeon in 1926. Thenceforward, until the second world war broke out, he practised as a consulting surgeon in Oxford, and in course of time became the senior surgeon at the Radcliffe Infirmary as his father had done. In 1939 he was appointed to command a Territorial General Hospital (the 16th British General Hospital) with the rank of colonel. He mobilized this unit, which consisted largely of local men, at the Examination Schools and took it to France in January, 1940. When France was invaded the hospital was evacuated from Boulogne just in time to avoid capture. Soon afterwards Whitelocke was invalided out of the Army and resumed his work at the Radcliffe Infirmary, and in the neighbourhood of Oxford at a time when an acute shortage of surgeons placed a great strain upon him and his colleagues. Although his health was not good, he continued to play an active part in the surgical work of the Infirmary, which had become a medical school in 1939. In addition to his appointment in the Radcliffe Infirmary he was the honorary consulting surgeon to the Moreton-in-the-Marsh, Buckingham, Shipston-on-Stour, and Thame Cottage Hospitals, and to the National Hospital for Diseases of the Heart at Maids Morton. He also held the posts of Litchfield Lecturer in Surgery and clinical examiner in surgery in the University of Oxford. He had been honorary secretary of the Oxford Division of the B.M.A. and vice-president of the Section of Surgery at the 1936 Annual Meeting.

Hugh Whitelocke was one of the most sociable and hospitable of men, and never allowed his exacting professional work to cut him off from social intercourse with his large circle of friends. He was a very effective, if somewhat unorthodox, golfer, and was a regular player at Frilford, of which club he was captain in 1936. He was a member and Past Master of the Churchill Lodge of Freemasons and a member of the Apollo Lodge. He was also a keen bridge player and a good shot. While an undergraduate he was a member of the Christ Church Rugby XV, and subsequently became surgeon to the University team.

The qualities which those who knew him will remember most were his invariable courtesy, good temper, and geniality, and the fact that he rarely, if ever, said or did an ill-natured thing. His wide professional practice, his good manners, and his friendly disposition made him one of the most popular and best-known men in the neighbourhood of Oxford, and he will be greatly missed by a quite exceptionally large number of patients and personal friends. In 1934 he married Miss Madeleine Shankland, who joined with him in all his social activities and shared his popularity.

E. C. B.

Mr. HERBERT JAMES MARRIAGE, consulting aural surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital, died at the age of 73 at Woldingham, Surrey, on Jan. 12. He had been secretary of the Section of Otolaryngology at the Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association.

tion in London in 1910 and president of the Otological Section of the Royal Society of Medicine in 1915. Educated at the City of London School and St. Thomas's Hospital, he took the Conjoint diplomas in 1897, the M.B.Lond. in 1899, and the B.S. two years later, and was admitted F.R.C.S. in 1902. His early posts at St. Thomas's were those of house-surgeon, house-physician, surgical registrar, and surgical tutor. After studying otology and rhinology at clinics in Germany he was elected aural surgeon to St. Thomas's in 1904, and held that post until his retirement in 1932. He was also aural surgeon to the London Fever Hospital for three years, and clinical teacher in otology and rhinology at the Royal Army Medical College. Marriage published a number of papers on his specialty in the *Lancet*, the *Transactions of the Otological Society*, and the *Journal of Laryngology, Rhinology and Otology*.

Mr. JOHN WILLIAM HECKES, M.B., B.S.Lond., who died at his home in Barnes in November last, will leave a position very difficult to fill by any one person, for he persistently did the work of two, especially at Richmond Royal Hospital, where he had been honorary surgeon for 25 years. His consuming passion and major hobby was surgery, and for this work his energy was apparently unlimited, and still undimmed after long nights of operating on war casualties in the dark days. Besides being a general surgeon he was also the gynaecologist at Richmond and lecturer to and examiner of nurses, and in addition had a large private practice, in later years almost entirely surgical. His wide taste and practice in surgery was foreshadowed early in his training, for, besides being house-surgeon after qualifying in 1906, he was later resident obstetric officer and clinical assistant to the throat and ear department at Charing Cross Hospital, keeping in touch with hospital teaching long after starting to practise. He became captain, R.A.M.C., in the 1914-18 war and was attached to 46 C.C.S., later becoming surgeon to St. Andrew's Hospital at Malta and to Queen Alexandra's Hospital at Millbank. After the war he was surgeon specialist to Belmont Hospital, where up to 1,400 German prisoners passed through his hands, and this unusual and concentrated surgical experience decided him to forsake general for surgical practice. In 1920 he was elected honorary surgeon and later gynaecologist to Richmond Royal Hospital—positions which he filled admirably and energetically. During this last war he was surgeon specialist, E.M.S., at Richmond and was later in charge of the fracture clinic. In 1929 he was appointed lecturer and examiner in surgery and gynaecology by the General Nursing Council—a position which he enjoyed and in which he was deservedly popular. He was direct in manner, very outspoken when necessary, but a most amiable colleague to work with, and possessed of a smile of real charm most reassuring to patients. As a surgeon he was courageous and bold to a startling degree once he had decided on the correct course of action; he was rapid and untiring and had that sound sense of judgment that only comes from long experience and intelligent consideration of his subject. As he worked, so he relaxed—energetically. He was a good horseman and used to ride regularly; he took long holidays abroad whenever possible, and had been to and appreciated most of the European countries. A few years ago he bought a farm, and with his accustomed energy threw himself into the problems confronting smallholders, but the outbreak of war largely hindered his activities in this direction. His last illness, which was a protracted one of over a year, he bore with unusual fortitude and cheerfulness maintained up to the end.—C. H. C.

We regret to announce that Dr. HAROLD JOHN VAN PRAAGH, of Hampstead, died on Jan. 15 after a long illness. He was born in London in 1877 son of William Van Praagh and studied medicine at St. Mary's Hospital, where he won a natural science scholarship and the Meadows scholarship in midwifery and gynaecology. Having graduated M.B.Lond. with honours in medicine in 1899, he held a series of house appointments at St. Mary's, and was for a time casualty physician. He took his M.D. degree in 1901. During part of the last war he served at the Cambridge Hospital, Aldershot, with the temporary rank of captain, R.A.M.C. Dr. Van Praagh, after settling in practice in Llangland Gardens, N.W., became honorary anaesthetist to the Hampstead General Hospital and to the Hospital of St. John and St. Elizabeth. He was a member of the Council of the Hampstead Medical Society, and chairman of the Hampstead Division of the B.M.A. in 1925-6.

Dr. JAMES KENNETH WATSON died on Dec. 9, 1945, from injuries received when he was knocked down by a motor-car in Bournemouth. Dr. Watson was born in 1870 and received his medical education at the University of Edinburgh, where he graduated M.B., C.M. in 1892, proceeding M.D. four years

later. After qualifying he held successively house posts at Morpeth Dispensary, Sheffield Royal Hospital, Sheffield General Infirmary, and Essex and Colchester Hospital. In 1896 he settled in practice at Byfleet, Surrey, where he became medical officer and public vaccinator to the Chertsey Union, and medical officer to the Post Office. He moved to Sydenham in 1910, and in 1914 became M.O.H. for Stevenage and assistant medical inspector of schools for Hertfordshire. He served as a captain in the R.A.M.C. in the war of 1914-18. He was for a time a member of the Lord Chancellor's Pension Appeal Board. Dr. Watson was the author of *Handbook for Nurses*, which passed through eleven editions, *Handbook for Senior Nurses and Midwives*, and *Anaesthesia and Analgesia for Nurses and Midwives*. He had been a member of the B.M.A. for many years.

Dr. DONALD GEORGE SUTHERLAND, who died at Ealing on Jan. 10 in his 83rd year, had been chief bacteriologist to the Metropolitan Water Board laboratories and was well known as an authority on water analysis. He was educated at Watson's College and the University of Edinburgh, graduating M.B., C.M. in 1886 with the University medal in medical jurisprudence and public health, and taking the B.Sc. in Public Health three years later. In 1890 Dr. Sutherland became M.O.H. for the County of Sutherland and Burgh of Dornoch; some years later he was called to the Bar by the Middle Temple, and in 1900 entered as an advanced research student at St. John's College, Cambridge, receiving the M.A. degree of that university. After a period as assistant bacteriologist in the Local Government Board laboratories he was appointed bacteriologist to the M.W.B. in 1905. He wrote a succession of nine sanitary reports on the County of Sutherland and a dissertation on certain spore-bearing anaerobic organisms considered as criteria in the bacteriological examination of water supplies. He had been a member of the B.M.A. for 58 years.

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## The Services

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Major-Gen. Osburne Ievers, C.B., D.S.O., M.B., late R.A.M.C., has been appointed Colonel Commandant of the R.A.M.C., and Major-Gen. John Percival Helliwell, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.D.S., Colonel Commandant of the Army Dental Corps, for 1946.

The following have been mentioned in dispatches in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in Italy: Col. (Temp.) W. A. D. Drummond, O.B.E., R.A.M.C. Col. G. R. Forbes, E.D.; Lieut.-Cols. W. K. Bice, L. E. R. Luckey, and H. S. Mitchell; Majors D. K. Grant, and I. S. Maclean; Capts. W. M. Byers and J. G. W. Swanson, R.C.A.M.C.

The following appointments and awards have been announced in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in Burma:

*C.B.E. (Military Division).*—Brig. (Temp.) H. G. Winter, M.C., V.H.S., late R.A.M.C. Brig. (Acting) G. B. Jackson, I.M.S.

*O.B.E. (Military Division).*—Lieut.-Col. (Acting) K. J. Dunlop; Lieut.-Cols. (Temp.) H. V. Ingram, R. T. Johnson, D. M. Baker, A. Burns, M.C., J. McI. D. McIntosh, and W. H. Wolstenholme, M.B.E., R.A.M.C. Lieut.-Col. (Temp.) A. E. Kingston, I.M.S.

*M.B.E. (Military Division).*—Lieut.-Col. (Temp.) J. F. Heslop; Majors (Temp.) J. V. Crawford, W. Drummond, F. Evans, M.C., H. G. Page, and J. P. Scrivener; Capts. G. A. Craig, C. M. MacGeoch, A. McDiarmid, E. Rentoul, and C. E. S. Myers, R.A.M.C. Lieut.-Col. (Temp.) G. V. Chaphekar, Major (Temp.) M. P. Ali, and Capts. A. D. A. Maconochie and J. L. G. Pinto, I.M.S. Lieuts. C. R. Narayan and H. Ali, I.A.M.C.

*D.S.O.*—Lieut.-Col. (Temp.) J. R. Kerr, I.M.S.  
*M.C.*—Major (Temp.) W. J. Ramsay, and Capts. E. G. W. Clarke and L. Willson, R.A.M.C. Capts. T. L. W. McCullagh and V. Chittor, I.M.S. Capt. (Temp.) D. Ramanath, and Lieut. Gangaprasad, I.A.M.C.

### CASUALTIES IN THE MEDICAL SERVICES

*Killed in air crash on way home from India.*—Capt. Paul Verrier Isaac, R.A.M.C.

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The estimated expenditure of the Bradford and County Joint Cancer Committee for 1946-7 in respect of the Radium Institute is £21,305, including £12,445 for salaries. The end of the war has enabled the Committee to secure a more normal staff, especially on the technical side, and to increase its estimate of costs. The chief contributors are the Bradford Corporation, £7,180; Royal Infirmary, £5,340; and the West Riding County Council, £7,375.