

her humour and the accompanying twinkle in her eye are well seen. As dean she steered the Medical School through the stormy seas of the war. Preclinical students moved to Aberdeen and St. Andrews, back to London and on to Exeter, and back again to London; clinical students were scattered between London, Arlesey, and St. Albans. Miss Bolton travelled widely, at times in the utmost discomfort, to keep in touch with her staff and students. She managed to save much of the tradition and cohesion which many feared would be shipwrecked beyond reclaim. In her view it was necessary "to get on with things," and she set the example and managed to find it all "interesting." She was one of the casualties when the Medical School was hit by a V2 bomb in 1945. Characteristically she refused to go off duty until all the students were at work again some few days later in two of the other London schools whose ready response to our need was never forgotten.

A generous-minded woman who had an understanding appreciation of the rights of each individual could not fail to have friends, and these Miss Bolton found in every age group. She delighted in the company of children, whom she regarded as "sensible people"; their candour and lack of false respect of persons were prized. These endearing qualities were hers too, and her many friends will miss her warmth and kindness and absolute integrity.

H. L. ATTWATER, M.Ch., F.R.C.S.

Mr. H. L. Attwater, formerly senior surgeon at All Saints' Hospital—later All Saints' Urological Centre (Westminster Hospital)—died in London on May 22. He was 75 years of age.

Harry Lawrence Attwater was born on June 1, 1885, the son of a barrister. He won a scholarship to Merchant Taylors' School and an exhibition to Pembroke College, Cambridge. Going on to Guy's Hospital for his clinical training, he qualified in 1909, graduated M.B., B.Chir. in 1911, and proceeded M.Ch. in 1913, having been elected F.R.C.S. in the preceding year. After resident appointments at Guy's and the Westminster Hospital, he served in the R.A.M.C. throughout the first world war. On his return to civilian life he was appointed surgical registrar at All Saints' Hospital and then joined the late Mr. Edward Canny Ryall as his personal assistant. Appointed to the honorary staff of All Saints' Hospital 30 years or so ago he retired as senior surgeon in 1950 and became honorary consulting surgeon to the Westminster Hospital.

Over the years he became well known in Britain as a urological surgeon and was president of the Section of Urology of the Royal Society of Medicine in 1942. He was one of the original members of the committee which started the *British Journal of Urology* in 1929, and subsequently became its treasurer, an office he held until 1960. A Founder Member of the British Association of Urological Surgeons, he was also a member of the International Society of Urology. He served as president of the Hunterian Society in 1936-7.

Mr. Attwater was a reserved and scholarly man. He published a number of papers on his specialty in this and other journals and was the author of several chapters in Winsbury-White's *Textbook of Genito-urinary Surgery*. As a young man he was a mathematical scholar of some distinction, and he retained all his life his interest in numbers: the Pyramids of Egypt were always one of his absorbing interests.

Mr. Attwater was twice married. His first wife died in 1929, and in 1933 he married Doris Emily Winter, daughter of the late George Callaway, and she survives him.

R. G. ABERCROMBIE, M.D., D.T.M.

The death on May 14 of Dr. R. G. Abercrombie at the advanced age of 88 removed one who was for many years a familiar figure in many circles in Sheffield and closed a long and distinguished chapter of work in the teaching hospitals in the city.

Rodolph George Abercrombie, who was the brother of Sir Patrick Abercrombie, the famous architect, and Lascelles Abercrombie, the poet, was born on August 21, 1872. He studied medicine at Cambridge and at St. George's Hospital, qualifying in 1900, graduating M.B. in 1902, and proceeding M.D. in 1910. He worked first in Sheffield at one of the voluntary hospitals—the Royal Hospital—and from there he was appointed to a new venture in treatment when the Edgar Allen Institute for Medico-Physical Treatment was established in the summer of 1911. Mr. Edgar Allen, a Sheffield industrialist, started the project, having visited and become interested in the work of various centres in Europe and having explored the matter with the officers of the Sheffield Division of the British Medical Association, who also approved of the venture. Indeed, the then honorary secretary of the Division served for many years afterwards on the management committee of the Edgar Allen Institute. The methods used included not only massage, exercises, and heat treatment but also the extensive use of many and varied types of mechanical apparatus. Much of this treatment was at that time new in this country, and Abercrombie, having been appointed medical director of the Institute, spent some time abroad studying and learning the then most up-to-date methods in use.

On the outbreak of war in 1914 Abercrombie volunteered for service in the R.A.M.C. and served throughout the war, being over four years in France and Belgium—mostly with base hospitals, except for a short period with a field ambulance in 1918.

D. C. B. writes: I first met Abercrombie in 1917 when he was serving with No. 4 General Hospital on the coast in North France, and worked together with him for many months in a unit devoted to the care of cases of penetrating wounds of the chest. In the officers' mess, "R. G. A." was a popular member. His high intelligence and keen wit made him impetuous at times in thought and speech, so that some utterances led to regrets afterwards, but he was always a lively and co-operative member. Indeed, one can recall occasions when he was pressed into service in football and hockey teams for matches between the officers and hospital staff. After his war service he returned to Sheffield, and, besides continuing his work as medical director of the Physical Treatment Institute, was appointed assistant honorary physician to the Royal Hospital and for a short time was in private practice as a physician. Later he confined himself to the expanding work of the Edgar Allen Institute until retiring in 1949.

He remained a bachelor. Apart from his medical work, Abercrombie was always interested in the "out of doors" and in natural history. For some time he was chairman of the Sheffield and Peak District Branch of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England, and, for five years, also chairman of the Longshaw Management Committee of the National Trust, while his talks to the Sorby Natural History Society's members were always highly appreciated.

F. E. CHESTER-WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. F.F.R.

Dr. F. E. Chester-Williams, medical director of the Bradford Regional Radium Institute, died suddenly at his home on May 12. He was 60 years of age.

Frank Edward Chester-Williams qualified M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. from St. Bartholomew's Hospital in 1924. After holding various junior hospital appointments he was attracted to the radium treatment of disease, then in its infancy, and obtained the post of house-surgeon at the Radium Institute, where he remained for three years. In 1928 he was appointed physician in charge of the radium therapy department in Bradford Royal Infirmary, a department set up by the very progressive board of that institution and made possible by many generous benefactions. Armed with some £20,000, Chester-Williams himself travelled to Belgium to negotiate the purchase of the radium required and made all arrangements for its transport and storage. He set about designing a building to be used exclusively for treatment