

went at some length into the treatment of lupus, an infection of the tubercle bacillus, which often gave the patient a very sad time. Syphilis was also mentioned as one of the causes of skin disease as was also leprosy. With regard to the latter, Dr. Dore said that there were no laws compelling the notification of this ailment. He thought that there should be some such law, although leprosy was not contagious in this country, or very rarely so.

Pediculosis, in all its forms, was referred to as was also scabies. In relation to the use of sulphur in the treatment of scabies the doctor warned his audience that an excessive use of this could cause sulphur dermatitis. Pityriasis versicolor is due to a fungus which attacks particularly those skins which perspire freely. It is characterised by brownish patches which may lead to it being diagnosed as Addison's disease; the patches of pityriasis versicolor can, however, be scraped off. Ringworm another parasitic skin disease was mentioned and, particularly in connection with the treatment of ringworm of the scalp by X-ray, great caution was necessary, as an overdose might cause permanent baldness. Ringworm of the feet, or "Shanghai foot" had become very much more common of late and owes its origin to an oriental infection which is sometimes contracted in swimming baths.

The lecturer next spoke of various congenital skin diseases, such as ichthyosis, or "fish-skin" (in which the skin is hard like the bark of a tree), naevi, moles, strawberry marks, port-wine marks and such like. Under the heading of "constitutional diseases of the skin" Dr. Dore spoke of the difficulty of bringing about a permanent cure of psoriasis. Next he referred to diseases arising from nervous causes, such as shingles and pruritis, an itching which attacks the skin in old age and for which there is no apparent cure. In connection with toxic causes of skin disease the lecturer said there was a tendency to rush people into getting out their teeth and often it was quite unnecessary: on the other hand, quite frequently septic teeth, appendix or tonsils were the cause of skin disease. After extraction the patient would often complain that the disease was exacerbated and not alleviated at once, therefore, it is necessary to explain to them that the extraction liberates into the blood stream an additional amount of the toxin, which, however, does not last long. Nettle rash and urticaria in children often arose from some food which the body could not tolerate.

Summarising the treatment of skin diseases, Dr. Dore referred to the use of gloves by persons subject to occupational skin affections, and gave a warning against any excessive use of soap and water in such cases. He also mentioned the fact that some people could not tolerate wool next the skin, enumerating the reasons for this. Cleanliness is, of course, a preventive of skin complaints, but excessive cleanliness such as the use of a bath twice or three times a day with very hot water and strong soap should be avoided. The indiscriminate use of iodine, especially if covered up with a dressing, was a predisposing cause of skin disease. In complaints such as weeping eczema, Dr. Dore said that olive oil should be used to cleanse the surface instead of water. He referred to the various powders, lotions, pastes and ointments, and the use of the starch poultice for removing crusts. Diet should be light, baths were sometimes a means of treatment, and, except in cases of severe itching, the patient generally showed improvement if kept in bed. The tendency of skin patients to contract pneumonia was due to the loss of heat regulating power of the skin, particularly where there was desquamation. In closing, the doctor referred to skin conditions induced by hysterical people, and very briefly he mentioned the ordinary rules of skin hygiene. A number of reproductions, taken from wax casts and illustrating the diseases referred to, were passed round.

OBITUARY.

DR. KENNETH STEWART, M.D.

It was with very deep sorrow that we received intimation of the death of Dr. Kenneth Stewart who, for almost seventeen years, held the office of Hon. Treasurer to the Association. He took over the Treasurership at a time when it involved more than the usual responsibility associated with such an office. Apart from this he showed much sympathy for the aspirations of the nurses for the advancement of their profession and, in relation to the work of promoting the Bills for the State Registration of Nurses, he used all his influence to interest his friends in both Houses of Parliament in this reform.

Dr. Stewart was a soldier as well as a doctor and his professional career was, on more than one occasion, sacrificed to his country. He was a Stewart of Appin. Members of his family are still in possession of the lands of Appin. The traditions of Appin were strong in his blood and, therefore, the cause for which his country or his party fought must come before all personal matters. And so it followed that, when the South African War broke out, it was not as a doctor that he offered service to his country but as a soldier; a very great professional sacrifice as it happened. He served with the 3rd Leicesters then and, as a result of his fine work as a soldier, he was given the rank of Captain in the Reserve of the regular army at the close of that war. When Kitchener's Army was raised for the Great War he received telegraphic orders (being still on the Reserve of Officers) to join the 10th Essex Regiment to help in the work of training the men and, for the second time, his medical career was interrupted. It was not from him that we learnt what sacrifice the doctor had made to the soldier, but his friends have told us that it meant, in the first instance, the ruin of the already established commencement of a fine professional career and, in the second instance, the loss of his consulting practice.

At the Requiem Mass at Spanish Place, the Association was represented by the Secretary and a number of Members of the Association. The funeral took place next day at Roy Bridge, Inverness. A wreath of daffodils with a spray of purple iris was sent from the Association.

It is interesting to remember that Dr. Stewart was a cousin of Isla Stewart, that great Matron who did so much to maintain and develop the high traditions of St. Bartholomew's Hospital as a Nursing School, and who also was inspired by the traditions of her race, so that once, when she was urged to take a course she considered to be unworthy she gave what has become her historic retort "I'd have you to know I'm a Stewart of Appin." We are glad that the Stewarts of Appin have their place in nursing history as well as in that of Scotland. And those two who have woven their lives into the story of our profession truly interpreted in their lives the motto of their branch of the great Clan Stewart: "Which will you?" meaning: There shall be no compromise.

GIFTS TO THE CLUB.

Miss Barclay, cake; Mrs. Crassweller, Mrs. Lambert, Misses Cater, Chappell, Durnford, Lindsay, F. Macdonald, I. Macdonald, Orwin, Swaby Smith, Walters, flowers; Misses Good and Williams, books.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

The Executive Committee will shortly proceed to arrange for nominations for election of Members of the General Council. Those who wish to have the names of certain Members placed on the nomination list should forward them to the Secretary before the close of the month.

194, Queen's Gate,
London, S.W.7.

ISABEL MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation.

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