

A service was held in the hospital chapel on February 5, which was largely attended by his friends and colleagues, and his remains were interred at Edinburgh on February 6.

F. G. DOBSON.

WALTER RICHARD HUGH SMITH, B.A., M.D.Dubl.,

Senior Assistant Medical Officer, Salop Mental Hospital, and Ordinary Member since 1914.

We regret to record that Dr. Walter R. H. Smith, Shrewsbury, passed away on September 19, 1926, after a long and painful illness, which he bore patiently and uncomplainingly, while attending to his duties up to a fortnight before his death.

Born at Antwerp, of Irish parentage, on April 25, 1876, he spent his early days in Belfast and later in Dublin. He went to school at Haileybury, and received his medical education in Dublin, where he took his M.D. degree in 1902. He entered on public mental hospital work as an Assistant Medical Officer at the Lancashire Mental Hospital, Whittingham, on March 2, 1903, remaining there until he went to the Salop Mental Hospital, Shrewsbury, as Senior Assistant Medical Officer on February 27, 1914. He remained there until the time of his death, except for 3½ years' war service, most of which was spent in India, where his health was considerably undermined by attacks of dysentery and influenzal pneumonia.

Dr. Smith was essentially an outdoor man. A prominent athlete in his youth, he later became an enthusiastic and successful gardener, and was keen on golf, shooting, and fishing. He was a reliable and well-informed observer of nature, and he frequently sent original and interesting contributions to the Press, particularly to the *Shooting Times* under the *nom de plume* of "John Snipe."

He was of a generous, bright and cheerful disposition, and he retained these qualities even during months of suffering from considerable pain and insomnia. His readiness to sing or make a humorous after-dinner speech made him a welcome guest at any social gathering, especially in Masonic circles, which he had entered since his return from the war, and at the time of his death he was the Junior Warden of the Salopian Lodge, No. 262.

He was a loyal and conscientious medical officer, who spared neither his health nor his time in attending to his duties. He was popular with everybody, and especially with his patients, by whom and by all others at the Salop Mental Hospital he will be greatly missed. A tablet to his memory, which is to be placed in the Hospital Chapel, is in course of preparation.

W. STANLEY HUGHES.

The Right Hon. MICHAEL FRANCIS COX, LL.D., M.D., F.R.C.P.Irel.,

Ordinary Member since 1918.

On February 20, 1926, there passed away a distinguished physician who had made his mark as a medical consultant in Ireland.

Michael Francis Cox had been an invalid for at least two years, which fact partially concealed a gap that would otherwise have loomed large at his demise. The quietude of his passing also accounts for the somewhat overdue notice by this Journal.

Born in the West of Ireland in the year 1852, he was educated at the Catholic University School of Medicine, and he obtained the medical qualifications of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons and Physicians of Ireland some fifty years ago.

At first he chose to practise in the country, but soon he transferred to Dublin, where he was appointed one of the physicians to St. Vincent's Hospital.

He proceeded to the Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians in 1892, and in 1922 he became its President, upon which occasion his old students assembled in large numbers, and, at a public luncheon, presented him with a loving-cup in the form of a copy of the Ardagh Chalice.

Among many other distinctions conferred upon him were those of Senator and Chairman of Convocation in the National University, the M.D. and LL.D. degrees of which had been granted to him *honoris causa*.

LXXIII.

24

In 1911 he was appointed a member of the Irish Privy Council, which office he resigned in 1920 as a protest against the policy of Mr. Lloyd George's government towards Ireland.

Cox was a man with wide interests—literary, antiquarian and political.

An intimate friendship with Parnell, John Dillon and Redmond brought him into close contact with the inner politics of his country.

His connection with psychological medicine was not very marked beyond that which a noted physician experiences in his work as a general consultant.

He joined the Association in 1918, so that the number of his years with us was small, but he came at the zenith of his fame, and by doing so he did us some honour. *Requiescat in pace!*

H. R. C. RUTHERFORD.

C. B. Roscrow, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.Ed., L.R.F.P.S.Glas.,

Late Medical Superintendent, City Mental Hospital, Winson Green, Birmingham,
and Ordinary Member since 1920.

We regret to record the death of Dr. Cecil Beaumont Roscrow, in a nursing home in Sutton, Surrey, on December 8, at the age of 56.

Dr. Roscrow received his medical education at Edinburgh University, and obtained the diplomas L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.Ed., L.R.F.P.S. Glas., in 1894. After a period of general practice in Sunderland and in London, and serving as ship surgeon, he went to the City of Birmingham Mental Hospital at Winson Green as Senior Assistant Medical Officer. At the end of eight years' service he succeeded the late Dr. E. B. Whitcomb as Medical Superintendent, and in June of last year retired on pension after twenty-three years' service, and went to live at Sutton, Surrey.

He had, for the last five or six years, suffered from diabetes, which influenced him in his decision to retire so early. A week before he died he developed a large carbuncle in the neck, which involved the spine, and despite two operations he passed away.

Dr. Roscrow was a man of strong character, well read and practised in his profession, and very conscientious. He had an intense dislike of publicity, and two years ago, when requested by his chairman to allow certain press representatives to visit and report on what the hospital was doing in regard to the treatment of general paralysis by malaria, etc., he did so with great reluctance, and only on condition that the names of the officers concerned should be omitted. It was characteristic of him, too, that when his predecessor died he made no effort to succeed him.

He continued the Winson Green atmosphere of homeliness, and it was his proud boast that he knew each of his 800 patients by name. He had a ready wit, and this carried him through very often when dealing with an "awkward" patient. He discouraged the display of keys by the staff (key-chains were anathema), and tried always to have the doors of the club wards open at all times of the day. He increased very much the amount of liberty given to patients, and it is the rule now, rather than the exception, that chronic patients should have a day out with their relatives every month. For those who had no friends, or whose friends lived too far away, he organized weekly picnics for the women and weekly fishing parties for the men.

He was strict in the supervision of his staff (especially if patients were concerned), but he had the rare and inestimable gift of being able to turn a blind eye to many little delinquencies when he judged that was the better course. As a result he was loved and very highly respected by his staff and by the patients, who felt they had one they could confide in. He was never very keen on games (although earlier he had played in the hospital cricket team), but he loved to study astronomy, geology and architecture. Many of his old colleagues will remember his "two in the morning" lectures on the heavens. Although he had travelled abroad a good deal, he became interested, after the war, in the various architectural features of this country, and he motored all over England in his search for architectural knowledge. At Winson Green he greatly increased the practice of sending out patients on trial with a money allowance, and the visiting by the After-Care Visitor of those who desired it. He made Winson Green one of the earliest of mental