

Obituary.

DR. ISABEL KERR.

IT is with great regret that we heard of the passing of Dr. Isabel Kerr on December 20th, 1932. Mrs. Kerr will ever be remembered as one of the pioneers in the new treatment of leprosy. In 1907, when there was no hope of physical alleviation for those who suffered from leprosy, Dr. Isabel Kerr with her husband, the Rev. G. M. Kerr, started to house the numberless outcast victims of the disease who came to them pleading for shelter. The work was commenced by the erection of a few rough huts, and continued with patience until an institution of the first rank was developed. The needs of Dichpali were adapted to the changing situation, so that what was once a home for hopeless cripples was transformed into a haven of hope for those in the early stages of the disease. It was always an inspiration to visit Dichpali, but to see it to-day, with the hundreds of happy, expectant faces, fills one with joy and hope, and makes one feel that the conquest of the world's most dreaded scourge is not for those who are gloomy and pessimistic, but for the eager and vigorous, for it is a saving work, rescuing virile young men and women from a living death. As one contemplates all that has been done, not only for sufferers in Hyderabad, but throughout India, we respectfully acknowledge the great contribution of Mrs. Kerr and prayerfully trust that, as with the passing of other great pioneers, her death will be a clarion call to others to take up the flag where she perforce had to lay it, and implant it higher up the mountain slope.

To Mr. Kerr and his daughter, we tend our heartfelt sympathy, and with them we cherish the memory of one, who, by patient, loving, unostentatious labour, accomplished a work which will ever be remembered and admired as long as leprosy exists in the world.