

OBITUARY

We regret to announce the death of Dr. James Maxwell, who was for some years a member of the Executive Committee of BELRA. In 1900 he went out to Formosa, where he succeeded his father at the Mission Hospital at Tainan. He was one of the foremost in promoting medical education in China, in helping and co-ordinating teaching and research in the various medical colleges throughout that country, most of which were the result of medical missionary effort.

He was secretary of the China Medical Missionary Association and Editor of the *China Medical Journal*. In 1929 Maxwell became head of the department of field research at the Lester Institute in Shanghai, where he had an opportunity of giving help and advice to research workers and others, a form of work for which his wide experience of China made him particularly suitable. In 1937 he became Director of the Institute of Hospital Technology.

Of all medical subjects the one which interested Maxwell most was leprosy. From 1927 to 1940 he was adviser for Eastern Asia to The Mission to Lepers. He took part in the formation of the Leonard Wood Memorial at Manila in 1931. He published a Handbook on Leprosy, and at the age of 74 he returned again to China to work for The Mission to Lepers, and was instrumental in forming a new agricultural colony at Zangpeh, in association with the leprosy hospital at Hangchow.

All who knew James Maxwell remember him as a man of great energy and joyful enthusiasm. During the Japanese war with China he remained on in the occupied territory, and organised the work of the International Red Cross until it was necessary for him to return home in 1940.

Dr. Maxwell was planning to return home last August, as he felt that under the present regime he could do no more in the meanwhile. But a cable was received on August 11th telling us that he had died suddenly of cerebral malaria.

Mrs. Maxwell accompanied and assisted him through all his journeys, and we extend to her, and to their three daughters, our deep sympathy.

E. MUIR.