

Obituaries

LORD BOYD, PRESIDENT OF LEPR 1960–1983

It is with deep regret we have to announce the tragic death of the President of LEPR, the Viscount Boyd of Merton PC CH who died on 8 March 1983 in a motor accident at the age of 78.

As Alan Lennox-Boyd he was Minister of State for Colonial Affairs from 1951 to 1952 and Secretary of State for the Colonies from 1954 to 1959. This experience provided an excellent background for the future President of LEPR.

Lord Boyd was an inspiring and greatly admired President who will be remembered by readers of *Leprosy Review* for the able way in which he presided at so many Annual Meetings of the Association. Despite his wide-ranging activities, Lord Boyd had time for everybody, and he never failed to convey a feeling of special interest in his dealings with LEPR personnel and the organization itself. He once told the House of Commons, and was applauded from both sides, ‘. . . discrimination on the ground of colour is quite deplorable and, like all rudeness, it is both stupid and offensive’. Since most of LEPR’s work is amongst coloured people, it was particularly dear to his heart.

Shortly before his death, Lord Boyd learned of the exciting developments in the introduction of the new short-term treatment for leprosy patients with multiple drugs and the development of a possible vaccine. It was clear that he was very pleased with the contribution of the Association of which he was President to these exciting developments.