OBITUARY

JEAN SÉDAN, 1891–1967

Returning from a series of conferences in Central Europe, Jean Sédan died suddenly last year. He was one of the best known ophthalmologists in France with a wide international reputation. While serving as a resident in the hospital of Marseilles in 1914, he joined the army as an auxiliary; twice wounded, he received the Croix de Guerre with four citations, the Légion d’Honneur, and the Distinguished Service Order. His brother was killed in 1918; the family tradition was maintained by his son, Henry, who joined the Resistance movement and was killed in 1944. On his return from the first world war, Sédan studied in Paris and in 1923 he returned to Marseilles where he contributed richly to many aspects of ophthalmology, frequently in association with his wife, Simone Sédan-Bauby, whom he outlived. Ophthalmic surgery and therapeutics, neuro-ophthalmology, and trachoma were his principal interests, and his delightful monograph on the treatment of amblyopia was translated into several languages. He founded the eye-bank of Marseilles and was perhaps most fully known abroad as the President of La Ligue contre le Trachome, and Secretary of the International Organization against Trachoma. His many friends, not only in France, will regret the departure of one of their most active and delightful colleagues.

TIMOTHY MARTIN TYRRELL, 1908–1968

Many of our readers will be distressed to hear of the sudden death of T.M. Tyrrell on March 2, 1968, while on holiday. He was one of the ablest and best liked of London ophthalmologists. Educated at Westminster School and Trinity College, Cambridge, he studied medicine at St. Thomas’s Hospital, where he became ophthalmic house-surgeon and registrar, taking his F.R.C.S. in 1935. Thereafter his professional career was established and unusually full. His main post was honorary surgeon at the Royal Eye Hospital where, apart from his brilliance as a surgeon and surgical teacher, he participated wholeheartedly in every activity and interested himself enthusiastically in its management. In addition he was ophthalmic surgeon to the Willesden General Hospital, the Nelson Hospital, the Teddington Hospital, the French and the Italian Hospitals in both of which his wide knowledge of languages was useful, and to the Royal School for the Blind at Leatherhead, where his humanity became evident in his efforts to rehabilitate patients who had previously been on the blind register. In 1944 he was elected a Hunterian professor at the Royal College of Surgeons for his work on the surgery of the lacrimal passages, and for many years was an examiner for the diploma examinations in ophthalmology.

Nor were Tyrrell’s interests confined to ophthalmology. He was a Liveryman of the Drapers’ Company, a Past Grand Deacon of his Masonic Lodge, a member of the Council of the Worcestershire Association, an authority on ecclesiastical architecture in Britain, and an unusually keen gardener. His happy manner made him a popular figure among his colleagues and at the time of his death he was president of the Southern Ophthalmological Society.

His personality will be greatly missed among a wider group than his ophthalmological colleagues in London; and to his wife, two sons, and daughter we extend our deepest sympathy. S.D.-E.