

## OBITUARY.

DR. L. WERTHEIM.

DR. L. WERTHEIM died on 23 July after a short illness, only five days before his 71st birthday.

He was born in Vienna in 1894 and qualified M.D. at Vienna University in 1920. He soon joined Professor Ehrmann's department and established himself as a dermatologist till his emigration to England with his family in 1938 when Hitler invaded Austria. At Glasgow University he became a student again and qualified L.R.C.P. (Lond.), M.R.C.S.(Eng.) in 1941. Soon afterwards he joined a partnership in general practice at Ashton under Lyne, Lancashire, where he remained for the rest of his life.

In 1945 he was appointed temporary part-time dermatologist at Crumpsall Hospital, Manchester, at that time one the two largest general municipal hospitals in the city, and dermatologist to Booth Hall Hospital, a large municipal children's hospital in the same city. He also continued in general practice at Ashton. In 1948 his appointments became permanent, firstly as S.H.M.O., but later with full consultant status. On reaching the age limit he retired from these positions in 1959, but shortly afterwards was invited by Manchester Regional Hospital Board to act as locum consultant dermatologist at Leigh and Crewe. He became a member of the North of England Dermatological Society in 1951 and showed cases regularly at the Manchester meetings.

Leopold Wertheim represented the best in European dermatology. His meticulous note taking, careful prescribing of external medicaments tailored to each patient individually, and the use of the very latest systemic drug, when appropriate, were wonderful examples to a succession of house-physicians. He was always willing to listen to representatives from drug firms and his assessment of their products was quick and accurate. A first class histopathologist, he frequently assisted the general pathologists at both hospitals in the interpretation of his biopsies. Always immaculate in dress, he was most conscientious in attending out-patient sessions, ward visits and committee meetings. He never raised his voice, always showed the greatest interest in his patients and concern for the welfare of his nursing staff. Consequently great loyalty was shown to him in return and he soon gained the respect of all his colleagues. His kindness was outstanding and he never spoke meanly or harshly about anyone. Occasionally he talked about his life in Vienna but never once did he complain about the way events had treated him.

His writings include the chapter on *Hämangiome* in Jadassohn's *Handbuch* (1932). Its thoroughness and high standards are monuments to his character.

Outside medicine he was devoted to music and bridge; he was often seen attending Hallé concerts and he regularly visited the Edinburgh Festival.

A truly dedicated physician and a delightful man, he will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

G. AUKLAND.

This document is a scanned copy of a printed document. No warranty is given about the accuracy of the copy. Users should refer to the original published version of the material.