

SUMMARY.

A case of lichen planus linearis with an unusual onset and subsequent features is described and its ætiology briefly discussed.

I am indebted to the D.M.S., India Command, for his permission to forward this case for publication.

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Obituary.

Lieutenant-General Sir HAROLD BEN FAWCUS.

IN Hillingdon on October 24, 1947, Lieutenant-General Sir Harold Ben Fawcus, *K.C.B.*, *C.M.G.*, *D.S.O.*, *D.C.L.*, *M.B.*, Director-General, Army Medical Services, 1929 to 1934, and Director-General, British Red Cross Society, 1934 to 1938. Son of Mr. John Fawcus of South Charlton, Northumberland, he was born there May 20, 1876, and educated at Durham School and Durham University, where he graduated *M.B.* in 1899. He played both cricket and football for the University for five years, and he was also in Durham County XV and the Northumberland XV. Joining at Netley on probation on March 1, 1900, he was commissioned Lieutenant *R.A.M.C.* April 25, 1900. Promoted Captain April 25, 1903. At the examination for promotion to Major, he obtained a first class certificate entitling him to a year's acceleration of promotion. He was promoted Major April 27, 1911. He was Assistant Professor of Hygiene, *R.A.M. College* January 1, 1912, to February 28, 1914, and Instructor *Army School of Sanitation* March 1, 1914, till August 4, 1914. Promoted Lieutenant-Colonel March 1, 1915, Brevet-Colonel June 3, 1919, Colonel June 1, 1926, Major-General October 27, 1926, and Lieutenant-General on his being appointed Director-General September 16, 1929, he retired March 1, 1934, when he was appointed Director-General, British Red Cross Society, which appointment he held till 1938. He was an *A.D.G.* at the War Office July 1, 1922, till June 2, 1926. He was appointed *V.H.S.* March 1, 1920, and *K.H.P.* January 1, 1923. Created *C.B.* June 3, 1928, and *K.C.B.* 1931. He was Colonel Commandant *R.A.M.C.* August 9, 1937, till August 7, 1941. He was a Commissioner of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. In South Africa 1900-1902, he took part in the operations in Natal, Cape Colony, Orange Free State and Transvaal, receiving the Queen's Medal with four Clasps and the King's Medal with two Clasps. He served in France from August 9, 1914, till April 1, 1919. Six times mentioned in despatches, he was created *C.M.G.*, and awarded the *D.S.O.*, French War Cross, 1914 Star and Clasp, British War and Victory Medals. He again saw

service on the North-West Frontier of India in the third Afghan War in 1919, receiving the Medal with Clasp. •

He was the sponsor of the scheme to increase the professional opportunities of R.A.M.C. Officers, to revise the status of the R.A.M. College and to improve the professional side of the Corps, which was only carried through because by its introduction there was no increase of cost to the State.

Major-General H. P. W. BARRÓW, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., O.B.E., writes:—

I am certain that most of us when we read the obituary notice of General Fawcus in *The Times* felt that something of a more intimate nature should appear than the inevitable notice in the *Corps News & Gazette*, hence this appreciation.

As a Corps we have lost another distinguished Officer, and, as individuals many of us have lost a valued personal friend, and I am sure that even those who served under, but rarely came in contact with, him recognize the fact that they have lost one who took a real interest in all their activities in the Corps.

His contemporaries knew him as a man who had a particularly sane mind in a healthy body, a true sportsman in the best sense of that word, and one who had the happy knack of playing nearly all ball games extremely well without any apparent effort, and who with it all was as modest as he was proved courageous and capable.

Younger Officers probably remember him best as the quiet, friendly and good-looking Director-General who, from a very low handicap consistently won competitions at Corps Golf Meetings.

The Corps, generally, will always remember him as the Director-General who was fortunate enough to be called upon to sponsor the scheme which has increased the professional opportunities of Officers, etc., not the least of the three important measures of the last half-century which have made our service the magnificent one it is to-day.

At the examination for promotion to Major (in 1907) he obtained a first-class certificate entitling him to a year's acceleration of promotion—this will convey little to those now serving, but it is significant that up to that time only two Officers had achieved that distinction. At the same time he obtained a special certificate in State Medicine, and that together with the Diploma of Public Health, obtained in 1905, gave him his first opportunity of experience in administration, when he was appointed to the Army School of Sanitation at Aldershot, immediately prior to the War 1914-18. During this War he first made his mark as an administrator when Assistant to the D.M.S. 4th Army. It was only later that he succeeded Colonel (now Lieutenant-General Sir John) Goodwin as A.D.M.S. Guards Division. It says a great deal for his personality and administrative ability and courage that he was able successfully to follow one who was considered by most of us the most able and successful A.D.M.S. Division, in the B.E.F. He was extremely popular with and respected by all ranks of the Corps in the Division.

While at Quetta, upon several occasions he was called upon to lecture on Medical administration to the Officers at the Staff College, and, although he

always found lecturing difficult, I have heard from many Officers how lucid and simply stated and valuable his lectures were.

On returning from India he had the invaluable experience for a future Director-General of holding the appointment of A.D.G., thus dealing with all matters affecting personnel of the Corps.

He had no mean prowess as a cricketer and represented the Army against the Navy at Lords in 1909, 1913 and 1914.

In the first two of these matches his bowling was largely instrumental in the victory of the Army. In 1909 he took seven wickets for sixty-eight runs in the course of the match.

In 1913 he took five wickets for eleven runs in the first innings and four wickets for twenty-one runs in the second innings much to the detriment of the match as a social function.

He played much Club Cricket around London and was a Member of the Free Forresters Cricket Club.

Most Officers of the Corps will remember him as a golfer of distinction. Whilst he was Director-General he won the General's Cup in the Army Golf Championship meeting at Sandwich in 1931 and he played for several years in the Match Admirals *v.* Generals, and his success in Corps meetings has already been referred to.

He was Captain of the Roehampton Golf Club, and during that year had the distinction of winning his own (the Captain's) Cup at its Championship meeting, and in doing so did a hole in one!

These are a few of the attributes of the friend whose passing the Corps deplores. R.I.P.

Brigadier GEORGE RIDDOCH.

It is with the deepest regret that we record the recent death of Brigadier George Riddoch, M.D., F.R.C.P., Consultant Neurologist to the Army. His association with the Royal Army Medical Corps started during the war of 1914-1918, when he laid the foundation of his brilliant career as a Neurologist. In the recent war he was Consultant in Neurology in which capacity he devoted his knowledge, experience and driving energy to the Service and to his patients.

He worked in very close association with Sir Hugh Cairns in the Head Injury Hospital at Oxford.

The onset of his long and painful illness came with dramatic suddenness. He did not allow the subsequent restrictions placed upon his activities to interfere with what he considered his duty and his devotion to that duty and his burning energy carried him through many hours of pain. He felt deeply that these restrictions prevented his making overseas tours during the war but he did go to Conferences in Paris and Brussels where his alert intelligence and never-failing cheerfulness were both inspiring.

He was a man with many interests, fishing, music, art and literature. His heart was never far from his beloved Aberdeenshire and his knowledge of Scottish lore and Scottish anecdotage was extensive. He ever kept a stout heart to a stae brae.