

In Memoriam

ALL Dalhousians, and, in particular, those associated with the Medical Faculty, mourn the death of David Fraser Harris, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.S.S. E & C., which occurred at London, England, on January 3rd.

Dr. Fraser Harris occupied the chair of Physiology at Dalhousie for a period of thirteen years, from 1911 to 1924. He came to the chair after wide training and experience, and at a time when the Faculty of Medicine had just been reorganized as a teaching faculty, as distinguished from its former status, as chiefly an examining body. To him must go a large share of the credit for the success of this venture, and for the high standing which was speedily attained by our Medical School afterward.

Born at Edinburgh, February 24th, 1867, Dr. Harris received his early education at Edinburgh Collegiate School, proceeding to Edinburgh University and to University College, London. He received his qualifying degree in Medicine and Surgery at Glasgow University in 1903, and his Doctorate in Medicine from the same University in 1905. He did post-graduate study and research at the Universities of Bern, Zurich and Jena. In 1911 he received the degree of Doctor of Science from the University of Birmingham.

He had held teaching appointments in Physiology and allied subjects at the Universities of Glasgow, Edinburgh, Saint Andrews, Birmingham, and elsewhere.

Dr. Harris was a member of the Authors' Club, London; a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh; a member of the Physiological Society of Great Britain, and of other literary and scientific bodies in the old country.

In Canada his wide and deep extra mural interests led him to the President's chair in the Nova Scotia Institute of Science, and in the Medical Society of Nova Scotia. He was a member of the Nova Scotia Historical Society and an original member of the Medical Council of Canada, there representing Dalhousie University. He also held an honored place on the editorial board of the Dalhousie Review for many years. Since his resignation from Dalhousie in 1924 Dr. Harris had been residing in Britain and on the continent, devoting himself chiefly to his beloved literary pursuits.

During his residence in Halifax, he identified himself closely with the practising profession of the province, taking a prominent part in the proceedings of the various medical societies, and rendering valuable service as a consulting neurologist. But he is best remembered amongst us as a teacher of Physiology, and many a graduate of our Medical School, of fifteen or twenty years ago, will think with respect, admiration, and regret, of the kindly, cultured Scot, of whom it was often said that to hear him use the King's English, irrespective of his subject, was a liberal education.