

JAMES HUGH MCKEAN

Mr. James Hugh McKean, son of Dr. James W. McKean, and late superintendent of the Chiengmai Leper Asylum, Thailand, died at Miraj, India, on May 16, 1942, in his forty-ninth year after a growing illness of long duration. Mr. McKean, with his wife and two small children, escaped from Thailand last December, a few hours before the Japanese occupation. Too ill to walk, he was carried in a litter over exhausting roads, underwent thirteen nights of bombing in Rangoon, and at length reached the Presbyterian Hospital at Miraj.

Mr. McKean entered the leprosy service at Chiengmai twenty years ago. Though without an M.D. degree he had an unusual knowledge of leprosy and, after his father's retirement, carried on the Asylum and some thirty outlying clinics with the highest professional competence. He continued equally his father's devotion to the spiritual need of the patients, developing a vigorous church life in the asylum and a vital communication of the Gospel as an inherent part of the clinics.

He is remembered by his colleagues as "a man of keen sensibilities, generous, tenderly sympathetic with the sick and afflicted,

conscientious and loyal in his relations with others, willing to do his part and more, quick to become personally interested in those about him and to win their esteem and affection." One who visited in his home a few months ago added that, in the unrelenting pressure of an incurable illness, he "demonstrated one of the rarest examples of Christian fortitude and patience I have ever seen."

He is remembered by us all with love and respect. In the postwar Thailand he will be irreplaceable.

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