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# DEATH OF DR. E. A. O. TRAVERS.

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## DEATH OF DR. E. A. O. TRAVERS.

### A Popular Selangor Personality.

### WORK FOR LEPERS.

### Pioneer In Anti-Opium Treatment.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)  
London, Nov. 10.

The death took place at Saffron Walden yesterday, at the age of 70 years, of Dr. Ernest Aston Otho Travers, Dr. Travers who retired from the post of State Surgeon, Selangor, on Jan. 1, 1909, but it was not until a few years ago that he decided really to retire and live in Europe.

With the qualifications of M.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P. he became Residency Surgeon, Negri Sembilan, in 1887. Other appointments were: acting Protector of Indian Immigrants and acting Magistrate, 1890; Residency Surgeon, Selangor, 1891; Health Officer, Kuala Lumpur, etc., 1894; and then State Surgeon, Selangor, from 1897.

### Man Of Many Interests.

Mr. J. H. M. Robson, C.B.E., had the following reference to Dr. Travers in his volume of "Records and Recollections" published this year:

"An outstanding personality of earlier days who is still enjoying life in the provinces at Home is Dr. E. A. O. Travers, who came to Sungei Ujong in the late eighties, was State Surgeon, Selangor, in the early nineties, and went into private practice here in 1909. He was a good surgeon and an excellent administrator. He was also everything else.

"For three or four decades he was the life and soul of the European community here (Kuala Lumpur)—to say nothing of his influence amongst Asiatics. A tabulated list of all his interests—professional, sporting, social, commercial and financial—would fill columns of a newspaper. He was certainly a mighty hunter of wild animals. He now lives at Home in the role of a country squire, and is of

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### SEDITION CHARGE.

SEDITION CHARGE. Against Papal Legate To Mexico. Mexico, Nov. 12. President Rodriguez has decreed that

### THE KING.

THE KING. Planning Visit To South Coast. London, Nov. 10. It is understood that His Majesty the King is

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course taking an active part in the public life of his locality, when not away on big game shooting expeditions in East Africa.

"Like so many successful men, Dr. Travers is uncommonly shrewd, temperate in his habits and never idle. Also he has a charm of manner which never fails him. Over and over again his simple presence in a sick room has acted like a tonic on his patient. It is hardly likely that any other European will ever occupy quite the same position in the general life of Kuala Lumpur as Travers did both when in the Service and afterwards when in private practice."

He was a prominent figure on the Malayan turf for many years and took a keen interest in sport generally. He met with a serious accident in London a year or two ago, being knocked down by a motor car and gravely injured, but after a long stay in hospital he made a splendid recovery and resumed many of his former activities.

#### Lepers And Opium Addicts.

By the Asiatics in Selangor he will probably be best and most gratefully remembered for his magnificent services to the Leper Asylum at Sungei Buloh, and for his noble pioneer work in opening an anti-opium clinic in the Klang district—the first experiment of its kind in Malaya. Many drug addicts reported themselves cured after treatment in this little institution.

The old Leper Asylum was not a very admirable institution before Dr. Travers took charge of it in 1922. "There was little, if anything, done for the inmates once they were arrested and placed behind the iron fence," declared one writer... The place was a Village of Disease, Dread and Despair. Today it is a Village of Hope and Happiness."

The doctor set himself energetically to induce cheerfulness in the patients and see them supplied with modest comforts, previously wholly lacking; and with determination and skill he devoted countless hours to investigation of the dread disease itself, with splendid results in improved methods of treatment. He also interested himself in the care of lepers' children. The provision of the excellent new Assylum at Sungei Buloh was largely due to him.

#### "The Path Of Sages."

His departure for Home in 1928 was a sad blow to the lepers, who all but worshipped him. They subscribed among themselves for a pair of richly embroidered scrolls and two valuable antique vases, which were presented to him on their behalf by Mr. E. Tipson. The scrolls were thus inscribed.

"Rescuing the people with your medicine chest, you are following the path of sages and worthies by relieving the world from its sufferings."

"Like the flowing spring from the 'Orange Well,' you are demonstrating the nature of Providence in its love of maintaining the existence of all creatures."

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