

Obituary.

MIHRAN K. KASSABIAN

Dr. Mihran K. Kassabian, an eminent specialist in X-ray work, died in the Jefferson Hospital, on July 12th, of burns received from the mysterious rays during years of continuous research.

Dr. Kassabian, who had experimented with the X-ray for many years, received his first injury in 1902, when the finger nails on his hands were burned. He placed himself in the care of physicians, who noticed that the burns produced an effect on the skin similar to that of cancer. Two years ago his hands were so badly affected that it was found necessary to amputate two fingers, Dr. W. W. Keen performing the operation in the Jefferson Hospital. The operation, however, did not check the progress of the cancer-like affliction, and a year ago it was found to be extending up his left arm, causing an enlargement of the glands under the arm-pit. This became so serious that it was found necessary to remove the glands, Dr. J. Chambers DaCosta operating.

The second operation proved as futile as the first, and it was considered urgent to subject the patient to a third operation, consisting of the removal of certain muscles on the left side of his chest. This was accomplished about four months ago, and, serious though it was, Dr. Kassabian appeared to some extent to rally from it. Indeed, he continued his work with almost the same vigor as if he had been in the best of health.

Dr. Kassabian, who was an Armenian, was born in Caesarea, Asia Minor, forty-two years ago, and in 1894 came to the United States to study medicine. He entered the Medico-Chirurgical College in 1898, and in the same year, while the Spanish-American war was in progress, served in the Hospital Corps of the army.

The doctor was a member of the Philadelphia County Medical Society, the Roentgen Society, and the Medical Club of Philadelphia. About eighteen months ago he went to Constantinople to marry Miss Virginia Giragosian, of that city. Besides his widow, he leaves three brothers, jewellers, in Smyrna.