

CASE XV.

Patient, a professional man who has been invalided home from the East for general debility and boils, presented himself for treatment with a boil in each axilla.

October 8th, 1903. Phagocytic index, 0.49. The patient was inoculated with 2,500 millions staphylococci.

October 15th. Patient is much improved in health. The boils in the axilla have aborted without suppuration. He was reinoculated with 5,000 millions staphylococci.

November 1st. Phagocytic index, 0.95.

Subsequent History.—Patient is in good health, and has had no further boils.

CASE XVI.

Patient, a medical student, aged 24, with a long history of acne, boils, and suppuration after an operation. Boils have occurred in every region of the body; they are at present quiescent. The face is a mass of scars from old acne. There is at present, in comparison with what there has been, a trifling amount of active mischief.

December 1st, 1903. Phagocytic index, 0.82. Inoculated with a quantum of vaccine corresponding to 1,000 millions staphylococci.

December 8th. Patient reports himself much better. Phagocytic index, 1.7. Reinoculated with 5,000 millions staphylococci.

December 18th. Patient's appearance has improved in a wonderful manner, every trace of pustulation having disappeared.

April 25th. Patient has, as a result of working for an examination, begun to relapse. He was reinoculated with 2,500 millions staphylococci.

CASE XVIII.

Patient, 25 years of age, is engaged in the City. Has been the victim of pimply acne for many years. At present there are very few indications of suppuration. Phagocytic index, 0.54. Inoculated with 2,500 millions staphylococci.

December 2nd, 1903. Patient's condition seems to be a little ameliorated, patient himself being uncertain whether this is to be attributed to the inoculation or to an ordinary remission of his trouble. Phagocytic index, 1.0. Reinoculated with 5,000 millions staphylococci.

December 11th. No great change. Face appears somewhat clearer. Phagocytic index, 2.1.

Subsequent History.—Patient presented himself two months after with an almost perfectly clear complexion. He expressed himself as satisfied of the efficacy of the inoculations.

CASES XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX.—These were all cases of aggravated and very chronic acne, affecting respectively a young medical man, a young labourer, a spinster lady of 45, and a married lady of 35. The first two cases were characterized by marked pustulation and extensive scarring over the face, the upper part of the chest, and the upper half of the back. In the third case the chief feature of the condition was the reddening and development of indolent pimples over the region of the nose and chin. The fourth case was characterized by the development of marked induration round the papules, in particular upon the chin. The pimples had for years been kept under restraint only by eliminating all saccharine elements and fruit from the diet. In each of these cases very great improvement, amounting in three cases to a practical cure, was effected by a series of three injections of the staphylococcus vaccine.

It may be noted that in none of the above cases was any antiseptic treatment combined with the inoculations. Further, in no case were any restrictions imposed in the matter of diet.

CONCLUSIONS.

It is, I think, satisfactorily established by the foregoing cases that chronic staphylococcus invasions, and in particular furunculosis, syccosis, and acne, can be treated in a very effective manner by inoculations of a staphylococcus vaccine. I have elsewhere¹ called attention to the broad principles of the therapeutic inoculation of bacterial vaccine—the method which is here in question—and to its wide sphere of application. It will therefore here suffice to call to mind that we do not in the case of these inoculations supply to the patient protective substances produced in the organism of an animal vicariously inoculated, but we induce the chemical machinery of the patient to elaborate by its own efforts the protective secretion which is required for the destruction of the invading bacteria. The elaboration of this protective secretion proceeds in accordance with the general law that a vaccine introduced into the organism will, given that it is introduced in appropriate doses and at proper intervals, call forth a production of the specific bacteriotropic substances which are required for the destruction of the bacteria against which protection is desired. To comply with the conditions just specified we must employ, as was done in the cases above reported, a vaccine of standardized strength. We must further, for the achievement of the best results, measure, before we proceed to reinoculation, the effect produced in each case upon the patient's blood by the previous inoculation. Lastly, it is advisable in obstinate cases to resort to a vaccine made with the particular strain of micro-organism which has acclimatized itself to grow in the patient's organism. The scientific deductions which emerge from these observations are reserved for detailed discussion

in another place. The reader will, however, note on reading over the cases that clinical improvement invariably went hand in hand with improvement in the phagocytic power, and that the negative phase which everywhere supervenes upon inoculation revealed itself to blood examination in the form of diminution of the phagocytic power and in some cases to clinical observation in the development of fresh pimples and boils. This transient and, from the clinical point of view, insignificant aggravation of the symptoms is full of instruction, inasmuch as it is indicative of the possibility of aggravating the patient's condition by the employment of excessive and too frequently repeated doses of vaccine.

REFERENCE.

¹ On Therapeutic Inoculations of Bacterial Vaccine, BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, May 9th, 1903.

MEMORANDA:

MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL, THERAPEUTICAL, PATHOLOGICAL, Etc.

CASE OF APPENDICITIS COMPLICATED BY THE PRESENCE OF AN OVARIAN CYST.*

A. M., aged 23, an attendant at a refreshment bar, first complained of pain in the stomach on July 7th, 1903. On July 8th she went to work, but looked so ill that she was sent back and remained in bed. I first saw her on July 9th; she was in bed, with a temperature of 102° F., the pulse was 140, and there was acute tenderness over the appendix region, dullness on percussion, which extended across the median line and almost up to the umbilicus.

On admission into the Royal United Hospital all the acute tenderness seemed to have gone from the right inguinal region and lower part of the abdomen, and the abdomen, although not moving with respiration, could be palpated without discomfort. Fluctuation could be made out over the area of dullness. On rectal examination a fluctuating tumour was felt bulging into Douglas's pouch; the pulse was 160, and the temperature 102.4°. She was not operated on at once because it was felt that all this dullness and fluctuation could not be due to such a recent attack of appendicitis.

On July 10th the abdomen was more rigid and the tenderness and pain had returned; the pulse and temperature were still high. I opened the peritoneum in the median line. Some free turbid fluid escaped and an ovarian tumour was seen. After evacuating the cyst, as it was being drawn out a quantity of foul-smelling pus escaped, and it was seen that the cyst had formed one wall of a fowl appendicular abscess. After the removal of the cyst an incision was made over the appendix, the muscles being divided and the appendix removed. The abdominal cavity was freely washed out and carefully dried. Drainage tubes were placed in Douglas's pouch and into the appendix region, and the wounds were sewn up in several layers and 2½ pints of normal saline introduced into the veins of the right arm.

The drainage tubes were swabbed out every three or four hours with gauze; a large amount escaped from the middle tube, not much from the side. The patient slowly but steadily improved; the pulse dropped to 84 by July 17th and the temperature to normal by July 19th. She remained in bed till September to allow of consolidation and complete healing.

The diagnosis in this case was not easy, but I record it chiefly because it affords much encouragement to hope for the best even in an apparently desperate case of fouled peritoneum.

T. D. RANSFORD, F.R.C.S. Eng.,
Honorary Surgeon, Royal United Hospital, Bath.

SPONTANEOUS RUPTURE OF THE SPLEEN.

In view of its medico-legal importance I give here details of a case of spontaneous rupture of the spleen, of which occur, hence only three cases are, as far as I can discover, on record. They are given in Lyon's *Medical Jurisprudence* (third edition) by Lieutenant-Colonel Waddell, I.M.S. The case I am about to record occurred in the Chumbi Valley, Thibet, early in February. The details are as follows:

Purba Nowgali, a corporal-driver in a Government yak corps, and a Nepalese by nationality, had been in Chumbi about three weeks. He was employed at his ordinary duties up to

* Read before the Bath and Bristol Branch of the British Medical Association.

the time of his death, and he never complained of any disease whatever.

At 7 A.M. on February 8th, the havildar (native sergeant) in charge of a section of the yak corps gave some orders to him while he was lying in his tent. The deceased then came to the door of his tent and repeated the orders to the drivers. After having done so he lay down to sleep. He was alone in the tent at the time.

About twenty minutes later the deceased called to his brother, who was a driver in the same corps, saying that he had a pain in his side. The havildar and the man's brother then went to the tent. The man appeared to be in great distress, and complained of intense pain "near his heart." The havildar at once called a British officer, who came to the tent and looked at the man, who still complained of the pain and weakness. He made no accusation of any one having struck him, and could not in any way account for the pain, which he repeated was "near his heart." He grew rapidly weaker and died a few minutes before 8, about half an hour after the pain commenced.

I was sent to the camp to make a necropsy about 3 p.m. the same day, as though no suspicion whatever of foul play existed the cause of death was unknown. I found the body undisturbed, lying on its left side, the right arm bent at the elbow and lying over the left epigastric area. The left arm lay straight down by his side with the hand tightly clenched. His legs were slightly flexed at the knee. Rigor mortis was marked. I then removed the body from the tent and examined it. He appeared to be well developed and powerful, about 25 or 30 years of age. A minute examination of the surface of the body showed no sign of injury whatever. The only point that was noticed was a slight fullness of the abdomen.

On opening the abdomen a large quantity of blood under considerable pressure gushed out. The blood, which was dark and fluid, was evacuated, and the abdominal organs examined.

A large rupture was found in the spleen, extending through the anterior angle to the hilum. The organ was enlarged to about double the normal size, and very soft. There were no peritoneal adhesions. A minute examination of the rest of the body showed nothing abnormal except a very small right-sided hydrocele and a very slight amount of emphysema in the lungs. The heart was not dilated. Extreme anaemia was of course present, especially in the brain. Before the necropsy an inquiry made elicited not the slightest evidence of a fall or blow, and the deceased never made any complaint whatever of having been struck by any one. As shown, the necropsy revealed no evidence of external injury, and consequently I regard the case as an undoubted instance of spontaneous rupture of the spleen. It is a case of considerable medico-legal interest, especially in India where rupture of the spleen is often an important factor in criminal cases.

G. I. DAVYS, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., Lieut. I.M.S.
Chumbi. Thibet Mission Force.

HAEMOGLOBINURIC FEVER.

I SHOULD like to add my experience to that of Dr. Hearsey¹ in strongly advocating that quinine be not exhibited in blackwater fever. I certainly have not had the same length of experience as Dr. Hearsey, but from such cases as I have had to deal with on Lake Nyassa, B.C.A., I have been led to feel as he does that quinine is contraindicated.

In some clinical respects there is little similarity between ordinary malaria and haemoglobinuric fever, and in the lack of bacteriological certainty we may well ask if blackwater is *per se* a malarial fever. That of course, its geographical distribution is purely tropical for all practical purposes is certain, but then blackwater fever is by no means distributed exactly wherever one finds ordinary malaria. It would also appear very certain that malaria must precede blackwater fever, and that blackwater is malarial infection plus some other unknown factor. To watch a case of blackwater and to put it clinically side by side with an ordinary malaria case is to note that in few particulars do they coincide symptomatically, except in broad similarities points common to all fevers. The temperature is quite unlike malaria, seldom rising above 102.5°F., except in the dangerous hyperpyrexia. All the major and dangerous symptoms, both during and after the attack, are almost entirely due to the destruction of the red blood corpuscles, the restlessness and fearful breathlessness (sometimes) due to lack of haemoglobin, and reminding one forcibly of an acute and prolonged haemorrhage; the acute jaundice, the biliousness, are all due

to the breaking-up of the corpuscles, and do not look at all like ordinary malaria. If the dissimilarity of the two conditions were all, still quinine might be given expectantly, but I have seen distinct rigors and exacerbation of the black urine follow exhibition of 5 gr. of quinine, and in reading cases treated by (say) 60 gr. quinine per diem (for example, Dr. Stendal's cases) one does indeed wonder how the patient managed to retain them, for the mucous membrane of the stomach is intensely sensitive and tends to reject anything given. Quinine given hypodermically to patients almost bloodless through blackwater fever is not satisfactory, the tissues are much below par, and I have seen the most troublesome subdermic fibroses and even necroses and suppuration follow quinine hypodermically, though until the skin broke these necroses were aseptic. I cannot recall any definite pathological assertion that during blackwater fever we have the same cyclic development of the plasmodium malariae as in malaria.

At present, then, my conviction is—Avoid quinine in blackwater fever and, indeed, avoid nearly all drugs until we know of some really trustworthy specific, except the most simple and gentle purgatives, the very simplest and easy in action, for example, calomel. As for food, I would almost recommend entire rectal feeding until the gastritis and intense biliousness is allayed. For patients in that state seemingly waste much, if not all, that is given them by the mouth, and time being of immense value it is as well that absorption should be taking place continually. Personally, I feel that the secret of successful treatment of blackwater fever lies not so much with us doctors as such as in skilful and tender nursing.

ERNEST A. BOXER, L.R.C.S. (Edin.), etc.,
Edinburgh. Livingstonia Mission, Bandawe, B.C.A.

REPORTS

ON

MEDICAL AND SURGICAL PRACTICE IN THE HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

EDINBURGH ROYAL INFIRMARY.

A CASE OF PARAPLEGIA OF SIXTEEN MONTHS' STANDING:
LAMINECTOMY: RECOVERY.

(Under the care of J. M. COTTERILL, M.B., C.M., F.R.C.S.E., Surgeon to the Infirmary.)

G. A., aged 36, a mason, was admitted on November 11th, 1898, having been transferred from the medical wards, where he was under the charge of Dr. Byrom Bramwell.

HISTORY.

Several years previous to admission the patient had developed spinal caries, and had suffered considerable pain in the back for three years past. He had first noticed loss of power in the legs about twelve months before admission. There was no family history of tubercle, nor had the patient previously suffered from any manifestation of the disease.

STATE ON ADMISSION.

The patient was a well-nourished man, the muscles of the upper half of the body being well developed. The pulse was 70, and the temperature 98°F.

Nervous System.—He complained of heat and tingling in his toes and legs; both phenomena were more marked on the right than on the left side. He had incontinence of urine, complete paralysis of both lower limbs, and complete anaesthesia of both lower limbs, scrotum, and abdominal wall up to the level of the umbilicus. Sense of heat and cold was absent over a similar area.

Deep Reflexes.—The knee-jerk and ankle-clonus were markedly increased, and adductor and cross-adductor jerks were present. The elbow-jerks were normal. There was spinal epilepsy in the lower limbs.

Superficial Reflexes.—The plantar was markedly exaggerated, the cremasteric absent, the gluteal present.

Spine.—There was marked projection at the level of the ninth dorsal spine, but no pain on percussion.

The bowels were only moved after an aperient, and then involuntarily. The urine (drawn off by catheter thrice daily), had a specific gravity of 1021, was alkaline, and gave a copious

¹ BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, March 5th 1904, p. 544.

on the community owing to their health having been permanently damaged while engaged in the country's service.

MEDICAL NEWS.

UNDER the will of Mr. William Martin Bickerstaff, of Regent's Park, which was sworn at £82,250, the sum of £1,000 is left to each of the following institutions: St. Bartholomew's Hospital, the Bethlem Royal Hospital, the Royal Hospital for Incurables, and Earlswood Asylum for Idiots.

EARL EGERTON OF TATTON will take the chair at the seventh annual meeting of the Childhood Society for the scientific study of the mental and physical condition of children. The meeting will be held at 7, St. James's Square, S.W., on Wednesday, May 11th, at 3 p.m., and Dr. Shuttleworth will deliver an address on degeneracy, physical, mental and moral.

DR. ANGELO MAZZARELLI, who has just died at the age of 71, at Venice, where he had resided many years, was born a Brescia, and practised his profession in that city for thirty five years. He has bequeathed to the municipality of Venice a sum of £800 towards the cost of erection of the proposed hospital for consumption. To his family he has left estate estimated at £160,000.

THE annual meeting of the Association of Asylum Workers will be held on Tuesday, May 17th, at the house of the Medical Society of London. The chair will be taken at 4 p.m. by Sir James Crichton-Browne, the President. One gold and three silver medals awarded by the Association for long and meritorious nursing service will be presented, and all interested in asylum work and workers are invited to attend.

THE annual meeting of the members of the Royal Institution was held on May 2nd, Sir James Crichton-Browne, M.D., Treasurer and Vice-President, in the chair. The annual report of the Committee of Visitors for the year 1903, testifying to the continued prosperity and efficient management of the Institution, was read and adopted, and the report on the Davy Faraday Research Laboratory of the Royal Institution, which accompanied it, was also read. Seventy new members were elected in 1903. Sixty-two lectures and twenty evening discourses were delivered in 1903.

THE East London Medical Society, formed primarily to press for a reform of the abuse of hospital charity, will hold a meeting on Tuesday, May 17th, at 3.30 p.m., at the King's Assembly Rooms, Cottage Grove, Mile End Road, near Burdett Road, at which all medical practitioners in the E. or N.E. districts of London are invited to attend. The Honorary Secretaries are Dr. Edwin Hastings, 415, Mile End Road, E.; Dr. F. Harris White, Tredegar Road, E.; and Dr. George Black, 230, Burdett Road, E.

THE Alexandra Hospital for Children with Hip Disease, Queen Square, held its festival dinner on April 27th. The Duke of Marlborough, who presided, remarked that the hospital was the only one which dealt exclusively with hip disease in children, and that between £5,000 and £6,000 a year were required for the maintenance of its 86 beds. During the evening it was announced that £3,601 had been collected in aid of the institution.

ANTHRAX IN CHESHIRE.—An inquest was held on April 28th on the body of a butcher who had been called upon to slaughter a cow by a farmer at Faddiley, near Nantwich. A verdict of death from anthrax was returned in accordance with the evidence of the medical man who had attended the deceased during his illness. The cow in question had been stated by a veterinary surgeon to be suffering from milk fever, and its carcass was sent into Manchester. There the meat was recognized by an inspector to be from an animal infected with anthrax, and was seized and destroyed.

WELSH MEDICAL DINNER.—It has been decided to hold a Welsh medical dinner at the Prince's Restaurant, Piccadilly, on May 25th, at 7.30 p.m., when Sir John Williams, Bart., will preside. A general meeting will be held at 6.30 to discuss the advisability of instituting an annual reunion. Those wishing to be present or to introduce guests are requested to communicate with either of the Honorary Secretaries, Dr. T. P. Beddoes or Dr. William Lloyd, 63, Wimpole Street, London, W.

MEDICAL SICKNESS AND ACCIDENT SOCIETY.—The usual monthly meeting of the Executive Committee of the Medical

Sickness, Annuity, and Life Assurance Society was held at 429, Strand, London, W.C., on April 20th, when the chair was taken by Dr. de Havilland Hall. The principal business of the Committee was the examination of the annual report of the Society, which, together with the quinquennial valuation report, will be distributed among the members before the annual general meeting to be held on May 19th. The records of the operations of the Society for last year are very satisfactory. A large increase has been made in the reserves, and although the sum disbursed in sickness benefits is the greatest on record, it is less than the amount expected and provided for. The number of members is increasing, and as their average age is still growing, the amount of sickness pay expected and provided for grows larger every year. The economy with which the operations of the Society have always been conducted has produced a large balance to the credit of the management fund, and the Committee will propose at the general meeting a method by which this surplus will be equitably divided amongst those members who have most largely contributed to it. A substantial bonus will also be allotted to those members who in the earlier years of the Society's business took out life assurance benefits. Prospectuses and all particulars on application to Mr. F. Addiscott, Secretary, Medical Sickness and Accident Society, 33, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

AN EPILEPTIC COLONY IN TEXAS.—A fine institution provided by the State of Texas for the care of epileptics was formally opened a few weeks ago. The sum of £50,000 was appropriated by the Legislature for the purpose. The colony is situated at Abilene, Texas, and though not yet completed has sufficient accommodation for 250 patients. It is built on the cottage plan, a certain number of patients being allotted to each cottage, each of which is a complete household, with kitchen, dining room, servants, nurses, and vegetable garden all to itself. Dr. John Preston, formerly superintendent of the State Lunatic Asylum at Austin, has been appointed superintendent. The law stipulates that epileptics now cared for in the three insane asylums (Austin, San Antonio, and Terrell) shall be received first, and then those still uncared for, at home or in gaols as the case may be, are to be admitted in order of application as far as they can be received.

FRENCH COLONIAL CONGRESS.—It has already been announced in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL that a Colonial Congress is to be held in France from May 29th to June 5th. The meeting place is the Collège Sainte-Barbe, Place du Pantheon, Paris. One section of the Congress will be devoted to colonial hygiene and medicine, and another to general hygiene and international prophylaxis. Professor Raphael Blanchard is the president of the former, Professor Charrin of the latter. Among the papers to be read in the section of colonial hygiene and medicine are the following: Dr. E. Brumpt, sleeping sickness; Dr. J. Guiart, the pathogenic action of intestinal parasites; Dr. Jeanselme, medical study of the Indo-Chinese peninsula and Yunnan; Dr. Le Dantec, phagedenism of wounds in the tropics; Dr. Leven-Lemaire, uncinariasis; Dr. Joly, medicine and hygiene in Polynesia, particularly in the New Hebrides; Dr. Cannac, climatology and hygiene of the Eastern part of the Ivory Coast; Dr. R. Wurtz, tropical oedema.

SMALL-POX AND CHICKEN-POX.—The following figures show the number of cases of chicken-pox notified within the metropolitan area for each week that has elapsed since the order of the London County Council came into force. First week, ending April 9th (two days only), 200 cases. Second week, 704 cases. Third week, 574 cases. Fourth week, ending April 30th, 522 cases. Last week the number of cases of small-pox notified was 12, or rather less than half the total of the previous period; the number of cases notified in the present week down to the evening of May 4th was 7. Medical men in London appear to be availing themselves of the arrangements made by the London County Council with a view to assisting them in the diagnosis of doubtful cases. These, it will be remembered were that Mr. S. Bingham and Mr. W. Mc. Wanklyn, both of whom were formerly officers in the small-pox service of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, should hold themselves in readiness to proceed to consultations when required. The arrangement is still in force, and the consultations, which are gratuitous, can be arranged promptly by telephonic or other message to the Public Health Department of the London Council, 8, St. Martin's Place, W.C. We learn that of some 50 cases to which they had been called nearly one-half proved to be cases of small-pox.

which had formerly been employed in conveying water through the streets, etc.

When the receptacle was rendered as complete as possible, he then engaged some watermen to take by night a large quantity of the swallows that hang upon the reeds in the Thames about the time of their departure. They brought him, in a hamper, a considerable number, and had so nicely nicked the time of their capture, that on the very day following there were none to be seen.

He put the swallows into the room so prepared, where they continued to fly about and occasionally perch on the twigs, etc. But not one ever retired into the water, the caverns, holes, or wooden pipes, or showed the least disposition to grow torpid. In this situation he let them remain till they all died but one. This appearing to retain some vigour, was set at liberty, when it mounted out of sight and flew away. All the birds lay dead scattered about the room; but not one was found asleep, or torpid, or had, if I rightly remember, so much as crept into any of the receptacles he had so provided.

The idea that swallows hibernate under water seems to have been firmly held by some of the correspondents to the *Gentleman's Magazine*, and even so great an observer as Gilbert White seems in his *Natural History of Selborne* to incline to the belief that these birds sleep through the cold months of the year. But he made no such practical experiment in support of his views as that here described.

THE MANCHESTER MEDICAL GUILD.

The Honorary Secretary of the Manchester Medical Guild writes as follows:

If any evidence were required that combination among medical men is effective in guiding public opinion and in protecting medical interests, the success of the Medical Guild in two directions recently is quite sufficient.

For some time past the Salford Corporation has paid medical practitioners a fee of 2s. 6d. for procuring specimens for bacteriological examination, especially in doubtful cases of diphtheria and typhoid. Such examination must be of great value to the community, as it ensures as far as possible correct diagnoses. But, for some reason, the Salford Corporation suddenly issued a notice that in future the fee would be discontinued. The Medical Guild then decided to send a deputation to represent to the Health Committee not only the value of such bacteriological tests, but also the unfairness of expecting medical men to procure such specimens, often at considerable risk to themselves, without adequate remuneration. The deputation was extremely well received by the Medical Officer of Health, and as a result of the interview the Health Committee reconsidered their circular, and have now announced that they will pay the fee of 2s. 6d. for all such specimens when procured at the request of the Health Department.

Again, the Manchester Corporation recently proposed to apply for parliamentary powers for the compulsory notification of phthisis. The Medical Guild thereupon made representations to the Health Committee that the time was not ripe for such a step, that the branding of subjects of early phthisis as suffering from infectious disease would make them practically outcasts, unable to procure employment, and would thus throw an onus of responsibility on medical men that would not be compensated for by any benefit to the community, and that until far more extensive facilities for isolation or sanatorium treatment were available, such compulsory notification would be unworkable. The Health Committee considered these representations of the Medical Guild, and as a result the proposed clauses of the Bill were abandoned.

THE PLAGUE.

PREVALENCE OF THE DISEASE.

INDIA.

DURING the weeks ending March 26th and April 2nd the deaths from plague in India numbered 39,975 and 46,320 respectively. The latter figure is the highest ever recorded; in no week since 1896 have deaths from plague exceeded 30,000 until the third week of March this year, when 40,577 died of the disease. During the weeks ending March 26th and April 2nd the principal figures were: Bombay City, 931 and 1,065; Bombay Districts, 7,176 and 5,470; Calcutta, 471 and 544; Bengal Districts, 4,109 and 4,830; North-West Provinces and Oudh, 8,776 and 5,470; Punjab, 12,594 and 19,332; Kashmir, 540 and 540; Central Provinces, 2,230 and 1,798; Central India, 1,605 and 1,469. In Rajputana 1,335 and in Beluchistan 8 deaths from plague were reported during the week ending April 2nd. The city of Madras is threatened with plague for the first time. Although the disease has prevailed in the Presidency for some five or six years endemic cases have not been reported in the city itself. As yet the disease is chiefly confined to the suburb of Sembium, whence 10 cases are reported; but on March 10th an endemic case was stated to have developed within the city of Madras proper. Since April 6th no further cases have been reported from Sembium. It is improbable that at this late period of the plague season Madras will be further affected at present.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Cape Colony.

During the weeks ending April 2nd and 9th no fresh cases of plague were reported from any town or district of Cape Colony. Six cases of plague remained under treatment in the plague hospital during the week ending April 2nd, and 4 in the week ending April 9th. At Port Elizabeth rats and mice were found infected with plague.

Transvaal.—The total number of plague cases since the outbreak on March 20th amounted in the Transvaal up to April 16th to 158; to April

20th to 160; and to April 23rd to 160. Of these cases the Europeans attacked numbered 18 all told. The deaths from the disease were reported to amount to 75 up to April 16th; 77 to April 20th; and 80 to April 23rd. Of this number 8 were Europeans.

HONG KONG.

During the weeks ending April 16th, 23rd, and 30th, the fresh cases of plague in Hong Kong amounted to 3, 5, and 25, and the deaths from the disease to 3, 5, and 25 respectively.

MAURITIUS.

During the week ending April 21st no fresh cases of plague were reported in Mauritius.

CHILI.

The reported appearance of plague in Chili is officially denied.

THE HOLMAN TESTIMONIAL FUND.

The Treasurer of this Fund acknowledges the following further subscriptions:

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
R. Clement Lucas, M.B.,		Edred M. Corner, B.Sc.,	
B.C.	2 2 0	M.A. (Old Epsomian) ...	1 1 0
T. Armstrong Bowes, M.A.,		M. Cecil Hayward, M.B.	
M.D.	0 10 6	(Old Epsomian) ...	1 1 0
Guthrie Rankin, M.D. ...	2 2 0	T. Squire Spriggs, B.A., M.B.	1 1 0
G. H. Savage, M.D. ...	2 2 0	H. M. Stewart, M.B. M.A. ...	1 1 0
Arthur C. Latham, M.A.,		Reginald Harrison, F.R.C.S.	1 1 0
M.D.	2 2 0	Mr. W. Wilson Coltart ...	1 1 0
Mr. E. C. P. Hull ...	2 2 0		

Subscriptions of any amount will be received by Dr. John H. Galton, Chunam, Sylvan Road, Norwood, S.E.; or by Mr. W. A. Berridge, Oakfield, Redhill.

In the list published for April 30th for W. B. Crossley read W. D. Crossley. In the note appended to the list "the name of only one old Epsomian" should be the name of only one sent in as old Epsomian. There are now nine old Epsomians in the published lists.

ASSOCIATION NOTICES.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.—The Honorary Secretaries will be glad to receive nominations for two representatives of the Branch as members of the Central Council of the Association on or before May 13th. The by-law governing the election is as follows: "(22) The elective members of Council shall be elected by voting papers sent to each elector by post, the said voting papers containing the names of those candidates who have been nominated each by three electors, in writing, to the Secretary of the Branch, on or before an appointed day of which not less than fourteen days' notice has been given in the JOURNAL."—W. M. BEAUMONT, J. MICHELL CLARKE, Honorary Secretaries.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH: BRISTOL DIVISION.—The annual meeting of the Bristol Division will be held in the Medical Library, University College, Bristol, on Thursday, May 19th, at 8.30 p.m., Dr. E. Markham Skerritt in the chair. The business of the meeting will be: (1) To elect officers, the Representatives of the Division on the Branch Council (the present Honorary Secretary resigns, and does not seek re-election). (2) To elect the Representative of the Division in Representative Meetings. (3) To receive annual report of Executive Committee. (4) To consider business of Annual Representative Meeting. (5) To make new rules, or alter or repeal existing rules. (6) Proposed inquiry into club practice. (7) Any other business.—J. MICHELL CLARKE, Clifton, Honorary Secretary.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH: TROWBRIDGE DIVISION.—The annual meeting of this Division will take place at the Town Hall, Trowbridge, on Wednesday, May 11th, at 3 p.m. Business: 1. To elect officers, the Representatives of the Division on the Branch Council, and the ordinary members of the Executive Committee. 2. To elect the Representative of the Division in Representative Meetings of the Association. 3. To receive the annual report of the Executive Committee. 4. To consider the business of the Annual Representative Meeting. 5. To make new rules, or alter or repeal existing rules. 6. To transact any business that may be transacted at an ordinary meeting. To consider the advisability, and if necessary to petition to petition the Council, to alter and extend the area of the Trowbridge Division. To consider the following matters referred to the Divisions for their opinion thereon: (a) Whether it is desirable that the medical witnesses engaged on each side in legal cases should meet in consultation. (2) The question of the advertising of medical practitioners in connexion with hydropathic establishments. (3) Shall medical defence be undertaken by the Association? As a poll of the Division on the latter question is asked for members of the Division who are unable to be present should inform the Honorary Secretary as soon as possible: (a) If it is their wish that the Association should take up medical defence as suggested. (b) Whether they approve of the general principle and details of the scheme. (c) If they are willing to join the medical defence department, in the event of such a department being formed. They should sign form of agreement enclosed herewith and return it to me at above address. The Executive would urge on members the importance of attending the meetings of the Division and taking part in the work devolving upon the Divisions, as the Executive and influential units of the Association, to which matters of great moment to every medical man may at any time be referred (by individual members or by the Central Council of the Association), and upon the vitality of which the successful working of the Association as a whole now so largely depends.—JOHN TUBB-THOMAS, The Halve, Trowbridge, Wilts, Honorary Secretary.

BIRMINGHAM BRANCH.—Nominations for two elective members of the Central Council of the Association may be sent to the undersigned on or before May 19th.—J. T. J. MORRISON, F.R.C.S., 3, Great Charles Street, Birmingham, Honorary Secretary.

BIRMINGHAM BRANCH.—The fiftieth annual meeting of this Branch will be held in the Medical Institute, Birmingham, on Thursday, June 6th, at 3.30 p.m. The retiring President, Professor Jordan Lloyd, will introduce the President-Elect, Dr. T. E. Underhill. The annual dinner will be held on the same date at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham.—J. T. J. MORRISON, F.R.C.S., 3, Great Charles Street, Birmingham, Honorary Secretary.

BIRMINGHAM BRANCH: COVENTRY DIVISION.—The annual meeting of this Division will be held at the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital on Tuesday, May 17th, at 8.30 p.m., Dr. Milner Moore in the chair. Agenda: 1. Whether it is advisable that the medical witnesses engaged on each side in legal cases should meet in consultation. 2. The question of the advertising of medical practitioners in connexion with hydropathic establishments. 3. The medical defence scheme of the Association. 4. The Committee will recommend the adoption of a new rule making a time limit for papers and speeches. 5. The election of officers, the Representative of the Division on the Branch Council, and the Executive Committee.—E. H. SNELL, Knighton House, Coventry, Honorary Secretary.

BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH: NORTH CUMBERLAND DIVISION.—The annual general meeting of this Division will be held at the County Hotel, Carlisle, on Friday, May 27th, at 3.30 p.m. It is proposed to make a medico-ethical subject a leading feature of the meeting, and the Chairman has promised to open the debate by a paper on the Relations of Medical Men to Each Other. Members willing to contribute papers, etc., should communicate with the Honorary Secretary, NORMAN MACLAREN, Carlisle.

BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH: WEST CUMBERLAND DIVISION.—The annual general meeting of this Division will be held at Whitehaven on May 17th. The Secretary will be pleased to receive communications from any member who wishes to read a paper or show cases or specimens.—T. G. MATHEWS, 6, Scotch Street, Whitehaven, Honorary Secretary.

DORSET AND WEST HANTS AND WEST SOMERSET BRANCHES COMBINED.—Notice is hereby given that the names of candidates for election as a member of Council of the Association for these Branches must be sent to either of the undersigned on or before Tuesday, May 17th next.—WILLIAM VAWDREY LUSH, Weymouth, or W. B. WINCKWORTH, Taunton, Honorary Secretaries.

DUNDEE DISTRICT BRANCH.—This Branch will meet on Friday, June 3rd, to consider the business of the Representative Meeting; to elect the Representative and other officers; and other business. Notices of motion should be sent to the Secretary before Friday, May 20th.—R. C. BUIST and G. HALL, Dundee, Honorary Secretaries.

DUNDEE, PERTH, AND STIRLING BRANCHES.—The nomination of candidates for office of elective member of Council for the ensuing year must be made in writing on or before May 24th, to Dr. Moorhouse, 1, Glebe Avenue, Stirling. Each member may nominate a candidate, but no name will be voted on unless supported by three nominations.—R. C. BUIST, 166, Nethergate, Dundee; W. A. TAYLER, 10, Marshall Place, Perth; J. E. MOORHOUSE, Glebe Avenue, Stirling, Honorary Secretaries.

EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH.—The annual meeting of this Branch will be held at Lowestoft, on Thursday, June 23rd. Members wishing to read papers or show cases should communicate with Dr. Gutch, Ipswich, as soon as possible.—B. H. NICHOLSON, M.B., East Lodge, Colchester, Honorary Secretary.

EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH.—Election of members of Council. The nomination of candidates to represent the Branch on the Central Council of the Association for the ensuing year must be made by three electors on or before May 16th next, in writing, to the General Secretary of the Branch, B. H. NICHOLSON, M.B., East Lodge, Colchester.

EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH: NORTH SUFFOLK DIVISION.—The annual meeting of this Division will be held at the Young Men's Christian Association, London Road, Lowestoft, on Wednesday, May 25th, at 4 p.m. Agenda: (1) Minutes of last meeting. (2) Election of officers for ensuing year. (3) Notes on a case of Angioneurotic Oedema (Dr. Ransome). (4) Matters referred to the Divisions: (a) The scheme of Medical Defence as set forth in the circular enclosed; (b) whether it is advisable that the medical witnesses engaged on each side in legal cases should meet in consultation (see SUPPLEMENT TO BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, March 19th, 1904); (c) The question of the advertising of medical practitioners in connexion with hydropathic establishments (loc. cit.) Members are requested to take this opportunity of expressing their opinion on this important proposal by returning the form annexed to the circular to the Honorary Secretary of the Division, either before (if unable to attend) or after the meeting.—WILSON TYSON, Lowestoft, Honorary Secretary.

EAST ANGLIAN BRANCH: SOUTH ESSEX DIVISION.—The annual meeting of this Division will be held at the Victoria Hospital, Southend-on-Sea, on May 26th, at 4 p.m. Members wishing to read papers or show cases are requested to send immediate notice to W. CARDY BLUCK, Southend-on-Sea, Honorary Secretary.

EAST YORK AND NORTH LINCOLN BRANCH.—Nominations for the election of a Representative on the Central Council for this Branch (grouped for the present with the Cambridge and Huntingdon Branch) should be sent not later than May 14th to E. M. HAINWORTH, 16, Albion Street, Hull, Honorary Secretary.

EAST YORK AND NORTH LINCOLN BRANCH.—The annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Royal Infirmary, Hull, on Saturday, June 4th, at 4 p.m., to be followed by the annual dinner the same evening.—E. M. HAINWORTH, 16, Albion Street, Hull, Honorary Secretary.

EDINBURGH BRANCH: SOUTHERN DIVISION.—The annual meeting of this Division will be held in Room No. 3, Oddfellows Hall, Forrest Road, on Tuesday, May 17th, at 8.15 p.m. Agenda: Minutes of last meeting; annual report and financial statement; recommendation of Executive Committee to alter Rule 6 to read "the officers shall be elected annually in the annual meeting of the Division, the Chairman being eligible for election for three consecutive years"; election of officers, members of Executive, and Representatives; consideration of various questions referred to Divisions.—MICHAEL DEWAR, 24, Lauriston Place, Edinburgh, Honorary Secretary.

GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND BRANCH.—The annual meeting of this Branch will be held in the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, on Friday, May 20th. Programme: Statutory business meeting of Branch in the Board Room of the Infirmary at 3 p.m. Demonstration by Dr. John Macintyre upon Recent Electro-Therapeutic Methods of Treatment in the Electrical Pavilion from 4 to 5.30 p.m. Dinner (morning dress) at 6.30 p.m., as intimated by post.—JAMES H. NICOLL, 4, Woodside Place, Glasgow, Honorary Secretary.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH: ALTRINCHAM DIVISION.—The annual meeting of this Division will be held at Altrincham on May 18th. Mr. J. Smith Whitaker, the Medical Secretary of the Association, will deliver an address at 5.30 p.m. (other particulars will be announced hereafter). Members of other Divisions are cordially invited to attend. The meeting will be followed by a dinner (5s. each, exclusive of wine), which will be open to all members who signify their intention to be present (enclosing postal order for 5s.) to the Honorary Secretary of the Division on or before May 14th.—T. W. H. GARSTANG, Edge Mount, Altrincham, Honorary Secretary.

LEINSTER BRANCH.—The annual meeting of this Branch will be held in the Royal College of Physicians, Kildare Street, Dublin, on Wednesday, May 18th, at 4.30 p.m.—ARTHUR H. WHITE, Derrybawn, Rathgar, Dublin, Honorary Secretary.

LINCOLN BRANCH.—Preliminary Notice.—A meeting of this Branch will be held on Thursday, May 26th.—E. M. SYMPSON, 2, James Street, Lincoln, Honorary Secretary.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH.—Notice is hereby given that nominations of Representative Members of Council for this Branch must be sent to me on or before May 31th. This notice should have appeared earlier, but as fourteen days' notice is necessary, it is hoped that no objection will be taken to the above extension of time.—GEORGE ROWELL, 6, Cavendish Place, W., Honorary Secretary.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: WALTHAMSTOW AND CITY DIVISIONS.—A conjoint meeting of these Divisions will be held, by the kind invitation of Dr. J. O. Adams, at Brooke House, Clapton, N.E., at 8.30 p.m. on Thursday, May 12th, when Dr. J. H. Sequeira will give a demonstration of cases of skin disease.—C. J. MORTON, M.D., Honorary Secretary, Walthamstow Division; E. W. GOODALL, M.D., Honorary Secretary, City Division.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: WANDSWORTH DIVISION.—An ordinary meeting of this Division will be held in the Officers' Mess Room of the 4th V.B. East Surrey Regiment, St. John's Hill (opposite Clapham Junction Station), on Thursday, May 12th, at 4 p.m. Business: (1) Minutes; (2) correspondence; (3) to discuss the scheme of medical defence submitted by the Defence Committee of the Association under these headings: (1) Is this meeting in favour of the Association taking up the general and (or) individual defence of its members? (2) Is the scheme now submitted one by which the Association could safely and efficiently execute the work of individual medical defence? Dr. Heron, Dr. Messiter, Dr. Bateman (Medical Defence Union), Dr. Woods (London and Counties Medical Protection Society), and Dr. Allan (M.P.A.) will attend and help in the debate. N.B.—The annual meeting of the Division will be held at the Crichton Restaurant, Clapham Junction, on May 26th. A dinner (6s. per head) will precede this meeting.—E. ROWLAND FOTHERGILL, Torquay House, Southfields, S.W., Honorary Secretary.

MIDLAND BRANCH.—The last day for sending in nominations of elective members of Council for this Branch is May 31st.—F. M. POPE, 4, Prebend Street, Leicester, Honorary Secretary.

MIDLAND BRANCH: LEICESTER DIVISION.—The annual meeting of this Division will be held on Wednesday, May 11th, at 4.30 p.m., at the Infirmary, Leicester. Agenda: The election of officers for 1904-5 and other business as put forth in circular sent to each member.—ASTLEY V. CLARKE, M.D., 37, London Road, Leicester, Honorary Secretary.

NORTHERN COUNTIES OF SCOTLAND BRANCH.—The annual meeting of this Branch will be held at the Imperial Golf Hotel, Nairn, on Saturday, May 21st, at 12 o'clock noon. Agenda: (1) Minutes of autumn meeting. (2) To elect office-bearers for the ensuing year, and a Representative of the Branch in Representative meetings of the Association. (3) To arrange place for next annual meeting; in connexion with this the Council suggest that in order to give the members in the North of Scotland an opportunity of attending either Tain or Golspie should be selected for next year's meeting. (4) To consider the business at the Annual Representative Meeting at Oxford. (5) To consider the following questions referred to the Branch for its opinion thereon: (a) whether it is desirable that the medical witnesses engaged on each side in legal cases should meet in consultation; (b) the question of the advertising of medical practitioners in connexion with hydropathic establishments; (c) shall Medical Defence be undertaken by the Association? In connexion with this question the Honorary Secretary would feel much obliged if members who approve of this scheme would fill in and return the form of agreement sent them some time ago with the Medical Defence circular. Those disapproving of the scheme might advise the Secretary accordingly, as the Central Council of the Association wish a poll of the members on this subject by May 30th; this being an important question affecting the members it is important that they should give an individual expression of opinion. (6) Any other competent business. Luncheon will be served

at the Imperial Golf Hotel at 1.30. By the courtesy of the Nairn Golf Club the golf course will be open to members of the Branch and their friends, and it is expected that a match will be arranged between medical men and the members of the Nairn Golf Club. The Secretary would feel much obliged if those who intend to play would kindly let him know, so that the necessary arrangements can be made. The Nairn Bowling Club also extend the courtesy of their Green to the members of the Branch, and it is to be hoped that a match may be arranged. Members who wish to join in this should inform the Secretary. For those wishing it a drive to some place in the neighbourhood can be arranged, provided a sufficient number intimate their desire to do so.—J. MUNRO MOIR, 4, Ardross Terrace, Inverness, Honorary Secretary.

NORTHERN COUNTIES OF SCOTLAND BRANCH.—In accordance with By-law 22 of the Constitution the election of a Representative in the Central Council of the Association must be made by voting papers sent to each member, and the candidates' names must be sent to the undersigned on or before May 28th, and the nomination paper signed by three members.—J. MUNRO MOIR, 4, Ardross Terrace, Inverness, Honorary Secretary.

NORTH LANCASHIRE AND SOUTH WESTMORLAND BRANCH: KENDAL DIVISION.—The annual meeting of this Division will be held in Kendal on Wednesday, May 18th, at the Secretary's house, at 3.30 p.m. Agenda: Election of officers for ensuing year. The following questions referred to this Division will be discussed: (1) The position of medical witnesses towards one another. (2) The Medical Defence scheme; answers to the following questions as to this scheme should be sent to the Secretary as early as possible: (a) Is it your wish that the Association should take up Medical Defence as suggested in the scheme? (b) Do you approve of the general principles and details of the scheme? (3) The position of medical practitioners in connexion with hydropathic establishments.—P. F. STURRIDGE, Stramongate House, Kendal, Honorary Secretary.

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH.—Notice is hereby given that nominations of Representatives for this Branch (two required), each signed by three members of the Branch, must be sent to me on or before May 14th, 1904.—ALFRED COX, Cotfield House, Gateshead, Honorary Secretary.

NORTH WALES AND SHROPSHIRE BRANCH: DENBIGH AND FLINT DIVISION.—The annual meeting of this Division will be held at Wrexham on Friday, May 27th.—E. D. EVANS, Bodeirian, Wrexham, Honorary Secretary.

NORTH WALES AND SHROPSHIRE BRANCH.—We hereby give notice that nominations for a Representative on the Council of the Association, signed by three members of the Branch, must be received not later than May 31st, by W. JONES MORRIS, Is-y-Coed, Portmadoc.—W. JONES MORRIS, H. H. B. MACLEOD, and H. JONES ROBERTS, Honorary Secretaries.

OXFORD AND READING BRANCH.—Notice is hereby given that nominations for a Representative Member of Council for this Branch must be sent to me on or before May 15th.—W. T. FREEMAN, M.D., 30, Portland Place, London Road, Reading, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH.—The annual meeting of this Branch will be held at Eastbourne on Wednesday, June 22nd. Mr. J. H. Ewart, President-elect. The following will be the agenda: 1. To elect the officers of the Branch. (This will be done by voting papers sent to each member of the Branch. Nominations by three members for the offices of President-elect, Vice-Presidents, and Secretary may be sent to the Honorary Secretary on or before Monday, May 16th.) 2. To receive the annual report of the Branch Council. 3. To consider the business of the annual Representative Meeting. 4. To make new rules or alter or repeal existing rules. Dr. Larking gives notice that he will move, "That in the opinion of this meeting the present South-Eastern Branch should be divided into two Branches separated by a line running roughly between London and Hastings, and that the opinion of the Divisions concerned be obtained on the question." 5. To transact any business that may be transacted by an ordinary meeting. N.B.—Three members to represent the Branch on the Central Council will also be elected by voting papers. Nominations for these posts, each by three members in writing, may be sent to the Honorary Secretary of the Branch on or before Monday, May 16th.—T. JENNER VERRALL, 97, Montpelier Road, Brighton, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: CROYDON DIVISION.—The next meeting of this Division will be held at the Croydon General Hospital, on Thursday, May 19th, at 4 p.m., Dr. Carpenter in the chair. Agenda: 1. This being the annual meeting officers for the ensuing year will be elected. 2. To arrange for the next meeting and to elect a Chairman. 3. Members will be asked to consider "Whether it is advisable that the medical witnesses engaged on each side in legal cases should meet in consultation."—Medico-Political Committee. And also to give their opinion upon "The question of the advertising of medical practitioners in connexion with hydropathic establishments."—Ethical Committee. As a main feature of the hospital meeting is the exhibition of clinical cases, these questions may be put to the vote without discussion. 4. The exhibition of clinical cases. Members desirous of showing cases are requested to communicate with the Honorary Secretary at their earliest convenience, and not later than May 16th. Messrs. Down Bros. will show surgical instruments. The dinner will take place at the Greyhound Hotel, at 6 p.m. Charge 7s., exclusive of wine. N.B.—The Honorary Secretary would be much obliged if members would kindly inform him whether they intend, if possible, to be present at the meeting, and if likely to remain to dinner. By doing so they will materially facilitate arrangements and promote the success of the meeting. All members of the South-Eastern Branch are entitled to attend and to introduce professional friends.—E. H. WILLOCK, 113, London Road, Croydon, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: FAVERSHAM, ISLE OF THANET, CANTERBURY, ASHFORD, FOLKESTONE, AND DOVER DIVISIONS.—A combined meeting of these Divisions will be held at the County Hotel, Canterbury, on Thursday, May 19th, at 3.30 p.m., Dr. Gogarty in the chair.

Members of the Faversham, Isle of Thanet and Canterbury Divisions will meet half an hour earlier (3 p.m.) to receive report and elect representatives. Agenda: An address will be delivered by Dr. Robert Boxall on the Relief of Dysmenorrhoea and Sterility. The following papers will be read: Dr. T. Whitehead Reid, on the Diagnosis of Intra-peritoneal Haemorrhage; Dr. William Gosse, Rheumatism and its Treatment at Aix-les-Bains; and a paper by Mr. Hugh M. Raven. Dinner will be served at the Hotel at 6.15 p.m.; charge 5s., excluding wine. Those wishing to dine are kindly requested to send a postcard the day previously to A. R. HENCHLEY, 1, London Road, Canterbury, Honorary Divisional Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: HASTINGS DIVISION.—The annual meeting of this Division will be held at the East Sussex Hospital, Hastings, on Thursday, May 19th, at 4.30 p.m. The chair will be taken by Dr. Frederic Bagshawe. Agenda: (1) Confirmation of minutes; (2) election of officers for ensuing year; (3) report of Executive Committee; (4) consideration of any business to be brought forward at the annual Meeting of Representatives; (5) consideration of proposed scheme of Medical Defence; (6) letter respecting grouping of Divisions for election purposes; (7) Dr. Redmayne will show a case of Bronchiectasis treated by incision and drainage; (8) Mr. Christopherson will read notes on a case of Perforated Gastric Ulcer treated by excision.—J. W. BATTERHAM, 3, Grand Parade, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Honorary Divisional Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: REIGATE DIVISION.—A meeting of this Division will be held at the White Horse Hotel, Dorking, on Thursday, May 12th, at 5 p.m., the President of the Division, Dr. John Walters, J.P., will take the chair. Agenda: Important Association business. By Mr. F. Curtis, F.R.C.S. Eng.: A Note on Freyer's Operation for Removal of the Prostate. Specimens kindly lent by Mr. Freyer will be shown. By Sir Dyce Duckworth, Physician to St. Bartholomew's Hospital: The Pursuit of Novelties in Medicine. Dinner at 7 p.m.—W. A. BERRIDGE, 153, Station Road, Redhill, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: NORWOOD DIVISION.—A meeting of this Division will be held at the Queen's Hotel, Upper Norwood, on Thursday, May 19th, at 4 p.m., Mr. J. Sidney Turner, M.R.C.S., F.L.S., J.P., in the chair. Agenda: (1) Whether it is advisable that the medical witnesses engaged on each side in legal cases should meet in consultation; (2) the question of the advertising of medical practitioners in connexion with hydropathic establishments; (3) the Medical Defence scheme of the Association.—HENRY J. FRANGLEY, Tudor House, Anerley, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: REIGATE DIVISION.—The next meeting of this Division will be held at the White Horse Hotel, Dorking, on Thursday, May 12th, at 5 p.m., Dr. John Walters, J.P., in the chair. Agenda: Letter from Miss Oldman. Letter from Sir Trevor Lawrence, K.C.V.O., M.R.C.S. Eng. To elect a Representative. To consider whether it is advisable that the medical witnesses engaged on each side in legal cases should meet in consultation; also to give their opinion upon the question of the advertising of medical practitioners in connexion with hydropathic establishments; and other Association business. Mr. F. Curtis, F.R.C.S.: A note on Freyer's operation for removal of the Prostate; specimens will be shown, kindly lent by Mr. Freyer. Sir Dyce Duckworth: On the Pursuit of Novelties in Medicine. Members desirous of exhibiting specimens or reading notes of cases are invited to communicate at once with the Honorary Secretary. Dinner at 7 p.m.; charge, 7s., exclusive of wine; morning dress. The Honorary Secretary would be much obliged if members would kindly inform him whether they intend, if possible, to be present at the meeting, and if likely to remain to dinner. All members of the South-Eastern Branch are entitled to attend and to introduce friends.—W. A. BERRIDGE, Redhill, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN OF IRELAND BRANCH.—The annual meeting of this Branch will be held at Kilkenny on May 25th. Agenda: 1. Minutes of last annual meeting. 2. Election of officers.—RAYMOND W. ORPEN, Bagenalstown, co. Carlow, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN OF IRELAND BRANCH.—Notice is hereby given that nominations of Representative members of Council for this Branch must be sent to me on or before May 14th.—RAYMOND W. ORPEN, Bagenalstown, co. Carlow, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH.—Preliminary Notice.—The annual meeting of this Branch will be held at Winslow, Bucks, on Thursday, June 16th, under the presidency of Dr. Kennish. Members wishing to read papers or show cases or specimens must communicate with the Honorary Secretary not later than June 6th.—E. HARRIES JONES, 45, Sheep Street, Northampton, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH.—Notice is hereby given that nominations of a Representative member of Council for this Branch must reach me on or before May 14th, 1904.—E. HARRIES JONES, 45, Sheep Street, Northampton, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH: AYLESBURY DIVISION.—The annual meeting of this Division will be held on Thursday, May 26th, at 2.30 p.m., at the Eight Bells Hotel, Bletchley. Agenda: (1) Minutes of the last meeting. (2) To consider and discuss the scheme of Medical Defence of the Association. (3) Resolution by Dr. Easton on the granting of Medical Certificates to School Children. (4) To consider any further business or communications. Attention is directed to the form of undertaking appended to the proposed scheme of Medical Defence, which, if approved, should be filled in and forwarded to the Secretary. Luncheon (at 2 o'clock) will be provided at the Hotel, price 2s. each. Members wishing to partake of the same should inform the Secretary not later than May 23rd.—HORACE ROSE, Melrose, Aylesbury, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH MIDLAND BRANCH: NORTHAMPTONSHIRE DIVISION.—The annual meeting of this Division will be held at the Library, General Hospital, Northampton, on Thursday, June 2nd, at 12 noon, under the presidency of Dr. Buszard. Agenda: Minutes of annual meeting, 1903. Election

of officers. To receive Divisional report. To discuss: (1) The question of the advertising of medical practitioners in connexion with hydropathic establishments. (2) Whether it is desirable that the medical witnesses engaged on each side in legal cases should meet in consultation. (3) The formation of a Medical Defence Committee of the Association.—E. HARRIES JONES, 45, Sheep Street, Northampton, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH.—Nominations for two elective members of the Central Council of the Association may be sent to the undersigned on or before May 21st.—Dr. R. PATERSON, 15, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH: CARDIFF DIVISION.—The annual meeting of this Division will be held in the rooms of the Cardiff Medical Society, 131, Queen Street, on Thursday, May 19th, at 3.30 p.m. Agenda: 1. Minutes of the two previous general meetings. 2. To elect the officers of the Division, namely, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary (to act also as Treasurer). 3. To elect (a) four representatives of the Division on the Branch Council; (b) four ordinary members of the Executive Committee. 4. To elect the Representative of the Division in representative meetings of the Association. [Note.—The elected members included in 1, 2, and 3, constitute the Executive Committee of the Division.] 5. To receive the annual report of the Executive Committee. 6. To consider the agenda of the annual representative meeting and to instruct the Divisional Representative thereon. 7. To consider other business which may be referred to the meeting by the Executive Committee. Members are specially asked to note the date of this meeting, and to do their best to attend and take part in the election of the various officers and representatives of the Division, and also in the discussion of the other important items of the agenda. Members will receive in due course particulars of the arrangements for a dinner to take place on the evening of the same date (May 19th).—EWEN J. MACLEAN, 12, Park Place, Cardiff, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH: MONMOUTHSHIRE DIVISION.—The annual meeting of this Division will be held in the Newport and County Hospital, on Friday, May 27th, at 3.30 p.m. Members wishing to bring any matter before the meeting will please notify the Honorary Secretary not later than May 14th. Members who intend joining the Defence Department, and who have not yet sent in their applications, are requested to do so as soon as possible.—W. J. GREER, Newport, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH: SOUTH-WEST WALES DIVISION.—The first annual general meeting of this Division will be held at Slipney Hotel, Llanelly, on May 31st, at 3 p.m. Gentlemen who wish to read papers, or who have any communications to make, will please communicate immediately with the Honorary Secretary, GLANVILLE MORRIS, Mardy, Glamorgan.

SOUTH-WESTERN BRANCH: PLYMOUTH DIVISION.—A meeting of this Division will be held at the Rooms of the Plymouth Medical Society, Athenaeum Lane, George Street, Plymouth, on Friday, May 13th, at 4.30 p.m. Agenda: (1) Election of Divisional Representative for year 1904-5. (2) Election of office-bearers for 1904-5. (3) To consider the following questions referred to the Division by the Council of the Association, and return answers thereto: (a) Whether it is advisable that the medical witnesses engaged on each side in legal cases should meet in consultation; (b) the question of the advertising of medical practitioners in connexion with hydropathic establishments; (c) whether the Association should undertake Medical Defence on behalf of its members. Any member unable to attend the meeting is requested to communicate his views on these subjects by letter to H. W. WEBBER, M.S., 4, Queen Anne Terrace, Plymouth, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-WESTERN BRANCH.—The nomination of candidates for the office of elective members of Council (Branch Representatives on the Central Council) for the ensuing year, must be made by three electors, and in writing, on or before May 21st, to the Honorary Secretary of the Branch, Mr. C. YOUNG EALES, 1, Matlock Terrace, Torquay.

STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH.—Notice is hereby given that nominations of a Representative of this Branch on the Central Council of the Association must be sent to me on or before Tuesday, May 24th.—E. PETGRAVE JOHNSON, Brook Street, Stoke-on-Trent, Honorary General Secretary.

STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH.—The annual meeting of this Branch will be held at Wolverhampton, on Thursday, June 9th.—E. PETGRAVE JOHNSON, Brook Street, Stoke-on-Trent, Honorary General Secretary.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

INDIA.

The Antimalarial Campaign at Mian Mir.—Plague Inoculation in the Punjab.—Pay of the Indian Medical Service.

ONE of the results of the visit of the Malaria Commission of the Royal Society to India was the commencement of antimalarial operations in the very unhealthy cantonment of Mian Mir in the Punjab as an experiment to demonstrate what could be done to lessen malaria by destroying the *Anopheles* which carry the infection. A report on the operations from 1901 to 1903 has recently been issued as Part 6 of the *Scientific Memoirs* (new series), which has been written by Captain S. P. James, I.M.S., who was attached to the Commission and has continued in charge of the operations. The object of the Commission was to test the efficacy of mosquito

destruction in the prevention of malaria, and Mian Mir was selected as a very malarious place in which it seemed probable that a marked reduction in the number of these insects could be effected, as the rainy season is a short one, the total annual rainfall averaging only about 20 in., while for several months in the cold weather no mosquitoes can be found in the station. On the other hand, owing to the extreme flatness of the place water easily stands in the drains, etc., while a series of irrigation canals run through the cantonment, and these form the principal breeding ground of the *A. culicifacies*, which is the common carrier of malarial infection in the Punjab. During the rainy season of 1901 careful observations as to the incidence of malaria and of the breeding places of *Anopheles* were made by the Commission, and it was found that from 20 to 56 per cent. of the children in different parts of the cantonment were infected with malarial parasites, while from 20 to 75 per cent. had large spleens. An examination in a similar manner throughout a year showed that both rates were much higher in the autumnal fever season than in the dry hot weather, the number infected in one bazaar falling from 52 per cent. in October to 8 per cent. in June, while the spleen rate in the same time fell from 80 per cent. to 26 per cent. Two-thirds of the infection was with malignant tertian and the remaining third with benign tertian parasites. In April, 1902, before *Anopheles* had begun to reappear, the operations of cleaning out the irrigation channels, filling up pools, and brick-lining the largest channel were begun in a selected part of the cantonment, and these measures were steadily continued under efficient supervision. The present report only deals with the results of the operations during one fever season and the following winter and spring. The results were as follows. Although the operations were begun under very favourable conditions the number of *Anopheles* mosquitos steadily increased in the houses of the area under treatment throughout the rainy season, and decreased in the cold weather although operations were then discontinued, just as in the untreated area. The numbers, however, in the houses of the treated area at any time of the year was not nearly as great as it would have been without the operations. Still specimens of both *A. culicifacies* and *A. rossii* could be easily caught in these houses at any time. During the winter months the *A. culicifacies* were found hibernating as partly-developed larvae in the permanent pools, and these were all carefully destroyed over an extensive area during the cold months, when no adult insects could be found in the houses, with the idea that the area might be completely rid of the mosquitos in this way. Nevertheless, in the following May, *A. culicifacies* reappeared, and were almost as prevalent as at the same time in the previous year. The conclusion is that the problem of materially reducing the number of *Anopheles* in Mian Mir is very difficult, although a permanent diminution may in time be possible. Next, as to the reduction in amount of the malaria; the season was particularly healthy in all parts of the cantonment, which makes it difficult to judge. Yet the reduction in the treated lines in both the endemic index and the spleen-rate was distinctly greater than in the untreated, and Captain James concludes that "the experiment shows that even a slight reduction in the number of *Anopheles* mosquitos affects the amount of malaria to an extent which is quite measurable." In addition to the campaign against the *Anopheles*, two other experiments were carried out with greater effect. The inhabitant of one series of syce lines were moved out into tents three-quarters of a mile from the nearest canal which harboured *A. culicifacies*, and 600 yards from the nearest pool. No adult *Anopheles* could be found in their tents during the rains, and no adult was attacked by malaria, while the endemic index in the children fell in one year from 56.5 to only 4 per cent. In the hospital followers' lines all the children were treated systematically with quinine, but no other change made, and a similar method was carried out in one of the syce lines. The result was that none of the syces got fever that season, while both the infection and spleen rates of the children were greatly reduced—a most important result. A study of this report only confirms the general opinion in India that destruction of *Anopheles* as a method of malarial prophylaxis is a most hopeless measure in this country even in unusually favourable conditions, while in such places as Lower Bengal it would be sheer folly and waste of money to attempt it. On the other hand, the last-mentioned results encourage the hope that by means of a wider distribution of quinine, especially among children, very much may be accomplished in reducing the death-rate from malaria, and a practical scheme for such a distribution is a very urgent desideratum.

great variety of subjects. He obtained the Pathological Society's gold medal for his essay on diseases of the ovaries; and he wrote on such diverse subjects as cholera, gout, and rheumatic gout, diseases of the skin, the intravenous injection of milk, tetanus, lithotomy, transfusion, and two successful cases of tapping the pericardium. He was a bold and very dexterous operator, and he worked with admirable enthusiasm.

Mr. Meldon was a member of the British Medical Association, and took an active part in the annual meeting in Dublin in 1887. Socially, Austin Meldon was one of the most attractive of men. His remarkable bulk—he was about 27 st. in weight—did not seem to interfere with his activity or industry. He played tennis and rode a bicycle with all the nerve and vigour of younger men, and there was no social function in which, if opportunity offered, he did not join with an almost boyish enjoyment. He had an enviable temperament. His fun was spontaneous and bubbling over; and it may be said of him truly that he never said an ungracious or unkind word regarding any one, so it resulted that Austin Meldon stood high in the esteem and affection of his professional brethren, who deeply sorrow that death has so soon removed him from their companionship.

Mr. Meldon was twice married. One of his sons is serving in Central Africa as a combatant officer; the second is in practice as a medical man in Dublin. A few years ago Mr. Meldon was greatly afflicted by the death of his only and charming daughter.

He was buried in Glasnevin Cemetery on Monday last. There was an immense attendance of his friends, who in this way tried to show how great was their attachment to a man who so deeply engaged their affection.

WE regret to record the death of Dr. WM. ALEXANDER HEPBURN, of Coxhoe, Durham, which occurred on April 15th. Dr. Hepburn took the diploma of L.S.A.Lond., and the degree of M.D.St. Andrews in 1880, and came into the district as assistant to the late Dr. Carnes, whose daughter he married, and whose practice he afterwards continued with great success. He had a very extensive colliery practice, being surgeon to five or six collieries. Along with this he combined several public appointments, being Medical Officer of Health for Cornforth Parish, the Southern District of the Durham Union, and the Eastern District of the Durham Rural District Council; he was also Public Vaccinator for the same districts, and Medical Officer of the Houghall Small-pox Hospital. Dr. Hepburn took considerable interest in ambulance work, being an examiner for the St. John Ambulance Association, and was well known in this connexion in the county of Durham. He was a member of the British Medical Association, but did not take any active part in the work of his Branch owing mainly to the busy professional life he led. He was a staunch Churchman, taking a particular interest in Church schools and being a representative on the Durham Diocesan Board of Education. His death at the age of 56 leaves a gap in the Coxhoe neighbourhood which will be hard to fill, as he was not only a trusted medical adviser, but a hard-working and respected citizen.

WE regret to announce the death, in his 71st year, of Mr. BULLIN of Chester, which took place on April 12th at Birkdale, Southport. Mr. Bullin, who was born in Bath, took the diploma of L.D.S. in 1861. He was for a quarter of a century Honorary Dental Surgeon to the Chester General Infirmary. In 1887 he was President of the Midland Branch of the British Dental Association. Mr. Bullin was the second senior magistrate in Chester.

MANY former students of Mason College will hear with regret of the death of Dr. LORENZO WHITFIELD, which took place at the early age of 29 years, on April 25th, at Monrovia, California, U.S.A. He was the elder son of Edwin and Mary Hannah Whitfield, of the Hollies, Coventry Road, Small Heath. At Mason College he won a medal in anatomy, and took the diplomas of M.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P. in 1898. He subsequently held the posts of House Physician at the Queen's Hospital, and House-Surgeon at the General Hospital, Birmingham.

THE announcement of the death of Dr. PIERLEONE TOMMASOLI, Professor of Dermatology and Syphiligraphy in the University of Palermo, who was recognized throughout the medical world as one of the leading authorities on these sub-

jects, will be heard with regret. In his own country he was held in special respect as a highly successful teacher. He contributed largely to the literature of his speciality, being the author of books and papers on the classification of skin diseases, on gonorrhoeal affections, on renal syphilis, on keratosis, on pityriasis rubra, and many other subjects.

WE regret to announce the death of GEORGE WATSON BEATTIE, the Medical Officer of Health for Fairsforth. Dr. Beattie graduated in 1870 in Aberdeen, and took the degree of M.D. in the same university in 1872. As showing the respect in which he was held, the funeral was of a public character, and the route along which it passed was lined by several thousand people. At the head of the procession was a detachment of police, behind whom were many of the principal inhabitants of the township, members of the district council, overseers and other officials, and many members of the medical profession.

DEATHS IN THE PROFESSION ABROAD.—Among the members of the medical profession in foreign countries who have recently died are Dr. F. Jouon, Professor of Anatomy in the Medical School of Nancy; Dr. Bruchon, Professor of Anatomy in the Medical School of Besançon; Dr. J. K. Zarubin, sometime Professor of Clinical Surgery in the University of Charkoff; Professor W. J. Drobowsky, one of the foremost of Russian ophthalmologists, aged 66; Dr. M. v. Strauch, a well-known gynaecologist of Moscow; Professor V. Ratimoff, a prominent surgeon of St. Petersburg; Dr. Louis A. Kengla, editor of the *Occidental Medical Times* (San Francisco); and Dr. J. B. Sanford, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Colorado, aged 35.

MEDICO-LEGAL AND MEDICO-ETHICAL.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION AND LABORATORY REPORTS.

A CIRCULAR has been issued by the Clinical Research Association in which the Director asks the assistance of its members in a matter which becomes each year more pressing. He alludes to the fact that patients almost daily write asking for an examination to be made and a report to be sent directly to them. He says that it is the invariable custom of the Association to decline to do this, in the following terms: "I regret that, in accordance with our rule, we are unable to report on pathological specimens to any but the medical man in attendance on the patient. This is a rule from which we never wittingly depart. If you will kindly favour us with the name of the medical man in attendance we will at once forward the report to him." But he goes on to say that they are often met with the rejoinder that some medical man, even sometimes one of their own members, has instructed the applicant to take this course, and a tiresome and even acrimonious correspondence may result. We have had our attention drawn to this matter on more than one occasion, and it has been too often the fault of the patient's medical adviser. These reports ought to be used and their value can only be appreciated by the medical advisers. Laboratory reports have no absolute value, and they must be taken in connexion with the whole of the facts of the case. Unless this is done, they lead only to confusion and produce in the minds of patients or their friends those doubts which it is our duty to solve for them.

LIABILITY FOR FEE.

C. writes that a farmer brought one of his labourers to him with a lacerated hand, due to an accident occurring on his farm. C. attended to the case, and wishes to know who is responsible for his fee. He understands that the patient has received compensation, but has since disappeared. He also asks what would be a reasonable charge for amputating a finger, and dressing subsequently about half a dozen times.

Unless the farmer repudiated liability at the time of bringing the patient, or unless our correspondent has shown by his own action that he looked to the patient and not to the farmer for payment, the latter would be liable. Two guineas may be suggested as a reasonable fee, if all the attendance took place at our correspondent's surgery.

OBSTETRICUS.—A., who is in the habit of attending confinements for another practitioner, on the condition that he goes on with the case, and takes the fee, attended in this way the wife of an insurance agent. At the termination of the case no fee was paid, but shortly afterwards he saw the husband, who promised to come round with the fee. He has not done so, and A. wishes to know whether he can recover from the patient's husband. He has since learnt that the practitioner for whom he acted was in the habit of attending this patient gratuitously.

It is to be feared that the practitioner who asked A. to act for him is the only one who can sue the patient's husband, and if he had been in the habit of attending her gratuitously, his action might be defeated.

"THE BIOGRAPHIC PUFF."

MR. A. E. MANNING FOSTER, Editor and Managing Director of *Land and Water Illustrated*, writes to say that his attention has been drawn to a paragraph appearing in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* of April 30th under the title of "The Biographic Puff." He explains that the circular letter of which Dr. Phineas Abraham received a copy was sent to him without Mr. Manning Foster's knowledge through the mistake of a clerk.

among which the birth-rates ranged from 16.2 in Hastings, 18.8 in Bournemouth, 20.1 in Hornsey, 20.5 in Halifax, 22.6 in Bradford, and 22.8 in Handsworth (Staffs), to 35.5 in Warrington and in West Bromwich, 37.3 in St. Helens, 37.4 in Middlesbrough, 37.6 in Tynemouth, 39.6 in Merthyr Tydfil, and 41.8 in Rhondda.

During the quarter under notice 71,202 deaths were registered in these towns, corresponding to an annual rate of 18.7 per 1,000, persons living, against a rate of 17.3 per 1,000 in the first quarter of last year. In London the rate of mortality last quarter was 18.3 per 1,000, while it averaged 18.9 per 1,000 in the seventy-five other large towns, and ranged from 8.8 in Hornsey, 11.2 in Walthamstow, 12.1 in East Ham, 12.2 in Leyton, 12.5 in King's Norton, 12.9 in Willesden, and 13.7 in Handsworth (Staffs), to 22.0 in Birmingham, 22.6 in Liverpool and in Manchester, 23.2 in Wigan, 23.8 in Warrington, 24.9 in Preston, and 26.6 in Merthyr Tydfil.

The 71,202 deaths from all causes included 6,330 which were referred to the principal infectious diseases; of these, 56 resulted from small-pox, 1,746 from measles, 447 from scarlet fever, 795 from diphtheria, 2,219 from whooping-cough, 325 from "fever" (principally enteric), and 742 from diarrhoea. The death-rate from these principal infectious diseases was equal to 1.66 per 1,000 last quarter, against 1.67 in the corresponding period of last year. In London the death-rate from these diseases was 1.62 per 1,000, while it averaged 1.69 in the seventy-five large provincial towns. No death from any of the principal infectious diseases was registered last quarter in Hastings; among the other towns the rates ranged from 0.08 in Burton-on-Trent, 0.35 in Hornsey, 0.45 in Derby and in Huddersfield, 0.46 in Barrow-in-Furness, 0.47 in Southampton and in Smethwick, 0.48 in Kings Norton, and 0.56 in Bournemouth, to 2.72 in West Hartlepool, 3.00 in St. Helens, 3.13 in Swansea, 3.44 in Norwich, 3.50 in Bury, 3.63 in Grimsby, 3.83 in Preston, and 4.41 in Warrington. The 56 fatal cases of small-pox registered last quarter included 15 in Gateshead, 8 in London, 8 in Nottingham, 3 in St. Helens, 3 in Hull, 3 in Tynemouth, and 2 each in Manchester, Sunderland, and South Shields. The 1,746 deaths from measles were equal to an annual rate of 0.46 per 1,000; in London the death-rate from this disease was 0.58 per 1,000; while it averaged 0.41 in the seventy-five other large towns, among which measles showed the highest proportional fatality in Norwich, St. Helens, Warrington, Bury, Preston, Leeds, and Rotherham. The 447 fatal cases of scarlet fever corresponded to an annual rate of 0.12 per 1,000; in London the scarlet fever death-rate was only 0.07 per 1,000, while it averaged 0.14 in the seventy-five other large towns, and was highest in Northampton, Devonport, Hanley, Walsall, Warrington, Oldham, Gateshead, and Merthyr Tydfil. The 795 deaths from diphtheria were equal to an annual rate of 0.21 per 1,000; in London the death-rate from this disease was 0.38 per 1,000, while it averaged 0.22 per 1,000 in the seventy-five other large towns, among which diphtheria was proportionately most fatal in East Ham, Great Yarmouth, Bristol, Hanley, Bootle, St. Helens, Salford, and Bradford. The 2,219 fatal cases of whooping-cough corresponded to an annual rate of 0.58 per 1,000; in London the rate of mortality from whooping-cough was 0.52 per 1,000, while it averaged 0.61 per 1,000 in the seventy-five large provincial towns, among which the highest death-rates from this disease were recorded in Wallasey, Liverpool, Warrington, Bolton, Bury, West Hartlepool, Gateshead, and Swansea. The 325 deaths referred to different forms of "fever" (principally enteric) were equal to an annual rate of 0.09 per 1,000; in London the rate was 0.05 per 1,000, while it averaged 0.10 in the seventy-five other large towns, among which the greatest proportional mortality from "fever" occurred in Nottingham, Burnley, Preston, Rotherham, Middlesbrough, Sunderland, Tynemouth, Rhondda, and Merthyr Tydfil. The 742 fatal cases of diarrhoea corresponded to an annual rate of 0.19 per 1,000; in London the death-rate from this disease was 0.21 per 1,000; among the seventy-five large provincial towns the highest rates were recorded in Reading, West Bromwich, Birmingham, Oldham, Middlesbrough, Rhondda, and Merthyr Tydfil.

Infant mortality, measured by the proportion of deaths among children under 1 year of age to registered births, was equal to 145 per 1,000; in London the rate of infant mortality was 136 per 1,000, while it averaged 149 per 1,000 in the seventy-five other large towns, and ranged from 81 in Hornsey, 92 in King's Norton, 95 in Tottenham, 101 in Great Yarmouth, 103 in Walthamstow and in Burton-on-Trent, and 106 in Croydon, to 177 in Burnley, 180 in Gateshead, 186 in Rhondda, 188 in West Hartlepool, 192 in Grimsby, 198 in Walsall, 207 in Preston, 219 in Swansea, and 240 in Merthyr Tydfil.

The causes of 916, or 1.3 per cent., of the deaths registered in the seventy-six towns last quarter were not certified, either by a registered medical practitioner or by a coroner. The causes of all the deaths were duly certified in Croydon, Hornsey, Tottenham, Hastings, Brighton, Bournemouth, Southampton, Great Yarmouth, Devonport, Derby, Birkenhead, and Merthyr Tydfil; while the highest proportions of uncertified deaths were registered in Northampton, Smethwick, St. Helens, Warrington, Blackburn, Barrow-in-Furness, Sheffield, Sunderland, South Shields, and Gateshead.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

Examinations for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine.

The examinations for the degree of Bachelor of Medicine will commence in the Examination Schools on Thursday, June 16th. The time table of the examinations has been published in the *University Gazette* for April 26th, 1904. The names of candidates, accompanied by the proper certificates and statutable fees, must be sent in to the Secretary to the Boards of Faculties, Clarendon Building, not later than 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 1st. Forms of entry, with certificate forms, can be had on application to the Secretary.

Examination for the Degree of Master in Surgery.

The examination for this degree will commence at 10 a.m. on Thursday, June 23rd. Names must be sent in not later than 10.30 a.m. on Saturday, June 4th.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

Degrees.—At the congregation on April 28th the following degrees were conferred: *D.Sc.*, *Honoris Causa*: Professor Wilhelm Friedrich Ostwald, *M.D.*: F. A. Bainbridge, and O. F. Grünbaum, Trinity; A. Emerson, Caius, *M.B.*: F. R. Carroll and H. M. Joseph, Trinity; H. C. Sidgwick,

Clare; R. D. Smedley, Pembroke; S. L. O. Young, Christ's; E. A. Wright, Selwyn Hostel. *B.C.*: F. R. Carroll, H. M. Joseph, S. L. O. Young, and E. A. Wright.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

MEETING OF CONVOCATION.

A GENERAL meeting of Convocation is appointed to be held at the University on May 9th, at 5 p.m. The Chairman of Convocation, the Deputy Chairman, and the Clerk of Convocation will be appointed. For the three appointments the following graduates have been respectively nominated, namely: Sir E. H. Busk, Dr. T. L. Mears, and Mr. H. E. Allen, LL.B., B.A. The members of the Standing Committee of Convocation will be elected: those of the Faculty of Medicine who have been nominated are H. Burrows, M.B., B.S., H. J. Scharlieb, M.D., B.S., and W. H. Wilcox, M.D., B.Sc. The report of the Standing Committee will be presented. This relates almost entirely to the regulations for the use of the library of the university, which are recommended by the Committee for adoption by Convocation. A resolution will be also submitted relating to the date of the LL.D. examination.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

Neurological Lectures.—A course of advanced lectures on the Tracts of the Brain are being given by Dr. W. Page May, F.R.C.P., Lecturer in the College, on Wednesdays, at 5 p.m., in the Physiological Theatre. The first lecture was delivered on Wednesday, May 4th. The course will be comprised in ten lectures, and is open without fee to all internal students of the University.

GUYS' HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.

A course of twelve lectures by the Gordon Lecturer, A. E. Boycott, M.A., M.B., B.Sc., on Experimental Pathology, was commenced in the Pathological Theatre on May 5th, and will be continued on subsequent Thursdays at 4 p.m. These lectures are open to students of the medical schools of the University and to members of the medical profession.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.

AN ordinary quarterly comitia was held at the College on Thursday, April 28th, the President, Sir William S. Church, in the chair.

REPORT ON BERI-BERI.

The President announced that a letter had been received from the Board of Trade asking permission for the report of the College on the subject of beri-beri to be printed and circulated amongst the responsible mercantile authorities. On the motion of the President, permission was granted.

DIPLOMAS AND LICENCES.

The following gentlemen were admitted Members of the College: James Graham Forbes, M.A., M.D. Cantab.; Donald George Hall, M.A., M.D. Cantab., L.R.C.P.; Charles Christopher Heywood, M.A., M.D. Cantab., L.R.C.P.; George Mackay MacDonald, B.A., M.B. Cantab., L.R.C.P.; David Sommerville, B.A., M.D. Roy. Univ. Irel.; Edward Tuiton, M.D. Vict., L.R.C.P.

In conjunction with the Royal College of Surgeons Licences were granted to 99 gentlemen.

The quarterly report of the Examiners for the Licence was received.

MURCHISON SCHOLARSHIP.

On the report of the Examiners, the Murchison Scholarship was awarded to Mr. W. H. Harwood-Yarred, a student of St. Thomas's Hospital.

ELECTION OF FELLOWS.

The following gentlemen were elected Fellows of the College on the nomination of the Council: Edward Johnstone Jenkins, M.D. Oxon.; William John Gow, M.D. Lond.; Thomas Robert Bradshaw, M.D. Dub.; Edmund Henry Colbeck, M.D. Cantab.; Arthur John Hall, M.B. Cantab.; John Francis Harpin Broadbent, M.D. Oxon.; Bertram Louis Abrahams, M.B. Lond.; Charles Arthur Mercier, M.B. Lond.; William Cecil Bosanquet, M.D. Oxon.; Arthur Carlyle Latham, M.D. Oxon.

Communications.

Communication were received from: 1. The Secretary of the College of Surgeons, reporting certain proceedings of the Council on April 14th.

2. Lady Clark, offering for the acceptance of the College a marble bust of the late Sir Andrew Clark, Bart., by H. Bain Smith, 1888. The gift was accepted, and a cordial vote of thanks passed to Lady Clark.

3. The Lister Institute, inviting the College to allow its President to be nominated, *ex officio*, a member of the Council. The invitation was accepted.

Reports of Committee of Management.

The following reports were received from the Committee of Management:

1. A report, dated March 21st, regarding the desirability of ceasing to require additional certificates of hospital attendance or instruction from candidates rejected at the Third or Final Examination of the Conjoint Board. On the recommendation of the Committee it was agreed to insert the following note after Paragraph XVIII, Section II, of the Regulations: "A candidate who possesses a registrable qualification is admissible to re-examination without producing evidence of attendance on additional hospital practice."

2. It was further agreed, on the recommendation of this Committee, that the Simon Langton Schools, Canterbury, be added to the list of institutions recognized by the Examining Board in England for instruction in chemistry, physics, and practical chemistry.

3. Report, dated April 11th, recommending that the St. Paul's Eye and Ear Hospital, Liverpool, be added to the list of Ophthalmic Hospitals recognized by the Examining Board in England. This was agreed to.

4. Report, dated April 20th, on the question of granting diplomas in tropical medicine. After a lengthy discussion, the recommendations of the Committee were not adopted.

Report of Laboratories Committee.

The Committee, under date March 4th, reported:

(a) That during the three months ending December 4th, 6,245 doses of diphtheria antitoxin, each containing 3,000 units, had been supplied to the hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, making a total of 18,735,000 units.

(b) That during the quarter further batches of antitoxin supplied by Messrs. Parke, Davis and Co., had been tested in the laboratory, and a

certificate granted showing its strength, sterility, and freedom from excess of antiseptic.

(c) That Dr. Brodie had collected one volume of papers relating to researches carried out in the laboratories during the early period of his tenure of office, and hopes shortly to be in a position to issue a second volume containing the papers published during the later period.

(d) That as it had not been found possible to compile a volume of papers published during Professor Woodhead's term of office as director, the secretary has been requested to print an index of all papers issued from the laboratories, with references, where known, to the publications in which they appeared.

Library.

The books and other publications presented to the Library during the past quarter were received, and thanks returned to the donors.

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER.

The Merging of Owens College.

The University of Manchester Bill, an unopposed measure, which transfers the property and liabilities, and in fact merges Owens College in the University of Manchester, which has passed through the House of Lords, was before the Chairman of Committees in the House of Commons on April 29th. The necessary proofs were given by the Vice-Chancellor and by the Parliamentary agents. It was stated that certain minor amendments suggested by the Board of Education and by the Attorney-General had been adopted by the Council and Court of the University. The Bill was ordered to be reported for third reading.

The Medical School.

Dr. William Stirling, Professor of Physiology, has been appointed by the Council to the office of Dean of the Medical School.

The Professor Tom Jones Exhibition in Anatomy has been gained by G. T. W. Todd.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND.

Election of Examiners.

At a meeting of the President, Vice-President, and Council held on Tuesday, May 3rd, the following were elected to examine for the various Courts: In Anatomy, Ambrose Birmingham, Alexander Fraser. In Surgery, F. Conway Dwyer, Andrew Fullerton, Thomas E. Gordon, R. Lane Joynt. In Physiology and Histology, E. L'E. Ledwich, Charles Coppinger. In Biology, John J. Burgess. In Ophthalmology, Arthur H. Benson, Patrick W. Maxwell. In Pathology and Bacteriology, Arthur Hamilton White. In Pathology, Robert Allen. In Midwifery and Gynaecology, Frederick W. Kidd. In Sanitary Law and Vital Statistics, Caleb J. Powell. In Engineering and Architecture, J. Charles Wilmot. In Dental Surgery and Pathology, Daniel L. Rogers, William G. Story. In Mechanical Dentistry, George M. P. Murray, William Booth Pearsall. In Chemistry and Physics, Edwin Lapper, Robert J. Montgomery. In Languages, L. J. Woodroffe. In Mathematics, Physics, Dictation, and English Essay, J. W. Tristram.

MEDICAL VACANCIES AND APPOINTMENTS.

VACANCIES.

This list of vacancies is compiled from our advertisement columns, where full particulars will be found. To ensure notice in this column advertisements must be received not later than the first post on Wednesday morning.

BELGRAVE HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Clapham Road, S.W.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary at the rate of £40 per annum.

BETHNAL GREEN INFIRMARY—Assistant Medical Officer, resident. Salary, £100 per annum.

BEYBOUT: LEBANON HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE—Medical Superintendent, resident. Salary for first year £250.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND HOSPITAL FOR SKIN AND URINARY DISEASES.—Clinical Assistant. Honorarium, £2 guineas per annum.

CHELSEA HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, Fulham Road.—Clinical Assistant.

LONDON HOSPITAL, Whitechapel, E.—Surgical Registrar.

EVELINA HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Southwark.—House-Surgeon, resident. Salary, £80 per annum.

LEEDS GENERAL INFIRMARY—House-Physician, resident.

MANTHOBA UNIVERSITY—Professorships of Botany, Physics, Chemistry, and Physiology. Salary, 2,500 dollars.

MOUNT VERNON HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION, Hampstead.—Surgeon-Laryngologist.

NORTH-EASTERN HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Hackney Road, E.—(1) House-Physician. (2) Two House-Surgeons. Salary in each case at the rate of £60 per annum.

NORWICH: NORFOLK AND NORWICH HOSPITAL—House-Physician; resident. Salary, £80 per annum.

OLDHAM INFIRMARY—Senior House-Surgeon, resident. Salary, £100 per annum.

PERTH DISTRICT ASYLUM, Muthilly.—Assistant Physician, resident. Salary, £110 per annum.

PLYMOUTH: SOUTH DEVON AND EAST CORNWALL HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon, resident. Salary, £100 per annum.

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.—(1) Clinical and Assistant Pathologists; (2) Junior Obstetric Assistant.

SAMARITAN FREE HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, Marylebone Road, N.W.—Clinical Assistants.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON—Examiner in Medicine.

TOTTENHAM HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon, resident. Salary, £90 per annum.

VALKENBERG ASYLUM, near Capetown.—Assistant Medical Officer, resident. Salary, £250, rising to £300 per annum.

VICTORIA HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Tite Street, S.W.—House-Surgeon, resident. Appointment for six months. Honorarium, £25.

YORK COUNTY HOSPITAL—House-Physician, resident. Salary, £100 per annum.

APPOINTMENTS.

ADAM, J. W., M.B., C.M.Glass., Medical Officer of Health to the Aberdeen Town Council, vice William Findlay, M.D.

ALDRED, Wilfred A., M.B.C.S., L.R.C.P., House-Surgeon at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital.

CLARKE, William, M.B.Toronto, Clinical Assistant to the Chelsea Hospital for Women.

HARDY, F. S., M.B.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., District Medical Officer of the Sheffield Union.

HAYMAN, Charles A., M.D.St.And., F.R.C.S.I., L.D.S.R.C.S., Assistant Dental Surgeon to the Bristol Royal Infirmary.

HINDS, H. A., M.B.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., District Medical Officer of the Bridge Union.

JACKSON, H. W., M.D.Lond., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H., Surgeon to the North Ormesby Hospital, Middlesbrough.

JAMES, P. C., M.B.Durh., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health Hoxne Rural District and District Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for the Fressingfield District, vice Samuel Kirby, M.D., resigned.

THOMSON, A. M.B., District Medical Officer of the Barnsley Union.

TURNER, P. D., M.D., Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Ryde.

DIARY FOR NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.

Medical Society of London, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., 8 p.m.—General Meeting. Election of Officers and Council for Session 1904-5, 8.30 p.m.—Ordinary meeting. Dr. F. J. Poynton: A Study of a Case of Rheumatic Fever, with Lanthorn Demonstrations on Mr. W. H. Clifton-Greene: The Influence of Early Operation on the Mortality and Results of Appendicitis.

TUESDAY.

Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 20, Hanover Square, W., 8.30 p.m.—Dr. Chalmers Watson: The Effects of a Proteid Dietary (raw meat)—an experimental and clinical study. Dr. Herbert French: Leucocyte Counts in eighty-three cases of Appendicitis. The Limitations of Leucocytosis as an Indication for Laparotomy.

WEDNESDAY.

Dermatological Society of London, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., 5.15 p.m.—Demonstration of cases of interest.

South-West London Medical Society, Bellinghroke Hospital, Wandsworth Common, S.W., 8.45 p.m.—Dr. E. Furniss Potter on observations on the Removal of Adenoids.

THURSDAY.

Harvelan Society of London, Stafford Rooms, Titchborne Street, Edgware Road, W., 8.30 p.m.—Dr. James Taylor: Combined sclerosis in the Spinal Cord associated with Blood Vases. Dr. Edward Squire: Common Errors in the Physical Examination of the Chest.

British Gynaecological Society, 20, Hanover Square, W., 8 p.m.—Discussion on Dr. Macnaughton-Jones's paper, The Dangers of Iodine. Specimens will be shown by the President and others.

FRIDAY.

Epidemiological Society, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., 8.30 p.m.

British Laryngological, Rhinological and Otolological Association, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., 4.30 p.m.—Cases will be shown by Dr. Fred. Spicer, Dr. Nelson, and Mr. Mayo Collier. Adjourned discussion on Mr. Mayo Collier's paper, Latent or Intermittent Nasal Obstruction, to be opened by Dr. Sim Wallace and Dr. Hemington Pegler. Communication on Pachydermia Laryngis with Lanthorn Demonstration, by Dr. W. Jobson Horne.

Clinical Society of London, 20, Hanover Square, W., 8.30 p.m.—Dr. Stanley Green and Dr. W. H. R. Brook: Cases illustrating the Value of the Homogen Ray as a Factor in the Diagnosis of Early Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Dr. E. A. Peters (introduced by Mr. C. J. Symonds): Notes on Two Cases Illustrating Some of the Advantages and Disadvantages of X-Ray Treatment in Recurrent Breast Cancer. Dr. H. R. Thompson and Dr. C. U. Aitchison (introduced by Dr. Percy Kidd): Two Cases of Tumour of the Left Auricle Simulating Mitral Stenosis.

POST-GRADUATE COURSES AND LECTURES.

Charing Cross Hospital, Thursday, 4 p.m.—Demonstration of Surgical Cases. Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, W.C., Thursday, 4 p.m.—Lecture on Cerebellar Disease in Children.

Medical Graduates' College and **Polytechnic**, 22, Chancery Street, W.C.—Demonstrations will be given at 4 p.m. as follows: Monday, Skin; Tuesday, Medical; Wednesday, Surgical; Thursday, Surgical; Friday, Fye. Lectures will be delivered at 5.15 p.m. as follows: Monday, Diseases of the Lymphatic System; Tuesday, The Relationship of Syphilis to Insanity; Wednesday, Personal Hygiene; Thursday, The Principles of Abdominal Diagnosis.

Mount Vernon Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, 7, Fitzroy Square, W., Thursday, 5 p.m.—Lecture on the Physical Examination of the Chest.

National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, Queen Square, W.C.—Lectures will be delivered at 3.30 p.m. as follows: Tuesday, Tabes Dorsalis; Friday, Paraplegia.

North-East London Post-Graduate College, Tottenham Hospital, N., Thursday, 4.30 p.m.—Lecture on Motor Paralysis.

Post-Graduate College, West London Hospital, Hammersmith Road, W.—Lectures will be delivered at 5 p.m. as follows: Monday, Sedatives in Mental Diseases; Tuesday, Hysteria (illustrated by lantern slides); Wednesday, Disorders of Menstruation; Thursday, Affections of the Bronchi; Friday, Administration of Anaesthetics.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is 3s. 6d., which sum should be forwarded in post-office orders or stamps with the notice not later than Wednesday morning, in order to ensure insertion in the current issue.

MARRIAGES.

DENSHAM-SOPER—On April 30th, 1904, at All Saints' Church, Devonshire Road, S.W., by the Rev. Canon Allen Edwards, Vicar of the Parish, and Rural Dean of Kennington, assisted by the Rev. T. W. Ketton, Vicar of St. Mark's, St. Helens, Lancs., Alec Densham, M.B.Lond., of Woodville, Worthing, son of Benjamin Densham, of Bramley Croft, Hindhead, to Alice Marian, daughter of William Soper, M.B.C.S., L.S.A., of 307, Clapham Road, S.W.

KEYNACK-MCLAREN—On April 27th, at St. Stephen's, East Putney, S.W., by the Rev. James B. Wane, M.A., as follows: Monday, Harley Street, Cavendish Square, W., eldest son of the Rev. N. Keynack, to Clara Violet McLaren, M.B., (Ch.B. Edin.), only daughter of the late James Grieve McLaren, of Calcutta, and granddaughter of David McLaren, J.F., D.L., of Rydal House, East Putney, S.W.

PHILLIPS-GROMME—On April 28th, at St. James's Church, Birch, Manchester, by the Rev. J. J. Scott, M.A., Canon of Manchester, assisted by the Rev. F. G. Miller, M.A., Vicar of Billinge, Wigan, and the Rev. G. P. Buller, M.A., Rector of the parish, Hugh Richard Phillips, M.D., of 28, Palace Court, London, E., only son of G. Turner Phillips, J.P., to Helen Minnie (Nellie), youngest daughter of Louis Gromme, of Regent Street, Manchester.

SPURRIER-STOCKS—On April 27th, at All Saints' Church, South Lambeth, by the Rev. Canon Allen Edwards, Rural Dean of Kennington, assisted by the Rev. Beaden Shewell, B.A., Steven Spurrier, only son of John Walter Spurrier, Esq., of Greenhithe, Kent, to Gertrude Stocks, eldest surviving daughter of Fredrick Stocks, M.R.C.S.Eng., etc., of Curliand, 421, Westminster Road, Clapham, S.W.

WILSON-MILLER—On April 28th, at the Grand Hotel, Glasgow, on April 30th, by the Rev. A. J. Robertson, D.D., Clerkman, assisted by the Rev. J. H. Wilson, M.A., Parson (uncle of the bridegroom), John H. Wilson, M.D., of 7, Ladbroke Square, W., to Corrie, daughter of John Miller, Esq., Grassington, All. A.

DEATHS.

WHITFIELD—On April 25th, at Monrovia, California, U.S.A., aged 29, Lorenzo Whitfield, M.B.C.S., L.R.C.P., elder son of Edwin and Mary Hannah Whitfield, of The Hollies, Coventry Road, Small Heath. (By cable.)

MICKLE—On April 26th, George Mickle, M.A., M.B., C.M., eldest son of the late Dr. David Mickle, of Kirklington, Yorkshire. Deeply regretted.