

and the same may be said of vomiting, but it is otherwise when we come to consider vertigo, for this symptom may be most pronounced and distressing.

In conclusion I must ask you to allow me to offer an apology to Dr. Charlton Bastian for not including the results of his observations among those which I quoted in support of Dr. Hughlings Jackson's view in regard to the cerebellum, for Dr. Bastian supplied the first proof that muscular tonus is derived from the cerebellum. (Bastian: *Med. Chir. Trans.*, 1890, pp. 207-217; *Paralysis, Cerebral, Bulbar and Spinal*, 1886, pp. 222-228.)

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## Memoranda:

### MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

#### SERUM DIAGNOSIS OF SYPHILIS: FLEMING'S METHOD.

IN a paper published in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* of August 14th, 1909, on the diagnosis of syphilis by some laboratory methods, particularly relating to the complemental fixation method by Wassermann, I brought forward the results of some preliminary trials of the easier methods of Hecht's modification, elaborated by Dr. Fleming—namely, the principle of using both haemolysin and complement for sheep's red blood cells normally present in human blood.

In this first series the results were not very satisfactory, a rather large proportion of bloods normally failed to haemolyse the sheep cells completely, thus reducing the number of positive results that should have been obtained, but at the time I distinctly stated that the numbers were too small to dogmatize upon.

The method, however, appeared to be very valuable, and called for further work; I have therefore made weekly examinations from over 500 cases, controlled by the more elaborate original method, obtaining far more favourable results. This series gave indefinite reactions in only 10 per cent. A positive result was always reliable—in fact, it was obtained in some cases earlier in the disease than with the other methods tried, as shown by several observations taken at different dates from the same case. Consequently I look upon the results given by Dr. Fleming's method as a most valuable check, and if the reaction is definite consider that it should be accepted as final.

The test was almost always applied about six hours after the blood was taken from the patient, so that no deterioration of the complement would have occurred, for it was found that the greater the delay between the time of taking the blood and the test the larger the percentage of indefinite reactions.

I feel that it is due to Dr. Fleming to make this further statement, as some adverse criticisms of his method have been based on my original reference.

P. W. BASSETT-SMITH,  
Fleet Surgeon.

The Laboratory, Royal Naval  
Hospital, Haslar.

#### A CASE OF FETAL PURPURA.

IN August last I was summoned by a midwife to see a newly-born child of unusual appearance. The mother had always enjoyed good health, and beyond weakness and sleeplessness, and the fact that she was a "shocking, terrible size," she had not suffered from any disease during this pregnancy. She had experienced, however, more discomfort since the date of quickening than with her previous six children. Early in its course, one of her children died from tuberculous broncho-pneumonia. She had a fall six weeks before labour set in, and did not notice fetal movements during the last fortnight. The labour was associated with excess of liquor amnii (about 2 gals.), and there was somewhat excessive haemorrhage during the separation of the placenta. The child was born naturally, and lived for twelve hours. Apart from the appearances to be described, it was a well-formed male child weighing 8 lb. and measuring 23 in. in length. The cord measured 30 in., and showed numerous ecchymoses along its course. The placenta was unusually large. The child's appearance was remarkable. Its skin was dusky, mottled, and covered by ecchymotic areas varying in size from petechial spots to large rounded areas. To the touch they imparted a lumpy feeling, and had a pale raised centre and dark periphery. The colour did not alter on pressure. There were also ecchymoses on the buccal mucosa. On *post-mortem* examination it was found that most of the morbid appearances were confined to the skin. The purpuric areas cut like hard nodes, and showed pale injected surfaces. There were no haemorrhages into the brain substance. Some excess of fluid was present in the right pleural cavity, and petechiae were visible under the pericardium and peritoneum; there were small haemorrhages under the capsule of the right kidney extending into its cortex. The left kidney, spleen, and suprarenal capsules appeared normal. The bladder contained clear urine. Nothing could be found to explain the cause of the condition described except perhaps a history of tubercle in the family of the father. He himself, though stated to be a sufferer from epistaxis and winter cough, was a big healthy-looking man, but his great-grandmother, grandmother, three of his sisters, and one brother had died of phthisis. One of his children had phthisis and one had died of tuberculous broncho-pneumonia. On the mother's side there was no history of tubercle.

Datchet.

NORMAN GLEGG, M.D. Edin.

#### A CASE OF DIABETIC COMA AT THE AGE OF TEN.

ON December 27th, 1909, I was called to see A. T., a boy a few months over 10 years of age. I found him very restless and complaining of severe epigastric pain; he was also inclined to be drowsy at times, and his mother said he was very thirsty. The boy was very emaciated, and further inquiry elicited the fact that he had been thirsty for some months, and had been passing large quantities of urine. An examination of the urine showed a specific gravity of 1030, a large quantity of sugar, and the presence of acetone was revealed by perchloride of iron. Rectal injections of normal salt solution, and large and frequent doses of sodium bicarbonate in milk were ordered, but the drowsiness rapidly became more pronounced; coma developed on December 29th, and death took place on the following day. Curious to relate, although some neighbours afterwards told me that they had noticed the boy's gradual emaciation, the mother did not seem to have observed it, nor did she set much store on his continued thirst.

Diabetes at this early age is comparatively rare. Amongst 1,360 private patients who consulted Dr. Pavy, diabetes began under 10 years in 8, between 10 and 20 in 57, between 20 and 30 in 97, between 30 and 40 in 224, between 40 and 50 in 339, between 50 and 60 in 428. Even between 60 and 70 the number was 182, very large considering the fewer number of persons living over 60 compared with those between 20 and 40. There were 35 patients in whom the disease began at ages over 70, and 1 over 80; the youngest patient Dr. Pavy had under his care was an infant 12 months old.<sup>1</sup> The proportion of males to females affected with diabetes was 2.5 to 1.

LOUIS E. STEVENSON, B.A., M.B., B.C. Cantab.

Temple Sowerby, Westmorland.

<sup>1</sup> *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, December 5th, 1885.

## Universities and Colleges.

### THE GRANTS TO UNIVERSITY COLLEGES.

ON March 4th the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who was accompanied by Mr. Haldane and Mr. Runciman, received a deputation of representatives of the universities and university colleges of England other than Oxford, Cambridge, and Durham, to ask for financial assistance. The deputation, which was introduced by Mr. A. H. G. Ackland, consisted of Lord Reay (London University), Sir Oliver Lodge (Birmingham University), Vice-Chancellor Hopkinson (Manchester), Sir John Brunner, Bart. (Liverpool), Sir Nathan Bodington (Leeds), Dr. Hicks (Sheffield), Sir Hugh Bell, and others.

The deputation pointed out that the students' fees only covered a fourth of the actual capitation cost. Matriculation work having been relegated to the schools, there was more room for post-graduates and post-graduate work, and this had increased the cost. So far from grants from the Government diminishing local patriotism, such official recognition encouraged subscriptions; many localities were willing to provide buildings and equipment, but were unable to guarantee the annual sum for maintenance. The Chancellor of the Exchequer in reply said that the arguments met with his entire sympathy, but the deputation could not have come at a worse time as he had no money. He promised, if full details were sent to him, that they would have his consideration, and a business committee was appointed by the deputation to prepare the required statistics.

### UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

*Philip Walker Studentship, 1910.*—The Board of Managers have reported to the Vice-Chancellor that they have elected to the studentship Mr. William Ray, B.Sc.Oxon., M.B.Adelade, Magdalen College.

### UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

THE following degrees have been conferred :

M.B.—L. B. Perry, Queens'; C. F. Searle, Pemb.; H. B. Weir, Trin.  
B.C.—G. G. Alderson, Caius; A. L. Singer, King's; G. H. H. Waylen, ing's; H. B. Weir, Caius.

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.

AN extraordinary Committee was held at the College on March 2nd, the President, Sir R. Douglas Powell, in the chair.

#### *Diploma in Psychiatry.*

A letter from the Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland, urging the institution of a course of instruction and a diploma in Psychiatry, was read. The following resolution was moved by Dr. Mercier and seconded by Dr. Percy Smith:

That a committee be appointed to settle the conditions under which a post-graduate diploma in Psychiatry shall be granted by this College.

After a prolonged discussion, in which Drs. Claye Shaw, Coupland, F. Warner, Norman Moore, Craig, and Bedford Pierce took part, Dr. F. J. Smith moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Dr. F. Taylor:

That a committee be appointed to consider the letter from the Medico-Psychological Association and report to the College.

After further discussion, in which Drs. Herringham, Turney, Archibald Garrod, and Squire joined, the amendment was carried, and the President nominated Sir W. Church, Sir W. Allchin, Drs. Mercier, Percy Smith, Coupland, Norman Moore, and F. Taylor to serve on the committee, with power to add to their number.

#### *Recognition of Schools.*

On the recommendation of the Committee of Management, the Eastern District Secondary School, Douglas, Isle of Man, and Haileybury College were added to the list of institutions recognized by the Examining Board in England for instruction in chemistry and physics.

### CONJOINT BOARD IN IRELAND.

*Diploma in Public Health.*—The following candidates have passed the recent examination for the Diploma in Public Health:

M. C. Blair, M.D.Univ. Glasg.; H. M. Cade, M.R.C.S.E., L.R.C.P.Lond.; R. T. Cann, M.R.C.S.E., L.R.C.P.Lond.; D. J. O'Regan, L.R.C.P. and S.I.; B. Khapoorji, Photographer, L.R.C.P. and S.Edin.; H. K. Smyth, M.B., R.U.I.; G. Stead, M.R.C.S.E., L.R.C.P.Lond.; R. L. Thomas, L.S.A.Lond.; Lydia K. Towers, M.B.Univ. Edin. (with Honours); N. B. Watch, L.R.C.P. and S.Edin.; Captain J. W. West, M.B., R.U.I., R.A.M.C.; H. O. Williams, M.R.C.S.E., L.R.C.P.Lond.

### SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON.

#### *Election of Representatives.*

At a meeting of the Court of Assistants of the Society of Apothecaries held on February 8th Mr. Arthur T. Norton, C.B., F.R.C.S., was elected as the Representative of the Society upon the General Medical Council for the ensuing year. Mr. E. Parker Young, M.R.C.S., L.M., L.S.A., was re-elected as Representative of the Society on the Central Midwives Board.

#### *Payment of Medical Practitioners Called by Midwives.*

The Court also passed the following resolution:

That, inasmuch as the absence of any provision for the payment of medical practitioners when called in on the advice of midwives in accordance with the "Midwives Act" is causing serious injury, the Government be respectfully urged to carry into effect the recommendation of the Departmental Committee on this subject as soon as possible, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister, the Lord President of the Council, and the members for the City.

## The Services.

### EXAMINATION FOR PROMOTION, HOME STATIONS.

THE following is the list of the successful candidates at the December Examination for Promotion of Majors of the Royal Army Medical Corps in Technical Subjects:

Major N. TYACKE, Technical Subjects. Already passed in (d) ii.

Major L. A. MITCHELL, M.B., (d) ii; .75. Has yet to pass in Medical History, etc.

Major T. P. JONES, M.B., Technical Subjects. Already passed in (d) ii.

Major G. A. MOORE, M.D., Medical History, etc. Already passed in (d) ii, in Army Medical Organization in Peace and War, and in Sanitation and Epidemiology.

Major R. C. LEWIS, Army Medical Organization in Peace and War. Already passed in (d) ii, in Sanitation and Epidemiology, and in Medical History, etc.

Major C. T. SAMMAN, Technical Subjects. Already passed in (d) ii.

Major C. M. FLEURY, Sanitation and Epidemiology. Already passed in (d) ii, in Army Medical Organization in Peace and War, and in Medical History, etc.

Major G. DANSEY-BROWNING, (d) ii and in Technical Subjects, .75 in (d) ii, and .8 in Medical History, etc.

Major K. B. BARNETT, M.B., F.R.C.S.I. (d) ii and in Technical Subjects; .75 in (d) ii.

Captain G. H. GODDARD, (d) ii; .75. Already passed in (h).

Captain G. G. DELAP, D.S.O., (d) ii. Already passed in (h).

Captain A. A. SEEDS, M.D., (d) ii; .75. Already passed in (h).

Captain E. B. KNOX, M.D., (d) ii. Already passed in (h).

Captains H. S. ROCH, C. R. EVANS, E. P. SEWELL, M.B.,

FITZG. G. FITZGERALD, A. D. JAMESON, J. T. JOHNSON, M.D.,

and P. G. HYDE, M.B., (d) ii; .75. Already passed in (h).

Lieutenant H. V. B. BYATT, (h) iii. Already passed in (b), (d) ii, and (h) ii.

Lieutenant H. GIBSON, (d) ii, and in (h) ii and iii. Already passed in (b).

Lieutenant C. A. T. CONYNGHAM, M.B., (d) ii, and in (h) ii and iii; .75 in (d) ii. Already passed in (b).

Lieutenants J. C. L. HINGSTON and J. JAMES, M.B., (d) ii and in (h) ii and iii. Already passed in (b).

Lieutenant R. M. DICKSON, M.B., (d) ii and in (h) ii and iii; .8 in (h) ii and iii. Already passed in (b).

Lieutenant A. L. STEVENSON, M.B., (d) ii, and in (h) ii and iii; .75 in (d) ii. Already passed in (b).

Lieutenant J. W. HOUSTON, M.B., (d) ii; .75. Has yet to pass in (h) i, ii, and iii. Already passed in (b).

Lieutenant W. J. DUNN, M.B., (d) ii, and in (h) ii and iii. Already passed in (b).

Lieutenant F. B. DALGLIESH, (d) ii, and in (h) ii; .75 in (d) ii. Has yet to pass in (h) i and ii. Already passed in (b).

Lieutenants M. LECKIE, S. G. WALKER, M.B., and F. M. HEWSON, (d) ii and in (h) ii and iii. Already passed in (b).

Lieutenant A. L. FOSTER, (d) ii and in (h) ii and iii; .75 in (d) ii. Already passed in (b).

Lieutenant C. M. RIGBY, (d) ii and in (h) ii and iii. Already passed in (b).

Lieutenant T. S. EVES, M.B., (d) ii and in (h) iii. Has yet to pass in (h) i and ii. Already passed in (b).

Lieutenant L. MURPHY, (d) ii and in (h) ii and iii. Already passed in (b).

### THE ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS (TERRITORIAL).

#### *The King's Levée.*

AMONG the presentations at the levée on March 1st at St. James's Palace was that of Colonel W. P. Whitcombe, upon promotion to the rank of Colonel, and appointment as Administrative Medical Officer, South Midland Division, Territorial Force. Colonel Whitcombe afterwards presented the following officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps (Territorial Force): Lieutenant-Colonel C. T. Griffiths, on appointment to command of the 2nd South Midland Field Ambulance; Major C. Howkins and Major W. H. Stephen, on attaining Field Rank, and on first appointment to the Territorial Force; Captain

G. W. Craig, Lieutenant C. R. Lunn, M.B.; Lieutenant W. M. Sturrock, M.B.; Lieutenant W. McCall, M.B.; Lieutenant W. A. Holland, Lieutenant J. H. Hobling, Lieutenant A. A. Kingston, M.B.; Lieutenant S. G. Webb, M.D.; Lieutenant H. F. W. Boeddicker, M.B.; Quartermaster and Honorary Lieutenant W. H. Kimpton. The following officers were also presented on the same occasion: Lieutenant-Colonel J. Paul Bush, C.M.G., R.A.M.C. (Territorial), on appointment to command of 2nd Southern General Hospital; Surgeon-Major C. Forsyth, R.G.A. (Territorial); Captain A. MacGregor, R.A.M.C. (Territorial); Lieutenant A. J. Riddett, R.A.M.C. (Territorial); Major A. C. Tunstall, R.A.M.C. (Territorial); Lieutenant-Colonel R. M. West, R.A.M.C. (Territorial); Major F. H. Westmacott, R.A.M.C. (Territorial).

#### *Territorial Head Quarters at Aston.*

The War Office has consented to make a grant of £7,000 for the purpose of properly adapting and equipping the buildings and portion of the old Aston Lower Grounds which were purchased two years ago for £13,000 to furnish head quarters for the 8th Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment and the local units of the Royal Army Medical Corps and the Army Service Corps. The quarters of the Royal Army Medical Corps, formerly the old aquarium, will comprise a fine entrance-hall opening out into the sergeants' mess, together with orderly rooms, waiting rooms, etc., and the company offices of the First and Second South Midland Field Ambulances and the First South Midland Mounted Brigade Field Ambulance. There will be a lecture-room 46 ft. by 23 ft. The men's recreation-room and canteen will be 46 ft. by 37 ft. 6 in. The spacious drill ground was formerly the old skating rink. At one end will be a covered drill shed and wagon store.

#### *Lowland Camps.*

The arrangements for the annual camps of the Territorial medical units during 1910 have been issued. The Lowland Mounted Brigade Field Ambulance, Glasgow, goes to Biggar with the Mounted Brigade from June 18th till July 2nd. The First and Second Field Ambulances from Glasgow and the Third Field Ambulance from Edinburgh go to Gailes on July 16th. The Second General Hospital from Edinburgh goes to Netley, while the Third and Fourth General Hospitals from Glasgow will train at Woolwich as last year.

## Public Health

AND

## POOR LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

### REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

*County Borough of Leeds.*—Although Dr. Spottiswoode Cameron's complete report for 1908 was not issued until the end of 1909, he had submitted a preliminary statistical report some months before. The birth-rate during 1908 was 24.8 per 1,000, the death-rate from all causes 15.5 per 1,000 of the population living, and the infantile mortality-rate 138 per 1,000 births. A large portion of the report is concerned with an account of the action taken by the Leeds Corporation in connexion with the prevention of tuberculous milk being supplied to the city. During 1908 the veterinary assistant to the medical officer of health made 481 visits to dairy farms and examined 7,397 cows. In 46 instances animals were found with udder disease. Of this number 11 were proved on further examination to be suffering from tuberculosis of the udder. In addition to these, 4 other cows whose udders were not obviously affected were under observation, and 1 was found subsequently to have more or less general tuberculosis. When discussing the supply of milk obtained from farms outside the city boundaries, Dr. Cameron considers it probable that nearly one-third of these farms are sending infected milk into the town.

## Obituary.

AUGUSTIN A. LE ROSSIGNOL, M.D. ABERD.,  
M.R.C.S. ENG., L.R.C.P. LOND.,

HONORARY CONSULTING SURGEON, JERSEY GENERAL DISPENSARY.

By the death of Dr. Augustin Le Rossignol, which occurred on February 18th at St. Helier, Jersey, as the result of acute broncho-pneumonia, the profession in Jersey has lost one of its senior and most respected members.

Dr. Le Rossignol, who was born in 1842, was educated at Victoria College, Jersey, and in France, where he graduated as B.Sc. in 1862. He then entered as a student of medicine at the London Hospital, obtained the diploma of M.R.C.S. in 1866 and that of L.R.C.P. in 1867, and took the degree of M.D. ABERD. in 1868. He then began practice at St. Helier, Jersey, where his family had long been well-known and respected residents. There he acquired a good practice. He became Honorary Surgeon to the Jersey Dispensary, and held other honorary

appointments. He was one of the founders of the Jersey Medical Society, acted as its Secretary for some years, and was ultimately elected President. He always took the warmest interest in the society, and in his will left to it the sum of £100 to be devoted to a special object.

In 1903 Dr. Le Rossignol received the honour of election as a jurat of the Royal Court of the island. In that position as also as a member of the States he devoted much time and attention to his official duties, and thus found it necessary to reduce, gradually, his private work. His interest in professional matters, however, never flagged. He continued his regular attendance at the meetings of the Medical Society, whilst giving his support also to the Jersey Division of the British Medical Association.

From the very onset of his brief, fatal illness, Dr. Le Rossignol appeared to realize that he would not recover, but he met his end with perfect calmness and entire trust. The interment took place at St. Saviour's Cemetery and was numerously attended, among others by the Lieutenant-Governor of Jersey, the Chief Magistrate, and several members of the medical profession.

Dr. Le Rossignol married Miss Edith Sorel, by whom he had a family of three sons and one daughter. The eldest son, Austin, a young medical man of marked ability and much promise, died three years since, of diphtheria, when a resident officer at the London Hospital. The others, together with Mrs. Le Rossignol, survive to mourn the loss of a most attached and devoted husband and father.

MISS ISLA STEWART, Matron and Superintendent of Nursing at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, died at Chilworth, Surrey, on March 6th. For more than twenty years she had worked consistently for the registration of trained nurses, under the authority of the State, and the present satisfactory position of the movement is due in no small measure to her influence. Naturally tolerant, generous, kindly, and peace-loving, she always stood firm where vital principles were involved, and placed the welfare of the cause she had so much at heart above all personal considerations. As a matron she won not only the respect, but the affection, of those who worked under her, and the spirit she infused into the nursing department under her control was that of the public school, where the scholars themselves are jealous for and maintain its high tone, and teachers and pupils are on the best terms. At the time of her death Miss Stewart was a member of the Nursing Board of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, Principal Matron of No. 1 (City of London Hospital) of the Territorial Nursing Service, President of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, and Honorary President of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses. Her services to the profession of nursing received recognition in her appointment as an honorary member of the Irish Nurses Association, the German Nurses Association, and the American Federation of Nurses, and a special medal, which she valued very highly, was conferred upon her by the Assistance Publique of Paris. Her memory will long be cherished both in this country and in our colonies and abroad by members of the profession which she loved and served with unselfish devotion.

DEATHS IN THE PROFESSION ABROAD.—Among the members of the medical profession in foreign countries who have recently died are Dr. Samuel Rona, Professor of Dermatology in the University of Budapest, author of papers on the etiology of rhinoscleroma, eczema, gangrene and phagedaena, rodent ulcer, angioneuroses, and of a work on venereal diseases, of which two editions have appeared, aged 52; Dr. Nikolai Kumberg, author of numerous writings on the history of medicine, and of a biographical dictionary of Russian practitioners, which was unfortunately left uncompleted at the time of his death; Dr. Johann Krannhals, one of the editors of the *St. Petersburger medicinische Wochenschrift*, aged 56; and Dr. Follen Cabot, of New York, a lineal descendant of John Cabot, brother of Sebastian Cabot, the famous explorer, a specialist in genito-urinary surgery, in his 40th year.

## Medical News.

THE King has been pleased to sanction the following appointments to the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England:—As Knights of Grace: Robert A. Gibbons, M.D., Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick H. Appleby, M.R.C.S. (from Honorary Associate), Major Robert J. Blackham, R.A.M.C. (from Honorary Associate). As Esquires: Major Charles A. Hodgetts, M.D., L.R.C.P., A.M.C. of Canada (from Honorary Associate), Charles J. Copp, M.D., Major Harry B. Yates, M.D.

ON March 9th the Battersea Borough Council by a large majority decided to proceed at once to carry out the resolution for the removal of the Brown Dog antivivisection memorial.

THE annual report of the Caxton Convalescent Home, Limsfield, for all connected with the printing industry, presented to the annual meeting on March 5th, stated that 135 convalescents had been restored to health through its agency. A special appeal is being made to liquidate the building debt of £900 incurred in extensions.

THE Orient Line has arranged an Easter sea trip to Gibraltar and Marseilles. The tourists will leave London on March 18th by the *Orvieto*, and will reach London again on April 1st by the *Osterley*, both being 12,000-ton twin-screw vessels. The journey can be broken at Gibraltar by those who desire to visit Africa or the South of Spain.

AMONG the lectures to be given at the Royal Institution after Easter is a course of three on the mechanism of the human voice, by Dr. F. W. Mott, F.R.S., Fullerian Professor of Physiology; Professor C. J. Holmes will give two lectures on heredity in Tudor and Stuart portraits; and Major Ronald Ross, F.R.S., two lectures on malaria. The Tyndall lectures on electric heating and pyrometry will be given by Professor J. A. Fleming.

AT the meeting of the Medico-Legal Society at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., on Tuesday, March 22nd, at 8.15 p.m., Mr. J. Howell Evans, F.R.C.S., will read a paper on The Value of the Ear in Identification; Dr. Wynn Westcott will communicate a note on Deodands; and Dr. H. Oppenheimer will make a communication on The Liability for Malpraxis in Ancient Law.

A THREE months' course of lectures and demonstrations in hospital administration for candidates for a diploma in public health will be given at the North-Western Hospital, Hampstead, N.W., by Dr. J. MacCombie, Medical Superintendent, on Mondays and Thursdays, beginning on April 4th. The lectures on the two days in each week will be identical, and a member of the class may attend on either day. The fee for the course is 3 guineas. Further particulars can be obtained from Mr. T. Duncombe Mann, Clerk, Metropolitan Asylums Board, Embankment, E.C.

A COURSE of six lectures on the prevention of destitution will be delivered by Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Webb at St. James's Hall, Great Portland Street, London, W., on Monday evenings, beginning on April 4th, 1910. The Home Secretary, Mr. Winston Churchill, will preside at the meeting on Monday, April 25th. At the close of each lecture answers to questions will be given orally by the non-lecturing partner. Numbered and reserved stalls, 1 guinea for the course of six, or 5s. for a single lecture; and other seats half a guinea for the course, or 2s. 6d. for any single lecture, can be obtained on application to the Secretary of the National Committee to Promote the Break-up of the Poor Law, 5 and 6, Clement's Inn, Strand, W.C.

DR. C. W. DANIELS, of the London School of Tropical Medicine, is delivering a course of lectures in the West India Committee Rooms, 15, Seething Lane, S.E. The first lecture was given on March 10th; the others will be delivered on March 14th, 17th, and 21st, at 4 p.m. The lectures, which are illustrated by lantern demonstrations, are intended to give persons about to reside in the tropics, and especially the representatives and employees of commercial and industrial undertakings, an opportunity of acquiring a knowledge of the cause and spread of tropical diseases and the means of prevention. The lectures are delivered as a sequence to those already given by Professor Simpson at the London Chamber of Commerce. Tickets can be had on application to P. Michelli, C.B., London School of Tropical Medicine, Royal Albert Dock, E., or Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary to the West India Committee, 15, Seething Lane, E.C.

THE duties of a sanitary medical officer on the Persian shore of the Caspian Sea appear to be of a most strenuous kind; there was early in December a limited outbreak of

cholera at Astara. Dr. Lascaridès, the representative of the Persian Sanitary Council, succeeded in localizing the epidemic, but in taking measures to prevent its dissemination to neighbouring ports he had to forbid the voyage of certain persons until the period of observation had terminated. This action was very much resented; the would-be travellers threatened the doctor with death, and were only induced to refrain from violence on that much-tried official giving them maintenance money out of his own pocket.

THE Princess of Wales opened the new buildings of the Hospital for Invalid Gentlewomen in Lisson Grove on March 7th. The institution, of which Miss Florence Nightingale was first lady superintendent until 1853 when she went to the Crimea, was first started by Lady Canning in Chandos Street, and removed two years later to Harley Street. On the expiration of the lease of the Harley Street premises last year the site in Lisson Grove was secured on favourable terms. Since the foundation of the institution some 5,000 cases had passed through the hospital, many coming from India and the Colonies. After a brief dedicatory service by the chaplain, the Rev. C. E. Harris, the Princess declared the building open and subsequently made an inspection of the premises. There is accommodation for thirty-two patients in small wards and private rooms. The operating room on the fourth floor is well lighted and is reached by a spacious lift.

THE nineteenth annual report of the Nurses' Co-operation, 8, New Cavendish Street, London, W., shows that 468 fully trained nurses, and 27 asylum-trained nurses, belong to the Co-operation, and that there are also 13 nurses eligible for election working on probation for six months. The nurses on the staff receive the whole of their earnings, subject only to a deduction of 5 per cent. in the case of those who joined before the end of 1903, and 7½ per cent. in the case of those admitted since. The fund formed by this percentage is used for upkeep, payment of permanent staff and incidental expenses, and the maintenance of a policy by which nurses are insured against accident, the surplus being invested as a reserve fund. The committee also arranges a policy of insurance against sickness and death, the contributions of the nurses being supplemented from the funds of the Co-operation.

THE Chelsea Clinical Society held its annual dinner on March 3rd at the Gaiety Restaurant, Strand. Mr. Leonard A. Bidwell, president of the society, was in the chair, and there was an excellent attendance of members and friends. The Chairman, in proposing the toast of "The Society," said that though the Chelsea Clinical Society was one of the youngest of the medical societies, its progress was remarkable and was due to the fact that its members were enthusiastic in the work and had never neglected the social side. The popularity of the meetings was enhanced by permitting the members to indulge in smoking. Dr. Barry Ball, in responding to the toast, gave an interesting account of how the society had migrated from different localities in Chelsea till at last it had settled down at the Chelsea Dispensary. Dr. Eric Pritchard proposed the toast of "The Kindred Societies and Guests," which was acknowledged by Dr. Samuel West, President of the Medical Society of London and by the Mayor of Chelsea. The proceedings terminated after Mr. Charles Ryall had given the health of "The President and other Officers," which was acknowledged by the chairman.

SOME idea of the magnitude of the business of industrial assurance in this country may be gathered from the sixty-first annual report of the Prudential Assurance Company recently issued. As the figures are so large, we shall use only round numbers. The total number of policies in force at the end of the year was over 18½ millions, including 1½ millions free or paid up policies; the amount assured was 185½ millions, and the premiums received in respect of these policies amounted to £143,000 a week, or nearly 7½ millions sterling a year. The average duration of the policies in existence exceeded 11½ years, and the average age of the assured was 33½ years. The number of free policies granted during the year to those policy holders of five years' standing and upwards who desired to discontinue their payments was over 150,000, raising the number in force to over 1½ million. The number of free policies which became claims during the year was 41,000, and the total number of claims and surrenders (including 4,545 endowment assurances matured) was 382,000. The claims of the year amounted to over 2½ millions sterling. The results of the actuaries' valuation of the life assurance fund in the industrial branch showed that it amounted on December 31st to 31½ millions, with a net liability of 30½ millions sterling. The company also has an ordinary branch, and its total assets in both branches, as shown in the balance sheet, amount to over 74 millions.