

If an injection of adrenalin be made just before an anaesthetic is given, no bad results occur. It is difficult to understand the fact that when chloroform anaesthesia is deep the danger of injecting adrenalin is less than when light; unfortunately, in those operations in which adrenalin is most often used for haemostatic purposes—those about the nose and throat—it is a light anaesthesia that is desirable, and the anaesthetic chosen is usually chloroform.

Memoranda:

MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

LONG INTERVAL BETWEEN BIRTH OF TWINS.

A somewhat unusual case of twins occurred in the practice of Dr. Macklin and myself, and seems of sufficient interest to record.

A multipara had a living male child on February 24th, the labour being quite straightforward. Another child could be felt with the vertex on the left and the child's back to the mother's left front. She had severe after-pains at half-hourly intervals for ten hours, and after that at longer intervals, until they ceased in twenty-four hours after the birth of the first child. The lochia was almost absent. She was allowed up at the end of a fortnight, and went about performing her household duties until April 4th, when labour pains came on again and she was delivered of a living female child. The first child weighed 6 lb. and the second 6½ lb., both being small but well nourished, and both are doing well now.

The point of interest is the long interval between the two births, nearly six weeks, and the fact that though the pains after the birth of the first child were strong and fairly frequent they failed to dislodge the second.

She has had four other children, single births, and one miscarriage.

Whalley.

J. M. POSTLETHWAITE.

STRANGULATED HERNIA IN AN INFANT.

THE cases recorded last November by Dr. Nichols and Mr. Dent induce me to record a case that occurred in my own practice some two years ago.

The patient was an infant aged 6 weeks at the Jenny Lind Children's Hospital, and I was summoned to it late one evening because the hernia—one of the strangulated inguinal variety—had resisted all attempts at reduction.

Chloroform having been administered, I found that the gut could not be reduced by gentle taxis, and as previous attempts had been made, I operated at once. On opening the sac, about a teaspoonful of turbid serum escaped. The bowel was intensely injected and of a purple colour. The neck of the sac being divided, the gut was easily reduced, and the opportunity was taken to do a radical cure, two buried sutures being used. The child made a good recovery.

I had never previously seen a case of strangulation in so young an infant. During nearly twenty years' work on the staff of the Children's Hospital here I had never seen a case of strangulated hernia in so young an infant, nor did I while house-surgeon at the Manchester Children's Hospital under Professor G. A. Wright. The latter in his book *Diseases of Children* (Ashby and Wright) does, however, mention cases as young as 3 weeks (Halsewood) and 4 weeks (Maunder), and Mr. Rushton Parker, in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* of October 26th, 1912, quoting from Mr. Howard Marsh's article, gives cases as young as 8 days and upwards to 13 years.

I note that Mr. Parker, in his case of an infant 28 days old, used the original strict Listerian dressing, which I also adopted in my case, deeming it safer, but have latterly regularly used the "open" method of Mr. Stiles—that is, no dressings. I have never punctured the scrotal swelling, as Mr. Parker did, although I have on several occasions thought of doing so, the swelling having eventually subsided.

HENRY C. NANCE, F.R.C.S. Eng.,

Consulting Surgeon, Jenny Lind Hospital for Sick Children.

Norwich.

SUGGESTED OPERATION FOR RELIEF OF PROSTATIC HYPERTROPHY.

A CORRESPONDENT (p. 804) has raised a point which has interested me much during the last few years, although I have not had the opportunity to put it to a practical test.

In 1900 I devised and practised an operation for the cure of cystocele in the female, which is mentioned in Dr. Inglis Parsons's book on the treatment of *Uterine Prolapse* (page 52). I have since performed the operation in many cases, and always with success.

The results have been so good that I have often wished to put to the test the effect of a similar operation in an early case of enlargement of the prostate gland. The conditions are very similar, for how much of the abnormal growth of the prostate may be due to the infiltration of its substance from the decomposing urine in the residual sac which lies behind and below it? Could an arrest be effected by the obliteration of this sac and its load of bacteria?

The operation for cystocele in the female is simple and safe. The recti are divided in the middle line until the distended bladder is exposed, as in the suprapubic operation for calculus. The finger is then gently swept round the upper surface of the bladder, and detaches it from its abdominal relations until the upper surface of the distended bladder is freed. The contents of the bladder are then allowed to escape, and the loose upper part is drawn down and puckered with a stitch which is lightly tied, the ends being left long. Each long end is threaded in a needle, and is passed through its corresponding rectus as near as possible to its insertion on the pubis, and is then made to serve in closing the lower end of the divided muscles. Other stitches close the upper part of the muscle and the skin wound. For some days afterwards the urine is drawn off by the catheter every three hours. At the end of a fortnight it will be found that the residual urine is almost nil. I distend the bladder with a boric acid solution, and give an assistant the charge of the meatus urinarius, which he controls with his finger until he is told to release it, after the upper portion of the bladder has been freed from its former site.

It would be more easy to control the escape of the fluid used to distend the bladder in the male.

Guernsey.

J. AIKMAN, M.D., C.M.Glasg.

A BIMANUAL METHOD OF RECTIFYING A FACE PRESENTATION.

ON March 11th I was called to a woman in labour with her fourth child. Previous labours had been difficult, the pelvis being small and the children rather large.

The face was presenting, the chin being left anterior. The membranes were ruptured and the os uteri partly dilated, but though the face had just engaged the brim, the head was not coming down into the pelvis. It seemed quite obviously a case for podalic version as recommended by the books. As, however, the nearest help was five miles away and I did not at all relish the prospect of failing to deliver an after-coming head, I decided first to make what effort I could to turn the presentation into a vertex.

The patient being in the left lateral position across the bed, I inserted the left hand into the uterus, grasped the head, and rotated the chin well to the right so as to bring the occiput to the left, in order to enable me to make use of both hands to advantage. The left thumb was then pressed upwards on the chin, and with the fingers hooked over the occiput I tried to draw it down; the palm steadied the head, whilst with the right fist pressure was made downwards on the occiput through the abdominal wall. The manoeuvre proved quite successful, adequate flexion being quickly secured. The occiput was then rotated back again and round to the front, the blades of the forceps were accurately adjusted to the sides of the head, and delivery was effected after much pulling.

I am quite satisfied that I should have found very much greater difficulty if I had performed version, and I shall not hesitate to use this method of rectification again if and when occasion serves.

Harston, Cambridge.

W. J. YOUNG, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

The Services.

ROYAL NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICE.

SURGEON-GENERAL SIR JAMES PORTER, K.C.B., has been awarded the Good Service Pension of £100 per annum vacant by the death of Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets John Fisher.

Flying Pay.

By an Order in Council, published in the *London Gazette* of April 18th, the following arrangements have been sanctioned: (1) Medical officers who obtain the certificates of the Royal Aero Club at their own expense to be eligible for gratuity of £75, provided the permission of the Admiralty to undergo such training has first been obtained. (2) Medical officers trained at the Central Flying School, or at a naval flying school, to be paid half the authorized rate of flying pay while under instruction. (3) After attaining such standard of proficiency as may be laid down, medical officers to be paid the authorized rate of flying pay (a) for any days on which they may be required to fly on duty, (b) for days on which it may be necessary for them to carry out practice flights not exceeding two days per month.

THE INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

THE *Gazette of India* of February 15th, 1913, notifies that Colonel G. W. P. Dennys, Inspector-General of Hospitals in the Central Provinces, is granted leave for eight months, and that Lieutenant-Colonel H. E. Banatvala acts in his place. This announcement is of interest as being the promotion of an Indian member of the I.M.S. to officiate in the administrative grade and as Principal Medical Officer of an Indian province. No Indian has yet attained permanently to such a post, but one, Lieutenant-Colonel E. P. Frenchman, C.I.E., acted in the same office, in Burma, in 1909.

It was a strict rule of the East India Company that only men of pure European extraction should be appointed to the I.M.S. The India Act of 1853, Acts xvi and xvii Vict., cap. 95, introduced competitive examination, open to all natural-born subjects of Her Majesty, for admission to the service. The first examination was held in January, 1855, when the list was headed by S. C. G. Chuckerbutty, a Bengali Christian, who had been one of the Indian students sent to study in England, under the guardianship of Dr. H. H. Goodeve, ten years before. Chuckerbutty took the diploma of M.R.C.S. in 1848, the degree of M.D. Lond. in 1849. From 1850 to 1854 he served in the Uncovenanted Medical Service. Of the five students sent home with Goodeve, Chuckerbutty was the only one who was young enough, in 1855, to enter for the examination for the I.M.S.

Since 1855 over 100 men with pure Indian names have gained admission to the I.M.S., of whom nearly forty-nine have joined on the General List instituted in 1896. Some twenty others, with Portuguese or Armenian surnames, have also entered; as well as a considerable number of Anglo-Indians of mixed blood, who, of course, cannot be identified by their surnames.

It is not perhaps surprising that no Indian has yet risen permanently to the administrative rank. More than half of the Indians admitted are still too junior for any question of their promotion to have arisen. Of the seniors, comparatively few, only some ten in all, have put in the full thirty years' service necessary for promotion or full pension. Many have taken the first opportunity of retiring as soon as they had earned the first pension. Several have held appointments of importance with credit and success. Chuckerbutty became professor of materia medica in the Calcutta Medical College, and second physician of the College Hospital, in 1864, and held the post till his death, when on leave, in London, on September 29th, 1874. Another Indian, R. C. Chandra, was his successor in these offices, and held them for nearly twenty years, till his retirement on October 16th, 1891. Lieutenant-Colonel Frenchman for several years held the Inspector Generalship of Prisons in Burma. Another Indian officer held that post in the province of Eastern Bengal and Assam, and now holds it in the new province of Bihar and Orissa. Ten have risen to the rank of brigade surgeon, or its modern equivalent, lieutenant-colonel, on the selected list.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hormusjee Eduljee Banatvala is a Parsi by birth. He was born on October 20th, 1859, so has a year and a half yet to run before attaining the age for compulsory retirement. He was educated at the Grant Medical College, Bombay, where he took the L.M. and S. in 1881, and at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, taking the M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Lond., and L.S.A. in 1882. He entered the Bombay Medical Service as surgeon on April 1st, 1884, passing third, and a few months later was transferred to

Bengal, became surgeon-major on April 1st, 1896, lieutenant-colonel on April 1st, 1904, and was placed on the selected list on January 1st, 1910. For the first nine years he remained in military employ, serving in Burma from 1886 to 1889, when he took part in the operations of the First Brigade and in the pursuit of Hla Oo; he received the medal with two clasps. He also served in the Lushai expedition of 1892. For the last twenty years he has been in civil employ in the Central Provinces, where he now becomes Acting Inspector General of Hospitals.

GLASGOW UNITS, ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

THE annual gathering and presentation of prizes in connexion with the Glasgow units of the Royal Army Medical Corps (Territorial) took place in the new head quarters at Yorkhill Parade. Lieutenant-Colonel A. D. Moffat, M.D., Commanding the 2nd Lowland Field Ambulance, presided, and there were also present Colonel D. J. Mackintosh, M.B., M.V.O., Assistant Director of Medical Services, Lowland Division; Lieutenant-Colonel H. Wright Thomson, Lowland Mounted Brigade Field Ambulance; Lieutenant-Colonel George H. Edington, M.D., 1st Lowland Field Ambulance; Lieutenant-Colonel A. G. Hay, M.D., 3rd Scottish Hospital; Colonel Alexander Napier, M.D., 4th Scottish Hospital, and others. The chairman said that the aggregate authorized strength of the units was 32 officers and 730 other ranks, and that there were serving on February 28th 29 officers and 743 other ranks. Since then the shortage of officers had been made good, and he congratulated those present on being members of a highly prosperous and admirably equipped corps. So far as the crisis in the Territorial Force was concerned they had no knowledge of it in the Glasgow units of the Royal Army Medical Corps. Colonel Mackintosh presented the prizes gained during the past season, and congratulated Colonel Moffat on the excellent report. He was glad to learn that a large number of men proposed to re-engage for a further period, which showed their patriotism and their loyalty to the Territorial Force.

Universities and Colleges.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

Graham Scholarship in Pathology.

THE late Dr. Charles Graham, Professor, and later Emeritus Professor of Chemical Technology in University College, by his will bequeathed the residue of his estate to the University of London, to found at the School of Advanced Medical Studies of University College a Charles Graham Medical Research Fund. The Senate was empowered to establish a Graham scholarship in pathology of not more than £200 a year to enable a young man to continue his pathological researches, while at the same time he gives his services to the school as a teacher under the Director of Research appointed under the Graham bequest. The Senate now invites applications for the Graham scholarship in pathology, which is of the value of £200 per annum for two years. Applications stating the research upon which the applicant proposes to work, and marked "Graham Scholarship," must be sent to the Principal, University of London, South Kensington, S.W., by May 31st, accompanied by the names of not more than three references, one at least of which should be the name of a professor, lecturer, or teacher of the university or college in which the candidate has conducted his studies in pathology.

CONJOINT BOARD IN ENGLAND.

THE following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

FIRST COLLEGE (*Part IV, Practical Pharmacy*).—C. H. B. Avarne, A. J. Bado, O. Baier, P. W. Barnden, C. A. Bernard, J. W. Bouwer, H. H. Castle, A. J. Chillingworth, G. D. Compston, D. T. Corke, H. L. Cronk, F. W. Crook, J. D. L. Currie, G. Dayal, S. B. Depree, E. Donaldson, K. M. K. Duff, P. Green, H. S. Groves, H. Gwynne-Jones, W. T. Gwynne-Jones, A. R. Hacker, T. W. Hancock, T. C. Higgins, G. G. B. Holroyde, T. R. Kenworthy, G. H. S. Letchworth, A. B. Muir, W. E. Neale, F. A. M. Nelson, D. W. Pailthorpe, A. B. Preston, F. N. Reynolds, A. N. Rushworth, T. W. Sheldon, A. H. Taymour, G. O'N. Waddington, L. M. Waldron, A. S. Westmorland, G. W. Wheldon, L. H. Woods.

CONJOINT BOARD IN SCOTLAND.

THE following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

FIRST COLLEGE.—W. Brown, N. S. Bruce, R. P. Crawford, H. G. Fitz-Maurice, J. A. Murray.
SECOND COLLEGE.—J. Crawford, A. Evans, D. A. Imrie, R. MacGregor, J. Y. M'Lean, J. M. A. M'Vey, G. L. Pillans, H. Shaw, W. Templeton, F. W. Thompson, R. L. Wright.
THIRD COLLEGE.—J. W. Cowie, J. R. C. Gordon, W. L. Paterson.
FINAL.—S. Cochrane, A. M. Robertson, W. N. P. Williams, Madeline MacWilliam, W. E. Cruickshank, M. J. Ahern, R. Craig, M. R. Mahlangeni, J. F. Bourke, J. R. Gwynne, G. L. Clark, S. Swaminathan, R. S. Miller, U. R. Hattiangadi.

in court day after day showing no sign of fatigue, not losing her temper, and able to cross-examine as well as any counsel at the Bar. All that was to her credit. But it was her duty to be truthful and fight her opponents fairly. He could not help thinking that she must now regret the attack upon the Royal Commission which was embodied in the letters signed "Nemesis," admittedly written by her. In one of those letters she had said of Lord Cromer: "You are not the first man of prominent position who has warmly championed cruelty." It was true she might express her opinion as strongly as she liked; but she was not entitled to further the cause by making statements which were dishonest and untruthful. There was no evidence to show that she had done anything to ascertain the truth with reference to her statement that 6,500,000 people had died from plague in India as a result of serum inoculation; she had made a statement of which she had no knowledge. [At this point the plaintiff interjected the remark: I relied on Dr. Helen Bouchier, who had been in India.] Reviewing the evidence given by the plaintiff, his lordship remarked that she had said in terms that she had adhered to the open letter written to Lord Cromer. If that was so, Lord Cromer might well bring an action against her. He (the learned judge) disliked the practice of writing "open letters," and in saying that he was not speaking of Miss Lind alone. Many men did not want to go to law to set up a character which they knew they had never lost, but some people were so sensitive that, if accused of being untruthful, they would take sixteen days before a judge and jury to prove the contrary. He felt much puzzled by the antivivisectionist argument that one may cut up a mouse to save the mouse's life, but one must not do so to save a human life. The jury had to ask themselves whether Dr. Saleeby's letters might have been considered by a reasonable person to apply to the plaintiff, and whether the language was defamatory. Had no evidence been called on the part of the defendants, the only questions would be, was there malice and the amount of the damages. As to damages, the plaintiff had not said much as to how much she wanted. She had said that she felt very deeply that her character had been impugned, but she also said she had come, not for the purpose of obtaining money, but to vindicate her character. If they found in her favour, they would give her damages which would not be so small as that people might point the finger at her and say that she had been awarded the smallest coin of the realm. They must mark in a sensible way the wrong which had been done her. His lordship then reviewed the evidence for the defence at considerable length. He pointed out that Dr. Saleeby, in an earlier part of the article attacked, had said that he, too, disapproved of cruelty. As to the suggestion of the plaintiff that an air of levity sometimes pervaded the lecture theatre, the evidence showed that students would joke and laugh, but whether they were laughing about football or not, they were not laughing at animals in pain. Did they think that the defendants had made out their case? Had they satisfied them (the jury), in the first place, on the plea of justification? It was not necessary that every single fact alleged in the plea of justification should be proved. The question was, Had the truth of the allegations been substantially proved? If they thought that the list of particulars of justification had been substantially proved to their satisfaction; that what Dr. Saleeby wrote he was justified in writing, and wrote on facts which had been proved to be true; that, in point of fact, the plaintiff had been proved to be guilty of mendacity; that the campaign had been carried on untruthfully; that she and her associates had during this long time been attempting to destroy the vivisectional stronghold, and take to themselves the people as antivivisectionists—if they were satisfied on all these points, and that the plaintiff had knowingly taken an active part, they would be entitled to say that the plaintiff's case had not been proved. But that was not all. There was the plea of fair comment. Let the jury imagine they were all antivivisectionists, and ask themselves the simple question, "If we were to carry on a campaign against vivisection, would we have carried it on as this campaign has been carried on?" Would they have carried on a truthful campaign if it had been conducted on these lines? He would add one word as to Miss Lind in conclusion. She had spoken very strongly and very deeply when appealing to them at the close of her reply. Verdicts, however, must be given on evidence, not on sentiment. If they thought Dr. Saleeby was justified in writing the letters, their verdict must be for him. However sorry they might feel for her, they must do their duty.

After an absence from court of about twenty minutes, the jury returned a verdict for both defendants.

Judgement was entered accordingly, in both cases with costs.

THE late Sir Thomas Frederick Chavasse, F.R.C.S., left estate of the gross value of £17,407, of which £16,010 is net personalty.

A NEW system of lighting operating theatres has recently been brought out by Messrs. Leitz, of Wetzlar and London, and appears to merit examination by surgeons. Its central feature is the distribution of the light of an arc lamp by a series of reflectors, so placed that one or other of them must continue to supply adequate illumination whatever the position or attitude adopted by the operator. An installation of a corresponding kind is stated to have been in use at the new obstetric school at Strasburg for about a year and to have proved successful.

Public Health

AND

POOR LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

POOR LAW MEDICAL RELIEF AT BURNLEY.

IN our issue of April 12th, p. 797, it was pointed out that the Local Government Board had refused to sanction the proposals of the Burnley Guardians with regard to the arrangements for medical relief in the union, pending their consideration by the new board about to be elected. That board has just held its first meeting, and the matter was again considered. It is to be regretted that after what seems to have been a very cursory examination of the subject under dispute, and in spite of urgent representations from some of the newly-elected guardians, the board by a large majority instructed the Clerk to forward the same scheme again to the Local Government Board for its approval, without any alteration. The Burnley Guardians had before them a strong protest from the Corporation of Colne, and a request from the local profession to receive a deputation to discuss the matter in order, if possible, to come to an amicable arrangement. Several of the guardians were strongly in favour of receiving this deputation, and Mr. Procter (a guardian) considered that there was much information the old members had never had before them. But a large majority of the board was opposed to all compromise, and desired to ignore the objections both of the local authorities in their area and the Burnley profession. No attempt was made to answer the numerous objections that have been put before the Local Government Board, and no further reason was given in favour of their proposals than a plea based on Art. 159 of the Consolidated Order of July, 1847, that a medical district should contain a population of not more than 15,000. As this regulation is practically a dead letter in most parts of England and Wales, it can hardly appeal very strongly to the Local Government Board, and is certainly no answer to the weighty objections that have been urged on the other side. The matter is now entirely in the hands of the Local Government Board, which can hardly approve of the high-handed action of the Burnley Guardians. It is earnestly to be hoped that before deciding the matter it will itself institute some inquiry on the spot.

Medical News.

VACCINATION has been made compulsory in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

THE eleventh International Congress of Pharmacy will be held at The Hague in September (17th to 21st).

DR. D. J. GALLOWAY has been reappointed an unofficial member of the Legislative Council of the Straits Settlements.

THE annual meeting of the London and Counties Medical Protection Society will take place next Wednesday, April 30th, at 4 p.m., at the society's home, 32, Craven Street, W.C.

AN Anglo-German exhibition is to be held this year from May to October at the Crystal Palace. Of its seven sections, one will be devoted to questions of education, and another to those of food supplies.

FOURTEEN French colonization companies have contributed funds for the institution of a complementary course of colonial studies (pathological protohistology) in Paris, with a laboratory in connexion therewith.

THE Council of the Royal Sanitary Institute, believing that the Medical Officers of Health Superannuation Bill would tend to the better administration of the public health service, has resolved to petition Parliament in favour of it.

THE Gresham Professor of Physic, Dr. F. M. Sandwith, will on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of the week beginning May 13th give four lectures on the cradle of pharmacy, on opium, on arsenic, and on mercury respectively. The lectures will be given at 6 p.m. on each day at the City of London School.

A SOCIETY of Jewish doctors and scientists in Palestine has been founded for the purpose of improving the sanitary conditions of the country. It is intended to establish a bacteriological laboratory, central clinics for the education of those who have charge of infants, and departments for the study of malaria and the suppression of trachoma. The president is Dr. Sandler, Droysenstr. 6, Charlottenburg.

DR. LE FLEMING, Chairman of the Bournemouth Division; Dr. Eleanor Bond, Secretary; Dr. Johnson Smyth, Representative; and Dr. Willans, Secretary of the Bournemouth Practitioners Union, were entertained at a banquet and musical evening at the Mont Dore Hotel, Bournemouth, on the evening of April 16th. As a further mark of the

appreciation of their labours during the Insurance Act crisis, each was presented with a silver salver suitably engraved.

THE Swiss Esperanto Medical Association has invited the Universal Esperanto Medical Association to hold its annual congress in Berne during the ninth International Esperanto Congress, which commences on August 24th next in the buildings of the University of Berne. There will be one or two meetings of the Universal Esperanto Medical Association during the seventeenth International Medical Congress in London.

A NATIONAL league against cancer has been founded in Belgium with the title "The Mauve Cross." The head quarters are at Brussels, and it is intended that there shall be local committees in the provinces. It is in contemplation to create an institute of cancer with a laboratory and annexes, and to subsidize the four Belgian universities with the object of founding in them centres for the study of cancer. The initiative of the movement is due to Professor Jacobs, the well-known gynaecologist.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Section of Medicine of the Royal Society of Medicine is to be held next Tuesday evening for the purpose of witnessing a demonstration by Dr. Monod of Vichy of the possibilities of the cinematograph in the teaching of biology. The films to be shown by him include a new method of demonstrating the heart's action by animated cardiograms, one relating to the development, fecundation, and segmentation of cells, and others bearing on the circulation of the blood and the digestion of albumen, fibrin, and starch. The section extends an invitation to be present to all members and Fellows of the society.

ON December 18th, 1912, the medical profession of the State of New York organized and duly incorporated under the State law an association entitled the American Society of Medical Economics for the study, investigation, and control of the economics of the profession. Membership is open to all duly licensed practitioners, and the society aims at the unification of the entire medical profession in economic matters. It is hoped that it will thus become possible to develop a degree of concerted medical activity for the protection of the public against ignorant, improper, and corrupt legislation, medical frauds, the substitution of drugs in the dispensing of doctors' prescriptions, the sale of impure drugs and foods, and quackery in general. The society has provided for the immediate establishment, through the development of branch societies in every State in the Union, of a national body for the management and control of medical economics.

ON May 1st, under an Order in Council signed last October, carbolic or liquid preparations sold as carbolic or as carbolic acid, or as carbolic substitutes, or as carbolic disinfectants, and which contain not more than 3 per cent. of phenols, become substances to which Section 5 of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, applies; that is to say, in whatever form they are put up for sale they must be labelled not only with the name of the substance and the name and address of the vendor, but also with the word "Poison." Failure to observe this rule may be punished by a fine not exceeding £5. The Local Government Board points out that when liquid disinfectants are either distributed gratuitously or used by their own officers, local authorities ought to observe the same precautions as those which are enforceable by law when such substances are dispensed or sold.

THE Local Government Board has issued a general order accompanied by a circular letter to boards of guardians outside London expressing the desire that the arrangements now in force in London for securing a more uniform and satisfactory treatment of the problem of the tramp should be extended to the rest of the country. In London the Metropolitan Asylums Board co-ordinates the work of dealing with casuals, and in more than twenty counties of England arrangements are in force or in contemplation based on the "way-ticket" system. The Local Government Board desires that in every county a committee, representative of the various boards of guardians and of the police, shall be established to co-operate with the guardians in securing: (a) Uniformity of administration in regard to casuals; (b) discrimination in favour of those genuinely in search of work; and (c) the provision of a mid-day meal for vagrants.

THE annual meeting of the General Association of the Medical Practitioners of France was held on April 6th under the presidency of Professor Gaucher. The budget showed a deficit of £280; last year the deficit was £240. After consideration of the financial situation, there was a discussion on the nomination of physicians and surgeons to provincial hospitals. A report presented by Dr. Maunoury, of Chartres, recommended that in large towns

they should be elected by public competition, and that in towns of less than 5,000 inhabitants the hospital appointments should be distributed in turn among the local practitioners. The meeting approved the recommendations. What the profession is anxious to do is to withdraw the physicians and surgeons of the hospitals of small towns from the arbitrary authority of the Mayor, the Prefect, and administrative commissions.

THE Société d'Hygiène de l'Enfance offers a prize for the best essay on the following subject: The place which notions of puericulture and the hygiene of infancy should occupy in modern education. Essays sent in competition must be unpublished and may be written in French, German, English, Italian, or Spanish. They must be authenticated by a device or motto reproduced on a sealed envelope containing the name and address of the author. Manuscripts should be sent before December 31st, 1913, to the President of the Société d'Hygiène de l'Enfance, 10, rue St. Antoine, Paris (4e). No essay will be returned; all, without exception, will remain the property of the society, and must not be published by their authors. The society reserves to itself the right to extract from the best essays matter for a pamphlet of propaganda and instruction. The prizes consist of gold, silver-gilt, silver and bronze medals and honourable mentions. The prizes will be awarded at the public annual meeting of the society in 1914.

SUPPORTERS of the National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic met at the Hôtel Métropole on April 16th, when the festival dinner took place, under the presidency of Lord Strathcona, who, in proposing the toast of "Success to the Hospital," spoke of the value of the institution as a field for medical training. Sir Frederick Macmillan, Chairman of the Governors, in response, mentioned the improvements that had been made in the last eleven years in the equipment of the hospital. The Dean of Canterbury submitted the toast of "The Medical and Surgical Staffs." He said that the medical and surgical staffs of hospitals had been the means of changing the significance of the word "hospital." Whereas a hospital was formerly a place of refuge for the destitute, it had now become a place, not of resignation, but of hope. It was largely due to the efforts of the medical staff of the National Hospital that the advances of the last fifty years in the study of nervous diseases had been made. Sir Victor Horsley, who responded, said that no medical staff ever received better support from the board of management than did the one attached to the National Hospital. The toast of "The Chairman" was proposed by H.S.H. Prince Alexander of Teck. It was announced that a collection made during the evening on behalf of the hospital funds amounted to £2,316. Lord Strathcona subscribed £1,000.

SOME interesting types of primitive humanity are to be seen at the Victoria Palace, Victoria Street, S.W., where Mr. Alfred Butt is presenting a series of animated pictures reproduced from photographs taken by Mr. Martin E. Johnson, who accompanied Mr. Jack London, the famous American novelist, on his four-years' voyage among the islands of the South Pacific. The little band, which consisted of Mr. London, his wife, and their four companions, visited New Zealand, Sumatra, Java, Borneo, New Guinea, the Hawaii, Fijis, Solomons, Marquesas, and the New Hebrides, and made their way into regions hitherto unknown even to the missionary or the trader. The results of this adventurous cruise, as recorded in Mr. Johnson's beautiful photographs, will be of great interest to every student of ethnology. The inhabitants of the South Sea Islands comprise many widely varying racial types, from the comparatively civilized mongolian of the Zulu Archipelago to the debased negroid type usually found amongst the cannibals of the Solomons and New Hebrides; the flat noses, thick lips, and woolly hair of a group of Solomon Islanders photographed by Mr. Johnson (one of whom showed unmistakable signs of elephantiasis in the right forearm) present a striking contrast to the light brown skins and more regular features of the natives of Samoa or Hawaii. The language, dress, habits, religious beliefs, and manner of warfare of these primitive races differ as much as their personal appearance; and save where they have been modified by contact with the white man, their customs have remained unchanged. Mr. London and his party availed themselves to the full of their opportunities for studying native life at close quarters, and thanks to their courage and perseverance in the face of dangers and difficulties of every kind, it is possible to obtain an insight into the conditions in which the South Sea Islander lives and dies. Mr. Johnson's collection of photographs is now on view for the first time in England, and forms an interesting memorial of the expedition.