

## Memoranda :

### MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

#### A CASE OF RIGHT HEMIPLEGIA WHICH RECOVERED VERY RAPIDLY UNDER SALVARSAN.

GUNNER C., aged 34, was admitted to the Station Hospital, Secunderabad, on August 23rd, 1913, suffering from complete right hemiplegia. There was no aphasia, but his speech was somewhat indistinct. He stated that he contracted syphilis eleven years before and received two years' continuous treatment with mercury. He had had no reminders since that date. He woke up on August 22nd feeling his right arm somewhat stiff. He rode eight miles, dismounted, and superintended the loading of a wagon. He was then unable to mount without assistance, but rode home after being helped into the saddle. When he woke next morning his right side was completely paralysed. The Wassermann reaction was positive.

On August 24th he was given 0.6 gram of salvarsan intravenously, and he was seized with very severe abdominal pain during the injection. He was put on pot. iod. gr. v and liq. hyd. perchl. 3j, t.d.s.

On August 25th at 9 a.m. he was able to move his right hand very slightly, and by 5 p.m. there was considerably more power in the arm and more in the leg.

August 26th. Further increase of power in arm, and the leg appeared to have quite recovered.

August 27th. Able to raise arm completely at the shoulder joint, face straight, tongue almost straight, and he could walk with very slight assistance.

August 28th. A crop of herpetic vesicles came out on the left ear and the right side of the mouth.

August 31st. Second intravenous injection of 0.6 gram of salvarsan, which was followed by less vomiting and diarrhoea. Knee-jerks + on both sides.

September 9th. Third injection of 0.6 gram of salvarsan intravenously.

September 26th. Wassermann reaction negative fourteen days after third injection; cerebro-spinal fluid also negative.

October 31st. Discharged from hospital to attend as an out-patient. There is good recovery of power in arm and leg. He walks well, but drags the right toe on the ground, especially when excited.

December 6th. Rode to hospital; mounted and dismounted without difficulty. Co-ordination of right arm, with eyes closed, is apparently perfect.

His condition had much improved since his discharge from hospital, and on December 16th his blood gave a negative Wassermann reaction. I presume the case was one of syphilitic endarteritis with resulting thrombosis.

F. J. PORTER, D.S.O.,  
Major, R.A.M.C. (ret.).

#### THE ELECTRICAL TREATMENT OF INTESTINAL STASIS.

WITH reference to the electrical treatment of intestinal stasis referred to by Dr. F. Hernaman-Johnson (March 7th, p. 531), the following notes of a case in point will be of interest:

A lady, aged 55, consulted me last July. She had suffered from constipation for twenty-five years—that is to say, she had not had a natural unaided evacuation of the bowels in that period. For the last five years she had had colitis—that is, her abdomen had been so tender that often she could not bear the pressure of her clothes. She had severe pain daily, until her bowels acted after a high enema. The evacuations contained long strings of mucus. She was very flatulent and dyspeptic. She had learnt to exclude the articles which disagreed most with her, so I made no change there; she was ordered a dessert-spoonful of paraffin night and morning.

Six x-ray exposures were given of one-quarter of a Sabouraud dose at each sitting, the abdomen being divided roughly into three portions, and each surface receiving two exposures. The upper part of the abdomen was not exposed. These applications were spread over

three weeks, and in the intervals between doses the abdomen was exposed to the rays of the 500 candle-power lamp as hot as could be borne for twenty minutes. At the end of a month the pain ceased.

The treatment was then intermittent for six weeks, after which a course of treatment with the static wave current to the abdomen was begun, preceded as before by twenty minutes of the 500 candle-power lamp. This was given thrice a week for about two months, when the bowels began to act naturally, and the sittings were gradually discontinued.

I had a letter from her at the end of February; she has a natural action of the bowels daily, no pain, no dyspepsia, and no mucus in the stools. I have had other cases treated in a similar manner which have benefited, but this, I think, is of particular interest, because it was of long standing and has recovered completely.

London.

JOHN J. GRACE, F.R.C.S.

#### THE EFFECTS OF ADRENALIN.

Two communications have appeared in the JOURNAL recently (February 28th, p. 476, March 14th, p. 623) dealing with the therapeutics of adrenalin. It would be very interesting if those who prescribe or use the suprarenal gland in, say 2-grain, tablets would tell their experience of its effects and the dosage they administer. The late Dr. Gibson, of Edinburgh, recommended it for Graves's disease, but I do not know what doses he gave. One person I know took gr. xij of the gland daily with decided benefit. I have also been told that it is used abroad in similar dosage for menorrhagia.

There is a class of case of a neurasthenic order which suffers from sudden inexplicable attacks of tiredness lasting two or three hours, a whole day or more, and the tiredness is accompanied by something akin to melancholia. I have found the daily administration of 2 to 6 grains of suprarenal gland in tablet form for four to seven days at a time of great benefit in some of these cases.

A lady, aged 65, suffering greatly from flushings of the face and head, with noises in the head, benefited from taking gr. ij daily.

In my opinion, there are certain cases in which the gland, not adrenalin, will prove as useful as thyroid gland does in others. Whether continued administration would cause aortic degeneration in man is a point requiring to be settled.

Dunbar.

W. J. BURNS SELKIRK.

#### THE USE OF THE HEAD MIRROR IN OPHTHALMIC OPERATIONS.

I do not know how far other ophthalmic surgeons have found the head mirror, such as one uses in examining the larynx, serviceable in ophthalmic work. A few months ago a lady came to me, having met with an accident to her eye from the rebound of a thorn bush. The thorn had penetrated the upper eyelid and the sclera, and could easily be seen by the ophthalmoscope lying free in the vitreous humour, well behind the upper half of the lens. After consultation with Mr. Craig, I decided to attempt to remove it, and the ordinary laryngeal head mirror came in very useful, as, with the pupil widely dilated with atropin, one could see the thorn by the reflected light, and watch the ends of the iridectomy forceps appear behind the lens and grasp the thorn, both hands being free for operative work. Assisted by Dr. Davidson, I reflected the conjunctiva above and a little behind the insertion of the external rectus muscle. A considerable time had then to be given in order that all bleeding might cease by the free use of adrenalin and cocaine, before incising the sclera, otherwise blood in the vitreous chamber might have obscured the view; a V-shaped instead of a linear incision was made, so that the thorn could more easily be extracted through such a scleral flap. The thorn was grasped under the operator's sight and removed. There was no material reaction, and the eye some weeks later had almost full vision. I have seen the head mirror recommended as useful in ophthalmic work, but a case such as the above illustrates the point very well.

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## Universities and Colleges.

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THE following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

**FIRST M.B., CH.B. (B., Botany; Z., Zoology; P., Physics; C., Chemistry).**—J. R. P. Alexander (Z., C.), T. Anderson (Z., C.), T. F. Arnott (Z., C.), \*B. Barrowman (Z., C.), R. Bethune (Z., C.), A. Black (Z., C.), D. M. Blair (Z., C.), S. B. Borthwick (Z.), R. R. S. Bowker (Z., C.), R. R. Boyd (Z., C.), J. A. Bruce (Z.), \*T. M. Burton (Z., C.), M. J. Cahalane (Z., C.), W. M. Cameron (P.), M. Chalmers (C.), H. A. Cochrane (Z.), J. S. Cook (Z., C.), C. I. Cottie (Z., P.), A. M. Davidson (Z., C.), \*J. Donald (Z., C.), J. C. Dow (Z., C.), A. B. S. Drysdale (Z., C.), R. T. Duthie (C.), K. H. Dyke (Z.), W. Edgar (Z., C.), T. E. Ferguson (C.), \*W. J. Ferguson (Z., C.), A. B. Ferrie (Z., C.), D. Finlayson (Z.), T. Forrest (P., C.), A. D. Fraser (Z.), C. N. Gordon (P.), J. S. M'ill Gray (Z., C.), J. A. Hamilton (Z.), J. C. Harrower (Z., C.), A. Henderson (Z., C.), J. Hill (Z., C.), H. J. Hollis (Z., C.), T. J. Honeyman (B.), J. Hood (Z., C.), \*T. O. Howie (Z., C.), D. W. Humble (P., C.), T. Hutchison (Z., C.), M. Hyman (Z., C.), T. H. Irvine (B., P.), J. Irving (Z., C.), R. P. Jack (Z., C.), J. A. Jenkins (P.), J. Johnston (Z., C.), W. Jope (C.), \*R. E. Kerr (Z., C.), W. M. Kerr (C.), J. P. Kilty (Z., C.), F. J. Kitt (Z.), J. C. Laurie (Z., C.), P. J. A. Lavelle (B.), \*J. R. Learmonth (Z., C.), C. U. Lee (Z., C.), J. E. W. Lee (Z.), A. C. Lindsay (Z., C.), J. Lipschitz (C.), A. J. M'cartney (C.), W. R. M'crae (C.), P. J. M'Cusker (B.), W. M. Macfarlane (Z., C.), R. F. M'Gibbon (Z., P.), T. M'Gowen (Z., C.), J. A. C. MacGregor (Z., C.), W. S. M'Intyre (B., Z., P.), J. W. Mackay (Z.), \*P. A. Mackay (Z., C.), A. M'Laughlin (B., Z., P.), \*D. Maclean (B., Z.), W. S. L. M'Leish (Z.), W. H. M'Lie-sh (C.), W. M'Linden (Z., C.), F. K. Macmillan (C.), W. B. M'Queen (Z., C.), A. W. M'Korie (Z., C.), J. Matheson (Z., C.), J. M. Melvin (Z., C.), J. G. Miller (Z., C.), J. H. Miller (Z., C.), K. S. Miller (B.), N. M'E. Montgomery (B., Z., C.), W. A. Muir (Z.), W. Napier (Z., C.), B. F. Niblock (Z., C.), J. Nicoll (Z., C.), \*I. L. Oluwole (Z., C.), F. F. Paul (Z., P., C.), \*J. W. Peden (Z., C.), B. T. Peilham (Z., C.), C. K. T. Peilham (Z., C.), R. J. Peters (Z., C.), T. Poole (B.), J. Preutice (C.), A. W. Rankin (Z., C.), A. Ridell (Z.), J. M. Ritchie (Z., C.), J. J. Robertson (C.), \*T. Robertson (Z., P.), W. Scotland (Z.), J. Shaw (B.), H. J. A. Simpson (Z.), A. W. Sinclair (C.), J. Smart (P.), A. W. Smith (Z., C.), B. P. Smith (Z., C.), T. Stark (Z.), A. B. Stich (Z.), T. S. Stirling (C.), D. F. Sutcliffe (Z., C.), W. S. Syme (Z.), J. A. K. Taylor (B.), J. T. Taylor (Z.), J. C. Vaughan (Z., C.), A. R. Waddell (C.), W. A. Walker (Z., C.), H. D. Wallace (Z., C.), J. A. Walls (C.), H. Wands (Z.), D. M. Watson (Z.), J. Watt (C.), W. M. Williamson (P., C.), J. W. Wilson (Z., C.), R. MacL. Wilson (Z., C.), W. Wiseman (Z., C.). **Women:**—G. Chaterton (Z., C.), M. M. L. Couper (Z., C.), \*G. A. Fleming (Z., C.), J. E. Hanson (Z.), J. W. Hepburn (Z., C.), M. R. Knight (Z.), \*E. C. London (Z., C.), M. J. Macdonald (Z., C.), \*I. Q. M'Fadzeau (Z.), A. P. M'Gavin (Z.), M. T. M'George (Z., C.), M. E. D. Mackinnon (Z., C.), R. S. Mackinnon (B., P.), M. G. M'Vey (Z.), E. P. Y. Paterson (Z.), M. N. Robertson (C.), \*A. P. Routledge (Z., C.), M. M. Scanlan (C.), K. Scott (B., Z., C.), J. E. Shortt (Z., C.), M. C. Steedman (Z.), L. I. H. Torrance (C.). **SECOND M.B., CH.B. (A., Anatomy; P., Physiology; M., Materia Medica and Therapeutics).**—W. D. Allan (M.), J. Alston (A., P.), W. Barraclough (M.), J. Beveridge (A., P.), M. N. Bhattacharjia (A., P.), P. R. M. S. Boyd (A., M.), A. G. Brand (P.), D. C. Buchanan (M.), D. Cameron (A.), \*D. Campbell (M.), M. W. Cantor (M.), J. Chalmers (M.), J. M. D. Clarke (A.), D. H. Coats (M.), W. K. Connell (M.), A. F. Cook (A., P.), J. N. Cruickshank (M.), J. F. Cunningham (A.), J. W. Dalglish (A., P.), A. Davidson (A., M.), M. Devereux (M.), R. S. Dickie (M.), J. Dunbar (M.), J. F. Duthie (A., P.), T. P. Finlay (Z.), J. B. Fisher (A., P., M.), M. M. Frew (M.), W. H. Gibson (A.), N. W. Gilchrist (M.), D. Heard (A.), G. M. Hetherington (A., P.), A. R. Hill (A., P.), T. P. Hutchison (A.), W. F. Kivlichan (P., M.), \*T. A. Letters (A., P.), R. Lindsay

(M.), F. C. Logan (A., P.), H. E. M'Coll (A., P.), P. Macdiarmid (A., P.), R. W. Macdonald (A., P.), D. J. Macdougall (P.), J. W. Macfarlane (M.), J. P. M'Greehan (A., J. MacInnes (M.) D. B. M'Intosh (A., M.), J. M. Mackintosh (M.), K. S. Macky (M.), D. M'Lauren (A., P., M.), D. M'Neill (A.), E. J. MacPhail (M.), F. R. Martin (M.), J. C. M'I. Mactheson (A.), N. Morris (M.), W. W. Morrison (A., P., M.), A. Morton (M.), W. H. Palmer (A., P.), J. A. Paterson (A., P.) T. S. Paterson (A., P., M.), W. J. Poole (A.), T. J. D. Quigley (A., P., M.), R. S. Reid (M.), A. W. Ritchie (M.), K. M. Rodger (A., P.), A. M'A. Scott (A.), T. R. Sinclair (A., P.), A. R. Steinberg (A., P.), P. A. Stewart (P., M.), W. M. Stewart (M.), J. Stirring (M.), J. L. Torley (A., P.), R. N. Walker (A., P.), J. D. Watson (M.), R. S. Weir (A., P.), \*C. A. Whittingham (P., M.), R. J. Wilson (P.), J. T. Wylie (A., P.). Women: C. B. Buchanan (M.), A. K. Cormack (A.), J. B. Davidson (M.), M. O'R. Gallagher (M.), A. L. Hamill (A.), F. S. Kirk (A.), M. J. T. Leitch (A., P.), D. McCubbin (A.), M. E. Maciver (A., P.), E. C. McVie (A.), A. J. Marshall (A., P.), E. S. Martin (M.), J. L. Munro (M.), H. Y. Murdoch (M.), M. H. Routledge (M.), M. I. Sinclair (A., P.) M. B. O. Wilson (M.).

THIRD M.B., CH.B., P.—Pathology; M., Medical Jurisprudence and Public Health: Ismail Abdurrahman (P., M.), R. Atkin (P., M.), W. E. Boyd (P.), S. Bryson (M.), J. Buchanan (P.), W. E. A. Buchanan (P.), D. S. Campbell (P.), J. M. Campbell (M.), J. A. Chrystie (B.), A. M. Clark (M.), W. Combe (P., M.), R. S. Crawford (P., M.), H. P. Crow (P., M.), W. Cunningham (P., M.), F. V. Daebitz (M.), A. H. Donaldson (P., M.), J. Dunbar (P.), \*E. M'M. Dunlop (P., M.), T. Ferguson (M.), H. T. Findlay (M.), T. Flemming (M.), R. Forbes (P.M.), D. G. Gardiner (P.), R. S. Gibson (P.), J. Gilchrist (P., M.), R. K. H. Gillespie (P., M.), C. C. B. Gilmore (P., M.), \*J. Glaster (P., M.), W. Gordon (P., M.), R. T. Grant (A.), A. C. Hepburn (P., M.), W. A. Higgins (P., M.), B. Isbister (P., M.), J. C. Knox (P.), R. M. Lang (M.), H. B. Lawrie (P., M.), J. A. Leiper (M.), A. T. Logan (P., M.), P. Y. Lyle (P., M.), R. Lyon (P., M.), H. D. M'Crossan (M.), D. F. Macdonald (M.), D. K. Macdougall (M.), D. M'Farlane (P.), \*J. M. Macfie (P.), G. J. M'Gorty (M.), A. M'Innes (P., M.), A. F. M'Intosh (P., M.), D. M'D. M'Intyre (P.), J. M. Mackay (M.), G. Maclean (P., M.), P. D. Maclean (P., M.), M. B. Macleod (M.), W. Martin (P., M.), T. S. Meighan (P.), T. D. Miller (P., M.), \*J. D. Milligan (P., M.), P. O. Moffat (P., M.), L. S. Morgan (P., M.), F. W. Morrison (P., M.), H. A. Munro (P., M.), A. W. Panton (M.), J. R. Pate (P., M.), J. Paterson (P., M.), F. P. Rankin (M.), J. K. Reunie (P.), J. Richardson (M.), A. W. Ritchie (P.), K. M'A. Ross (M.), W. J. S. Wade (P., M.), S. C. Shanks (M.), W. F. Shanks (P.), J. T. Smith (P., M.), J. Smith (P.), A. Stenhouse (M.), D. S. Stevenson (P., M.), R. S. Strachan (M.), R. Taylor (M.), R. T. Todd (P., M.), A. J. V. Spuy (P., M.), G. T. Walker (P., M.), W. J. C. Watt (M.), A. Young (P.), T. Young (P., M.). Women: J. F. Henderson (P.), H. I. W. Kerr (M.), M. J. MacLachlan (P., M.), J. L. Munro (P.), M. A. Noble (P., M.), M. A. H. Stewart (P., M.), I. S. Thompson (P., M.), I. H. Younger (M.), M. Walker (M.), M. F. Wood (P., M.).

FINAL.—R. Armstrong, \*G. F. Barr, R. W. Brauer, W. H. Brown, Ethel Crawford, R. Frew, A. R. H. Gever, A. J. Gibson, T. Gilchrist, D. Hargie, J. W. H. Hewitt, D. Johnston, G. S. Livingston, D. S. M'Bean, C. R. M'Intosh, Jessie G. M'Lauren, N. M. F. W. M'Millan, R. M. M'Ninn, E. S. Macphee, J. K. Manson, W. S. Martin, W. J. May, W. Meikle, A. D. Moffat, W. L. Peacock, J. M'L. Pinkerton, D. E. Roberts, K. C. Robertson, \*S. Robertson, \*S. Robertson, S. D. Robertson, A. M'K. Russell, J. F. Steven, H. Stewart, J. S. Stewart, R. Stewart, I. D. Sutcliffe, \*R. Tennent, R. N. Thomson, W. Thomson, J. C. Walker, H. C. Watson, S. A. Watson, Grace B. Whish, A. S. Wilson, T. W. Wylie.

\* Passed with distinction in one or more subjects.

#### QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY OF BELFAST.

THE following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

First M.B. (Chemistry and Physics).—S. Acheson, E. Armstrong, J. Barron, J. Black, Winifred W. Boland, \*T. M. Boyd, S. P. Breakey, J. H. Calvert, T. G. Campbell, T. I. Candy, J. Caruth, Gladys E. Chambers, S. E. Clarke, J. M. Clearkin, T. J. A. Connolly, \*D. Crounie, T. Dickey, S. E. Duff, C. W. A. Emery, S. Fullerton, \*W. Graham, D. W. G. Gray, S. Hall, A. H. Henry, J. M. Hosey, Mary E. Irwin, A. E. Keown, M. G. Kierans, Elizabeth A. K. Law, D. Longbridge, G. L. Love, W. J. Lytle, H. F. Macaulay, H. H. M'Clelland, A. B. M'Corke, J. M'Garvey, D. M'Lister, R. J. M'Neill, E. A. Maguire, G. H. Mansfield, J. A. Martin, A. J. May, Margaret M. Merrick, W. Michael, S. Owens, H. Paul, J. D. Pinkerton, H. Poston, D. A. E. Scott, Ruth M. Slade, L. P. St. J. Story, J. M. Tyrrell, P. S. Walker, A. Watson, \*Maud C. Welsh.

\* Physics alone.

Second M.B., CH.B.—Mary I. Adams, G. V. Allen, C. D. Crawford, F. Ewart, E. Freeman, H. E. Hall, J. A. Harbison, J. M. McCormack, T. J. Marner, \*A. J. Millar, W. Napier, W. H. Pedlow, J. Scott, E. S. G. K. Vance, R. Weaver, J. Wilson.

\* Physiology alone.

Third M.B., CH.B. (Pathology, Medical Jurisprudence, and Hygiene alone).—R. M. Beath, S. Millar. (Pathology and Materia Medica alone).—A. E. M. Carleton, J. Culenan, C. F. Davey, J. E. Finlay, P. Kane, J. M'Kay, J. R. M. Mackenzie, Sylvia Marsh, J. F. Meenan, W. N. Montgomery, W. Russell, H. S. Smith, J. M. Smith. (Medical Jurisprudence and Hygiene alone).—Eileen M. Bell, D. Corry, M. Gilligan. (Materia Medica alone).—R. G. Blair. (Pathology alone).—W. C. M'Cullough.

Final. T. M. Adamson, W. W. Allison, W. Faith, J. M'K. Ferguson, W. Gault (with second class honours), H. A. Gillespie, W. S. Lynd, W. MacDermott, V. Magee, V. C. Montgomery, M. Neilson, Edith Robinson, R. S. Ross, H. E. Sinclair, W. J. Smyth. (Pathology, and Old Regulations).—J. Park. D.P.H. (Both Parts).—C. Alexander, W. Frier, S. I. Turkington.

#### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

THE following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

Second M.B. (Part I).—G. Adler, E. M. Atkinson, R. D. Aylward, K. N. G. Bailey, S. E. Barraza, J. C. Blake, H. J. Blampied, J. E. A. Boucaud, G. Bourne, N. J. Boxall, C. H. Bracewell,

R. B. Britton, Elsie C. Bulley, Ellinor M. Burnett, F. Caldecott, T. Carlyle, D. G. Churcher, \*W. E. G. Clark, A. J. Coklin, E. V. Corry, W. A. Date, C. O. Davies, G. V. Davies, E. Deacon, S. C. de Silva, Wijeyeratne, Phyllis D. Dixon, H. L. Douglas, M. Edwards, G. W. Elkington, D. W. Evans, Grace H. Fawcett, W. Feldman, G. H. Fitzgerald, \*R. K. Fouke, M. V. Geffen, Nannie Gibson, Dorothy Gilford, L. Gil, E. H. Glenny, H. Gluckman, E. Glynne, Alice M. Griffiths, H. G. Hall, John Hardy, L. W. Heffernan, R. R. Hill, Bertha Hinde, E. C. H. e. E. A. Holmes, J. C. C. Howe, G. F. W. Howarth, Amy M. Kerr, J. I. Kühne, F. R. Leblanc, Emily C. Lewis, G. P. Linsay, Alice L. Lloyd-Williams, K. McFadyean, R. G. Mack, B. McLean, Gladys Matthews, P. N. Menon, F. Morcos, E. R. D. Nagel, M. H. Oldershaw, A. E. P. Parker, F. Porras, E. D. Pridie, H. N. Pritchett, Olive Rendel, J. C. R. Richardson, G. F. Rodrigues, J. P. Ross, Eleanor M. Scarborough, W. H. Scrogg, S. C. Shaw, R. H. Sunderland, N. Taylor, M. B. Tench, B. Thomas, D. J. Thomas, J. H. Thomas, G. E. Tilley, C. M. Titterton, A. R. Tothill, K. R. Trail, K. T. K. Walling, N. W. Watters, S. A. T. Ware, F. W. A. Watt, Gladys M. B. Webster, A. D. Weeden, S. T. Wong, S. C. Woodhouse, Irene Yate, F. Young.

Second M.B. (Part II).—I. Aubrey, A. R. Balmain, C. D. Barnes, C. P. Barber, H. J. Bensted, R. V. Bevan, C. F. Beyers, F. Bl Burton, Marian N. Bostock, H. G. Broadbridge, W. W. K. Brown, L. A. Célestin, J. E. Cheeseman, C. C. Chesterman, Hetty E. Claremont, A. H. Clarke, W. H. Coldwell, J. D. Constantine, M. C. Cooper, R. G. Dani, M. A. B. Dennerlach, Hilda M. Denton, Elizabeth C. Eaves, A. W. F. Edmonds, Florence M. Edwards, L. W. Evans, G. Fehrsen, W. Fletcher, Barret, J. L. R. Fortier, A. R. Fuller, W. L. M. Gabriel, A. Gravelle, H. M. Gray, L. Grey, Grace M. Guistin, Hilda M. Halliday, R. B. Hawes, W. B. Heywood-Waddington, P. Hughes, J. B. Hume, Helen Ingleby, D. B. S. Jones, P. T. Jones, J. Kyle, E. H. Lake, H. J. Levison, D. J. A. Lewis, H. W. Lewis, Annie Lloyd, I. H. Lloyd, Katharine Lloyd, V. E. Lloyd, \*J. E. G. Mc Gibbin, S. A. Malkin, F. C. Mason, D. Menzies, Gladys M. Miall-Sunn, G. Moulson, W. H. Nicholls, D. C. Norris, R. V. Norton, J. H. Onnvala, Eleanor J. Partridge, Enid M. Pfeil, J. W. G. Phillips, C. V. Pink, R. V. Powell, S. D. Rhind, T. E. Roberts, K. M. Ross, E. Sakoschansky, B. Sampson, P. R. J. Schmidt, M. Schwarzenbach, A. Selby-Green, A. Shafeek, G. H. Sims, G. P. Tatton, D. Taylor, R. C. Thomas, J. F. Twort, D. J. Valentine, W. J. Vance, H. S. Wacher, M. J. T. Wallis, C. J. B. Way, J. de S. Wijeyeratne, T. P. Williams, A. Williams-Walker, A. Wilson, C. W. Wilson.

\* Awarded a mark of distinction. † Distinguished in Anatomy. ‡ Distinguished in Pharmacology.

#### UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

THE annual report of University College shows that the total number of students during the session 1912-13 was 2,033. Students from other colleges attending intercollegiate courses numbered 196; the special courses for teachers were attended by 495 persons, and the lectures open to the public without payment were attended by upwards of 3,000 persons. The total revenue from all sources was £66,694 and the total expenditure £173 in excess of this amount. The areas from which the students were drawn are shown in the following table:

	Undergrad. and Non-matric.	Post Grad. and Research.	Evening.
London and within 30 miles	710	285	458
United Kingdom (rest of)	273	73	13
British Empire (rest of)	105	28	1
Foreign	90	26	21
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,178</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>493</b>

The large amount of research work done in the college is shown by the long list of original papers and other publications, including 18 from the department of physiology, 10 from the department of pharmacology, and 8 from that of public health.

#### ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.

AN extraordinary comitia was held on Monday, April 6th, Sir Thomas Barlow, Bart., K.C.V.O., the President, being in the chair.

##### President's Address.

The President delivered the usual annual address, in which he referred to the Royal honours conferred on Fellows, Members, and Licentiates during the past year, and to the Harveian Oration and the lectures which had been delivered before the College. He also alluded to the award of medals and prizes, and the various events within the College. He likewise mentioned the gifts which had been made to the College. He read obituary notices of the Fellows who had died during the year—George Ernest Herman, Robert Leaman Bowles, Frank Buzzard, John Charles Thorowgood, Alfred Lewis Galabin, and Philip Frank. Sir Thomas Barlow thanked the Censors' Board and the other Fellows for their unfailing loyalty during the past year, and then vacated the chair.

##### Election of President.

Dr. P. W. Latham, speaking as the senior Fellow present, proposed a vote of thanks to Sir Thomas Barlow for his address, and for his services to the College, which was carried by acclamation.

The ballot for the election of President then took place, and Sir Thomas Barlow was re-elected by a large majority. The Senior Censor (Sir James Kingston Fowler) delivered to the President the insignia of office. The President gave his faith to the College, and thanked the Fellows for re-electing him.

#### Communications.

The following communications were received: (1) From the Secretary of the Royal College of Surgeons (three letters). (2) From the Clerk to the Privy Council, dated March 5th, to inform the College that the Sixth International Congress of Thalasso-Therapeutics will be held at Cannes on April 15th. (3) From the Secretary of the Board of Control, dated March 25th, asking for suggestions concerning the use of a grant of money "for the purpose of aiding and encouraging scientific research into the causes and treatment of mental disease and mental defects." The President was asked to nominate a sub-committee who should report to the Council.

#### Arrangements with Unqualified Persons under the Insurance Act.

A report was received and adopted from the Censors' Board dated March 2nd, concerning the employment of unqualified persons for purposes of treatment under the Insurance Act. The report is published in the SUPPLEMENT (p. 219).

#### Infectivity of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

A report, dated February 12th, was received and adopted from the Committee nominated July 3rd, 1913, concerning the infectivity of pulmonary phthisis. The report is published at page 826.

#### Egyptian Medical School.

The Committee reported that a full report had been received from the visitor, Sir W. Watson Cheyne, Bart., C.B., F.R.S., on the examinations of the Egyptian Medical School and the hospital, and that the Committee had communicated with H.E. the Minister of Education in reference to several points arising out of the visitor's report. Sir Watson Cheyne was thanked for his services.

#### Recognition of Institutions.

The following institutions, which had been visited by a member of the Committee and reported as fulfilling the requirements of the Board, were added to the list of institutions recognized by the Examining Board in England for instruction in the subjects respectively mentioned: *Chemistry and Physics*—Wellingborough School; The County School, Wrexham. *Biology*—Bradford Technical College. (This college is already recognized for chemistry and physics.)

The fever wards of the Royal Naval Hospital, Chatham (102 beds), were recognized by the Examining Board in England for the course of fever hospital practice required for the Diploma in Public Health.

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.**  
A QUARTERLY council was held on April 2nd, with Sir Rickman J. Godlee, President, in the chair.

#### The late Mr. Bruce Clarke.

A vote of condolence was passed to the relatives of Mr. Bruce Clarke, a past member of the Council and of the Court of Examiners.

#### Medical School at Cairo.

The thanks of the Council were given to Sir Watson Cheyne for his services as visitor of the examinations of the Egyptian Medical School at Cairo.

#### Jacksonian Prize.

This prize was awarded to Mr. J. Howell Evans, F.R.C.S., for his dissertation on the Malformations of the Small Intestine, their Mode of Origin, the Morbid Conditions which arise from them, and their Treatment. The subject for the prize for 1915 is Congenital Dislocations of the Joints; their Pathology and Treatment.

#### Election to the Fellowship.

Surgeon-General Arthur William May, C.B., R.N., Medical Director-General, Royal Navy, a member of twenty years' standing, was elected a Fellow.

#### Committee on Factory Lighting.

A letter was read from Mr. F. R. Cross reporting his attendance at the Home Office, on January 29th, to give evidence before the Committee on Factory Lighting, as requested by the Council, and stating that in support of his evidence he was able to lay before the Committee answers to a letter circulated by him among members of the Ophthalmological Society bearing on the questions under consideration.

#### CONJOINT BOARD IN ENGLAND.

THE following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

**FIRST COLLEGE.—Part I (Chemistry) and Part II (Physics):**  
\*Y. Abdel-Massiah, G. K. Arthur, \*Margarita I. Barfield, P. G. Calvert-Jones, J. H. T. Challis, \*A. E. Collie, J. C. Collins, †T. H. R. Davies, \*L. Dinerstein, A. J. C. Eland, †R. Erskine-Gray, A. A. E. R. Galal, †M. Girgis, \*R. V. Hudson, †W. A. Jolliffe, \*D. J. H. Jones, \*R. E. Jenkins, G. H. Johnson, †W. A. Jolliffe, \*D. J. H. Jones, A. E. A. A. Khair, F. Lawrence, J. E. Lewis, J. S. Lewis, J. C. W. MacBryan, \*C. H. Macklin, †J. N. Martin, †R. K. Marwood, \*A. Y. Massouda, G. Meadows, \*G. Millar, †G. B. Monk, †E. H. F. Morris, \*A. A. Osman, W. G. Owen, C. S. Parker, †F. Y. Pearson, †C. F. Rainer, †O. C. Rowland, R. J.

Saunders, W. M. Savery, G. A. S. Shacklock, \*O. L. C. Sibley, C. G. D. Siggs, †J. A. Siedman, \*E. A. L. Sturridge, \*F. A. L. Sturridge, C. P. Thomas, \*I. M. Thomson, J. H. Tighe, \*B. M. Tonkin, †F. F. Wheeler. *Part III (Elementary Biology):* H. Anin, H. D. Apergis, G. K. Arthur, R. W. C. Ball, L. W. Barber, Margarita S. Barfield, E. J. S. Bonnett, M. V. Boucaud, O. H. Brown, F. Cameron, A. A. Casalis, J. H. T. Challis, J. C. Collins, A. I. Cox, T. H. R. Davies, A. J. C. Eland, M. A. K. El Hennawy, M. Z. A. Emery, F. K. Escritt, H. R. Evans, T. G. Evans, D. C. Farquharson, W. B. Farrington, F. M. T. Flintan, A. E. R. Galal, Blanche S. Gardner, R. Hilliard, R. J. Hodgkinson, A. B. Isaacs, E. H. Johnson, G. H. Johnson, W. A. Jolliffe, D. J. H. Jones, J. W. Jones, A. V. Lopes, G. B. Monk, E. H. F. Morris, C. Nicory, H. Nosrat, E. J. Papenfus, C. S. Parker, E. A. Pearson, F. Y. Pearson, C. B. Phillips, C. F. Rainer, R. D. F. Robertson, E. Sanders, G. A. S. Shacklock, K. E. Shellshear, S. W. Southwood, G. E. Spero, S. L. Szpigner, C. P. Thomas, G. Mck. Thomas, J. H. Tighe, H. E. Williams, R. G. Wilshire, V. D. Wyborn, C. Young.

\* Passed in Part I only.

† Passed in Part II only.

## Obituary.

### BENJAMIN NEALE DALTON, M.D.LOND.,

LATE OF SOUTH NORWOOD.

ON March 23rd Dr. Benjamin Neale Dalton, a well-known practitioner in South Norwood, died at the age of 70, after an illness of more than five years' duration.

Dr. Dalton was the son of a stockbroker, and was born at Stockwell in February, 1844. He was educated at the City of London School, and in his 20th year, after being for a time a clerk at Lloyds, he entered as a student at Guy's Hospital. There he had a distinguished career; he took the first prize in his first year, in his second year, and in his third year; and in this year also he gained both the Treasurer's gold medals, for medicine and for surgery, and was awarded a prize of £10 for a paper on malformations read before the Physical Society. After obtaining the diploma of L.R.C.P. and M.R.C.S. in 1867, and acting as house-surgeon, he turned his attention to the London University, promptly passing the Preliminary Scientific Examination, and in 1870 the First M.B. examination. He was then appointed Demonstrator of Anatomy in the Medical School, served for two years, and in 1872 took the degree of M.B., obtaining the Scholarship and Gold Medal in Medicine and honours in Obstetric Medicine and in Forensic Medicine. He became M.D. the next year. During his demonstratorship he started the practice in South Norwood which he continued to hold until his final illness. He was an industrious, hard-working man, keenly interested in the scientific side of his profession, acquired a large connexion, and was frequently called in consultation by the neighbouring practitioners. He was a constant attendant at the discussions of the local Branch of the British Medical Association, before which he read several papers. He kept himself acquainted with all modern advances, and preferred as far as possible to make his own laboratory examinations of clinical material provided by his patients. He was a great reader of history, literature, and philosophy; and he was fond of gardening, carpentry, and photography. On his holidays he much enjoyed foreign travel. He was married in 1878, and leaves a widow, three sons, and two daughters.

THE death of Dr. ALEXANDER GUNN, of 44, George Square, Edinburgh, took place on March 28th. He was born in 1844 at Lybster, Caithness, and went to Edinburgh at the age of 14. His early years there were spent in qualifying himself as a chemist and druggist under Dr. Robertson, of George Street in that city. Thereafter he was appointed senior apothecary and dispenser to the Royal Infirmary; this appointment was held for ten years, during which he was able to attend classes at the University and Royal College of Surgeons with a view to qualification in medicine. This accounts for the fact that he was 33 years of age before he took the diplomas of L.R.C.P. and S.Edin.; some nine years later (in 1886) he graduated M.D. of St. Andrews University. He engaged in private practice in Edinburgh, and acted as medical officer to the Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Through his work as apothecary in the Royal Infirmary he was brought into touch with the late Lord Lister's discoveries and investigations in the development of the antiseptic system in surgery. Dr. Gunn's wife died a few months ago, but he is survived by two sons and three daughters. The funeral to the Grange Cemetery was on March 31st.

**SURGEON-LIEUTENANT-COLONEL JOHN JOSEPH O'REILLY**, Army Medical Department (retired), died at Twyford Abbey, Willesden, on March 28th, aged 70. After taking the diplomas of L.K.Q.C.P.I. and L.R.C.S.I. in 1865, he entered the army as assistant surgeon on October 2nd, 1865, becoming surgeon in March, 1873, surgeon-major on October 2nd, 1877, and retiring with a step of honorary rank to brigade-surgeon on January 27th, 1886. He served in the Afghan war of 1878-80, and received the medal for that campaign.

**SURGEON DAVID HENRY SMALL**, Bengal Medical Service (retired), died at Upper Norwood, London, on March 28th, aged 89. He took the diploma of L.R.C.S.Edin. in 1845, and entered the Indian Medical Service as assistant surgeon on November 21st, 1846, becoming surgeon on February 24th, 1860, and retiring on January 1st, 1866. The Army List assigns him no war service. Though more than sixty-seven years have elapsed since Dr. Small entered the army, there are still five officers of the Indian Medical Service senior to him, shown in the Army List as still living.

**DEATHS IN THE PROFESSION ABROAD.**—Among the members of the medical profession in foreign countries who have recently died are Dr. Delporte, member of the Belgian Chamber of Representatives for Dour (Hainaut); Dr. Pierre Emile Launois, *professeur agrégé* in the Medical Faculty of Paris, and physician to the Lariboisière Hospital, author of numerous papers on morbid anatomy, embryology, and pathogeny, aged 57; Dr. George McNaughton, clinical professor of gynaecology in the Long Island College Hospital, Brooklyn, aged 57; "Colonello Medico" Alessandro Pasquale, director of the Italian School of Naval Hygiene; Dr. Thomas Morgan Rotch, professor of paediatrics in the Harvard Medical School, aged 65; Dr. Lazarus Schoney, professor of pathology in the New York Medical College, and author of several works on pathology and biology, aged 76; Dr. L. Udranszky, professor of physiology in the University of Budapest; and Dr. C. Vanlair, sometime professor of medical pathology in the University of Liège, aged 75.

## Medical News.

AN International Veterinary Congress is to be held in London in August (3rd to 6th).

DR. SIMON, the French psychologist, will lecture to the Eugenics Education Society on "La Mesure de l'Intelligence" on April 28th, at 8.30 p.m., at Burlington House, by kind permission of the Royal Society.

MISS HELEN MURRAY has handed over the sum of £8,000 to the managers of the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, for the purpose of naming a ward in the Infirmary, to be called "The George and Agnes Murray Ward," in memory of her late brother and sister.

WE are requested to intimate that the annual Edinburgh dinner of the Indian Medical Service will be held in the Caledonian United Service Club there on Friday, May 29th next. Tickets may be obtained from Colonel James Arnott, 8, Rothesay Place, Edinburgh.

A CONGRESS of the German Society of Tropical Medicine will be held in the Institute for Infectious Diseases, Berlin, April 7th to 9th. Drs. Hartmann, Rodenwald, and Ruge will present reports on dysentery. A large number of other communications is promised.

DR. BARCLAY WIGGINS, of Hoyland, Yorkshire, has been made an Honorary Associate of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England, in recognition of twenty years' service in ambulance and other voluntary causes for the alleviation of pain and suffering.

DR. J. ARNALLT JONES, Colonel, A.D.M.S., Honorary Surgeon to the King, has been appointed assistant commissioner for No. XI District of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. Colonel Jones is assistant director of medical services in the Welsh Division and a member of the Glamorgan Territorial Association.

BY the way of disseminating knowledge on the question of the treatment and eradication of tuberculosis, the Insurance Committee of the county of Lanark has procured a cinematograph film, to be exhibited in the picture houses throughout the county, showing the Edinburgh system of dealing with the disease.

AN antiopium league has recently been formed in Paris. The honorary president is Professor Charles Richet, the acting president Dr. Jeanselme. Among the persons who have already joined the league are naval officers, members of the clergy and of the legislature. Among the original members are Mgr. Leroy, Bishop of the Congo, Admiral Philibert, and M. J. Chailley, Deputy. The plan of campaign of the league includes a series of addresses on the evils of the opium habit.

A DISCUSSION, introduced by Dr. B. A. Peters, on the elimination of cross infection in fever hospitals, will take place at the meeting of the Society of Medical Officers of Health on Friday, April 17th, at 5 p.m., at 1, Upper Montague Street, Russell Square. The question is one of serious concern to hospitals other than fever hospitals, and an invitation is extended to the medical staffs of general and children's hospitals to attend the meeting.

THE septennial award under the Acton Endowment of the Royal Institution has this year been made to Professor C. S. Sherrington, Waynflete Professor of Physiology in the University of Oxford, for his work on "The Integrative Function of the Nervous System." Previous awards have been made to Sir George Stokes, Miss Agnes M. Clerke, Sir William and Lady Huggins, and Madame Curie, for achievements in the field of physical science. Professor Sherrington is the first investigator in experimental biology to receive this distinction for the third of a century.

AN interesting demonstration of the most recent development in cinematograph appliances was given on April 3rd in the Fyvie Hall of the Polytechnic, Regent street, when Mr. R. Bruce Foster, B.Sc., lectured on the mechanism and working of the new Kinematograph Projector, which has been put upon the market by the engineering firm of Kamm and Co. The invention, which is especially designed for the use of teachers and lecturers, places the film under their immediate control, so that, by merely throwing out a clutch, the film can be arrested at any moment and in such a manner that the picture in the gate is projected as a lantern slide. The danger from fire is reduced to a minimum by means of an apparatus whereby the film can be kept cool while it remains stationary.

MANY crimes have been laid at the door of the cinematograph, which is constantly being denounced as a corrupter of childhood and a perverter of youthful morals. There can be no doubt that many of the films shown in picture palaces are utterly unfit for childish eyes; and this is all the more to be regretted because, under proper control, the cinematograph might prove an invaluable ally in the cause of education. Such subjects as history and geography, for example, might be made far more interesting to the average child if he could actually see the persons and places of which he has been told, and which, in nine cases out of ten, arouse no real interest because they are merely names which convey no definite meaning to his mind. Davison's Film Sales Agency, therefore, has done good service in proving what the cinematograph can do in the way of teaching history by recently exhibiting a beautiful set of films illustrating the stirring story of Tyrol's revolt against her French oppressors, her gallant struggle for independence, and the final overthrow of her peasant army, together with the capture and death of their leader, Andreas Hofer. It is a story which should especially appeal to the imagination and quick sympathies of childhood.

THE April number of the *British Review* contains an interesting article by E. Boyd Barrett entitled, "How to Complete One's Education." The author sums up his argument in the following proposition: "The three practical effects of school education are (1) character training, (2) intellect training, (3) acquisition of knowledge." He proceeds to show that the master, howsoever he tries to do his duty by his boys, under each of these three heads benefits more from their teaching than they do from his. It is the thought expressed in the old maxim, *Discere si velis, doceas, sic ipse doceris*. Barnell Payne writes on the work of Mr. Hilaire Belloc, whom he considers to be the writer of the best English prose of the day. Among the other contents are poetry, fiction, and politics, which may perhaps be regarded as largely fiction.

THE annual report of the Liverpool Medical Institution for the year 1913 presents, among other points of interest, striking evidence of its great utility to others besides those whose names figure on its roll of members. Altogether throughout the year over 90 meetings other than those of the institute itself were held in its building: 21 were meetings of bodies directly connected with the British Medical Association, and 49 those of committees connected with the working of the National Insurance Act, while among other bodies to whom hospitality was

afforded were the North of England Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society, the Northern Association of Medical Women, the Association of Hospital Medical Officers, and the Eugenic Society. The institute itself held 14 ordinary meetings and 6 pathological meetings, the average attendance at the former being as high as 78, and at the latter 56. On the last day of the year the number of honorary members, ordinary members, and associates aggregated 407, this being above the record of any year up to 1908, but somewhat below the average of the past five years.

WE regret to learn that the difficulty which has arisen between the medical profession in Blackpool and the management of the Victoria Hospital in that town has not been adjusted. At the adjourned annual meeting of donors and subscribers on April 6th, the result of the proposal to enlarge the board of management by the election of three additional members was that three lay representatives were chosen, and from the report in the *Blackpool Herald* it does not appear that the tone of the meeting was such as to encourage the hope that this change will have the effect of increasing the probability of the difficulty being arranged. The medical men in Blackpool, as we understand the position, are indisposed to enter into a conference with the board of management unless certain stipulations are fulfilled. The most important of these would appear to be that the number of representatives of the honorary medical staff upon the board of management should be increased by two, and it is recognized as a general principle governing the management of all hospitals that the representation of the acting medical staff on the board of management should be adequate. It is to be hoped that the board of management will see the unadvised of continuing its present policy, which must tend to diminish the medical efficiency of the hospital.

THE annual report of the Council of the British Hospital Association for the year 1913 stated that the number of members had increased by 33, and was now 416. At the invitation of the British Medical Association, three delegates were appointed to join the Subcommittee dealing with the subject of the treatment by the honorary staffs of voluntary hospitals of cases of tuberculosis in insured persons. These members abstained from voting upon matters submitted to the Committee, on the ground that they had no authority to speak for the hospitals generally. These various matters are to be submitted to the Council for consideration, before the delegates consider themselves empowered to record a definite opinion. The fourth annual conference of the Association was held at Oxford on June 26th and 27th, 1913. Sir William Osler, who was in the chair, delivered an address on "The British Hospital System: Its Efficiency and Need for Development"; and Sir Thomas Oliver and Mr. Keith D. Young, F.R.I.B.A., read papers. Arrangements had been made for the establishment of a central office of the association, at 14, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W. The fifth annual conference of the association will be held at Newcastle-upon-Tyne on June 18th to 20th next. The Lord Mayor of the city will preside. The programme will be issued to members and others interested in due course. The Council add a paragraph to the report inviting those associated with voluntary hospitals to join the association as members.

AMONG animals, mange in horses was made notifiable some time ago, and the *Veterinary Journal* has expressed an opinion that the Board of Agriculture should likewise schedule mange in dogs, on the ground that with the exception of distemper it is the most contagious disease to which these animals are subject. In the same issue is an account of a case at Stroud, Gloucestershire, in which some puppies suffering from sarcoptic mange infected several human beings in succession. A good many cases of a corresponding order were described by Dr. Leslie Roberts, of Liverpool, in an admirable paper read by him at the Sheffield meeting of the British Medical Association in 1908; he showed also that the sarcoptes of animals was practically indistinguishable from the *Acarus scabiei* of man, except in respect of minute differences of size, and that it shared with various keratomycetes, large and small, the capacity for living indifferently on human or animal skin. The susceptibility of human beings to animal diseases associated with loss of hair, was also described in detail by Professor Sabouraud of Paris at the same meeting, but he devoted most of his attention to achorion, microsporon, and trichophyton. A suggestion that the greater persistence of ringworm among school children in certain areas was probably due to contact with animals was made in the last annual report of the medical officer to the Board of Education for England and Wales, of which a summary appeared in our columns in February.

## Letters, Notes, and Answers.

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL are requested to communicate with the Office, 429, Strand, W.C., on receipt of proof.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS.—The telegraphic address of the EDITOR of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL is *Artiology, Westrand, London*. The telegraphic address of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL is *Articulate, Westrand, London*.

TELEPHONE (National):—

- 2631. Gerrard, EDITOR, BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.
- 2630. Gerrard, BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.
- 2634. Gerrard, MEDICAL SECRETARY.

Queries, answers, and communications relating to subjects to which special departments of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL are devoted will be found under their respective headings.

### LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION FOR INSURANCE COMPANIES. DR. HARRY GREY (Bristol) has sent us the following circular letter received recently from the chief of the Medical Department of the General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Corporation:

"It gives me much pleasure to be in a position to inform you that from this date we shall pay to our medical examiners a fee of one guinea for all medical examinations they may make on our behalf, irrespective of the amount of the sum assured.

"As you no doubt know, it is the almost universal custom of life assurance companies to pay the medical examiners a fee of half a guinea where the sum assured is below a certain amount, and a guinea where the sum assured is above that amount. Our own practice has been to pay the smaller fee on cases up to £250, and one guinea on cases of £250 and over. Some companies do not pay the larger fee unless the sum assured is at least £500. Many medical men consider this to be an unfair distinction, and we on our part have always been aware that it was an arbitrary division, due to the fact that policies for small amounts cannot bear the same expense as large ones.

"However, after giving the subject careful thought, our directors have decided to do away with this distinction. They realize that the profession has always been prepared to give its best work, quite apart from the question of fees, but they feel it is scarcely reasonable to continue to expect medical men to bestow the same amount of time and pains-taking attention on half-guinea cases as they do on those for which they are paid a guinea.

"It is of the utmost importance, however, that applicants proposing for small amounts should be submitted to the same rigorous and careful examination as those who apply for large amounts, and it is in order that we may know that every case will receive the best of the examiner's experience, ability, and knowledge, that the same fee will in future be paid in all cases."

In commenting on this statement, Dr. Grey says that he has frequently put before insurance companies the view that the examination for life insurance is to be distinguished from ordinary professional work. In treating a patient the doctor is bound to give the best professional services of which he is capable, whatever the fee may be, whereas an insurance company is asking for medical work in its own commercial interest.

### THE WASSERMANN TEST.

"A DOCTOR IN THE COUNTRY" writes to express the opinion that other public authorities should, following the example set by Chelsea and Wimbledon, arrange that the Wassermann test should be applied free of charge for persons who cannot afford to pay for it. The need has been especially impressed upon him of late owing to the fact that he has been treating a patient for whom it is most desirable that the blood should be tested for the Wassermann reaction—not for diagnosis, but as an index for the continuance of treatment, or of leaving it off for a time, say six months, and then having the test applied again. Unfortunately the patient is too poor for this. The nearest hospital is no help as the staff there have no arrangements for obtaining the test. "I have no doubt," he adds, "there are numbers of cases such as I have mentioned, and I feel confident that I am voicing the opinion of practitioners all over the country when I say that for the public weal this matter should be taken up and provided for by the Government."

### THE PREVALENCE OF VENEREAL DISEASE.

DR. H. N. ROBSON (Territet) writes: In your issue of March 14th Dr. Louise McIlroy regrets that the Royal Commission was not appointed later, when there would be more evidence of the prevalence of venereal disease among the poorer classes so as to arouse the public. It is quite easy for hospitals in London or elsewhere to take note of all new cases coming up for treatment, which are primarily due to venereal disease, for a period of one month. Multiply the result by twelve, and one could get a fair idea of the number of cases per annum which might be more than interesting and instructive to both the Royal Commission and the medical profession.