

was surgeon in charge of the troops at Hurst Castle, and the arduous work he did in that capacity since the war began is believed to have overstrained his powers.

## The Services.

### INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

#### ACCELERATED PROMOTION.

PENDING the resumption of normal conditions, the following rules will govern the claims of officers of the Indian Medical Service to accelerated promotion:

1. Officers who prior to the declaration of the war qualified in part for accelerated promotion, but owing to the war have not been able to qualify fully, and those who at the commencement of the war were on study leave and were recalled to duty before completing their study leave, shall receive accelerated promotion with all its attendant advantages, that is, as regards pay and position.

2. In the case of all other officers, the period within which they are required to qualify for accelerated promotion (that is, while in the rank of Captain or within four years of their promotion to the rank of Major) shall be extended by a period equivalent to the duration of the war. Officers qualifying within the latter period shall receive exactly the same concessions as if they had qualified within the prescribed time.

## Universities and Colleges.

### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

#### UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

A COURSE of lectures on psychology in relation to the war will be given on Wednesdays, at 5.30 p.m., during the second term by Drs. Scripture and Ernest Jones, and in the third term by Professor Percy Nunn and Mr. C. Burt, M.A.

#### MILITARY EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

The Military Education Committee of the University of London, in presenting its eighth annual report, states that new and important duties had been assigned to it in regard to the supply of officers for the army. During the training year ending September 30th, 1916, the number of cadets was 2,077, as compared with 2,209 in the previous year; of these, 740 were medical, 101 medical cadets received commissions, and of the 256 infantry cadets who received commissions 25 were medical students. The medical unit was encamped for its annual training during the summer vacation at the R.A.M.C. training centre at Codford, Salisbury Plain, 7 officers and 333 cadets attended, and the training was carried out with companies of the regular R.A.M.C. The King has written a letter expressing his gratification at the fine record of service rendered by the University of London Officers' Training Corps during the war, and added that as Colonel-in-Chief of the Officers' Training Corps he had noticed with pleasure the smart and soldierly bearing of the officers and men on parade when a guard of honour was furnished by the University of London contingent at the opening of the School of Oriental Studies.

## Medical News.

DR. H. M. FERNANDO has been appointed an unofficial member of the Legislative Council of Ceylon.

AT the instance of the Charity Organization Society, Dr. F. N. K. Menzies, principal assistant medical officer, London County Council, will give an address on the prevention of consumption, at the invitation of Lady Glenconner, at 34, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W., on March 21st, at 3.30 p.m.

A READING from Sir Ronald Ross's poems will take place on March 23rd, at 3 p.m., at the house of Sir William Lever on Hampstead Heath. Sir Herbert Warren, professor of poetry at Oxford, will preside, and among the readings will be some from a suite of war verses now being published in the *Poetry Review*.

AT the twelfth annual meeting of the Association for Promoting the Training and Supply of Midwives, when Dr. A. P. Luff, Major R.A.M.C.(T.) will preside, Dr. George Reid, county medical officer, Staffordshire, will give a short address on midwifery and Government subsidies. The meeting, by kind permission of Mrs. Luff, will be held at 9, Queen Anne Street, W., on Thursday, March 22nd, at 3.30 p.m.

THE Child Study Society has arranged a course of lectures on Thursdays in March on vocational education. The first lecture was given on March 8th. A discussion on welfare work with young employees will be held on Thursday, April 19th. Particulars can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary at the Royal Sanitary Institute, 90, Buckingham Palace Road.

## 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.

THE telegraphic addresses of the BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION and JOURNAL are: (1) EDITOR of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, *Attitully, Westrand, London*; telephone, 2631, Gerrard. (2) FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND BUSINESS MANAGER (Advertisements, etc.), *Articulate, Westrand, London*; telephone, 2630, Gerrard. (3) MEDICAL SECRETARY, *Mediseera, Westrand, London*; telephone, 2634, Gerrard. The address of the Irish Office of the British Medical Association is 16, South Frederick Street, Dublin.

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.

### ANSWERS.

#### PUDIC NERVE ANAESTHESIA.

WE are now able to refer some correspondents who made inquiries about writings on pudic nerve anaesthesia to the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, August 6th, 1910, p. 544.

#### GOLDEN SYRUP.

M.D.—According to Hutchison (*Food and the Principles of Dietetics*, fourth edition, 1916), treacle, molasses, and golden syrup are produced as by-products in the manufacture of crystallized sugar. Their syrupy consistency is in part due to the fact that the impurities which they contain prevent the cane sugar from crystallizing, and partly to their being fairly rich in uncrystallizable fruit sugar. The quantities of cane sugar in molasses, treacle, and golden syrup respectively are 47.0, 32.5, and 39.0, and of fruit sugar 20.4, 37.2, and 33.0. The presence of starch glucose in golden syrup is, we understand, considered to constitute adulteration.

#### LATIN ON THE MEDICAL CURRICULUM ABROAD.

A TEACHER.—A baccalaureate course of secondary instruction in addition to a certificate covering the study of physics, chemistry, and biology, issued by the faculty of science, constitutes the basis of medical education in France. The reforms of 1902 established complete equality in the baccalaureate course as respects classics, science, modern languages, and mathematics. A four years primary course constitutes the uniform basis; seven years of secondary instruction follow, divided into two parts, extending respectively over four and three years. In the former the student may choose between the classics, with or without Greek, and a modern course largely scientific; in the second he may take one of four groups—the classical languages, Latin and modern languages, Latin and science, modern languages and science. History, geography, and mathematics are included in all the groups. The German programme allows the student to choose between classics and modern subjects. The requirements for admission to and graduation at colleges holding membership in the Association of American Medical Colleges include one foreign language in addition to English, mathematics and history. Among elective subjects, in addition to further work in English language and literature, are additional foreign languages, among which Latin is named, with German, Italian, French, Spanish, or Greek, as alternatives.

### LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

#### WASTE OF MEDICAL TIME AT ASSIZES.

A POLICE SURGEON writes: Can nothing be done to induce the judges at assizes and high court trials to give preference to those cases in which medical men appear as witnesses? The last assizes court I attended I had to leave my work and travel to the county town, some sixteen miles away, each day from the Monday to the Friday. I had to moon about the court each day in case the order of hearing the cases was rearranged. It was only late on the afternoon of the Friday that my case was taken. The Thursday and half of Friday was occupied by a discussion as to which of two accused men had stolen a horse and cart. I think that at a time like this a little more consideration might be shown for hard-worked general practitioners in this matter.

### SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

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NOTE.—It is against the rules of the Post Office to receive *postes restant* letters addressed either in initials or numbers.