

The judge, however, taking as we think a proper view of the situation as a whole, decided that Dr. Dismorr, not having been engaged beforehand, had a right to charge a higher fee. The medical officer of health, in replying to questions put by the judge, seemed to regard the fee as unreasonable on the ground that no anaesthetic was used and that the medical man was not in the house for more than half an hour. Upon this the judge asked the pertinent question: "Does it not depend a great deal on the seriousness of the operation?"

## Universities and Colleges.

### LONDON INTERCOLLEGIATE SCHOLARSHIPS BOARD.

SEVENTEEN medical entrance scholarships and exhibitions of an aggregate value of about £1,550, tenable in the Faculty of Medical Sciences of University College and King's College, and in the medical schools of Westminster Hospital, King's College Hospital, University College Hospital, the London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women, and the London Hospital, will be offered for competition on July 15th, 1919. Particulars and entry forms may be obtained from the Secretary of the London Intercollegiate Scholarships Board, Mr. S. C. Rauner, M.A., Medical School, King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, London, S.E.5.

## Medical News.

It is announced that Colonel Sir Ronald Ross has been appointed consultant in malaria cases to the Ministry of Pensions. He will advise on these cases in addition to his duties as consultant in malaria to the War Office.

THE subject for the Astley Cooper Prize 1916-19 at Guy's Hospital was gunshot wounds of the lungs and pleura. The prize has not been awarded. The essays will remain in the museum of Guy's Hospital unless the authors claim them by letter addressed to Mr. C. H. Fagge, F.R.C.S., honorary secretary of the Astley Cooper Prize Trustees.

AT the next quarterly meeting of the Medico-Psychological Association, to be held at 11, Chandos Street, London, W., on Thursday, February 20th, at 2.45 p.m., Lieut.-Colonel E. P. Cathcart, R.A.M.C., professor of physiology in the London Hospital Medical School, will read a paper on psychic secretion.

VISCOUNTESS RHONDDA has organized a women's watchful council to consider measures for strengthening the position of women in regard to the forthcoming Ministry of Health. The members of the council include Lady Barrett, M.D., Mrs. Chalmers Watson, M.D., Dr. Helen Campbell, Dr. Adeline Roberts, and Miss Bunting.

THE Local Government Board has made an order rendering certain additional diseases compulsorily notifiable in England and Wales. A medical practitioner is required to notify each case of pneumonia occurring in his practice when the disease is primary or the result of influenza. A medical practitioner must also notify cases of malaria, dysentery, and trench fever unless he knows that they have been notified in the same district within six months.

AT the annual meeting of the American Medical Association, held in June, 1918, a petition was presented to the board of trustees asking that the association should publish a journal to be devoted to nervous and mental diseases on the lines of the *Archives of Internal Medicine* and the *American Journal of Diseases of Children*. At its meeting held in October the board authorized the publication.

THE Royal Society of Medicine has opened its house and library in Wimpole Street on Wednesday evenings after 8.30 to the medical officers of the British army medical services, home and Dominion, and also to those of the American and the Allied forces, for the purpose of meeting the Fellows, primarily for social intercourse. As a stimulus to discussion a very brief and informal talk has been arranged for each evening. On February 19th Dr. Norman Moore, President of the Royal College of Physicians, is to speak on English morbid anatomists, and on the following Wednesday (February 26th) Sir William Osler will give a bio-bibliographical discourse on Sir Thomas Browne and his *Religio Medici*. Addresses have been arranged for March 12th on disease and diagnosis by Dr. Henry Head, F.R.S., and on March 19th on Larrey and war surgery by Mr. W. G. Spencer.

## 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.2, on receipt of proof.

In order to avoid delay, it is particularly requested that ALL letters on the editorial business of the JOURNAL be addressed to the Editor at the Office of the JOURNAL.

The postal address of the BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION and BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL is 429, Strand, London, W.C.2. The telegraphic addresses are:

1. EDITOR of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, *Aitology*, Westrand, London; telephone, 2631, Gerrard.
  2. FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND BUSINESS MANAGER (Advertisements, etc.), *Articulate*, Westrand, London; telephone, 2630, Gerrard.
  3. MEDICAL SECRETARY, *Medisecra*, Westrand, London; telephone, 2634, Gerrard. The address of the Irish Office of the British Medical Association is 16, South Frederick Street, Dublin.
- The address of the Central Medical War Committee for England and Wales is 429, Strand, London, W.C.2; that of the Reference Committee of the Royal Colleges in London is the Examination Hall, 8, Queen Square, Bloomsbury, W.C.1; and that of the Scottish Medical Service Emergency Committee is Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh.

### LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

#### THE GRAVITY OF GONORRHOEA.

DR. G. D. K. WALDRON (Temporary Captain R.A.M.C.) writes: In the discussions both in the lay press and in the medical journals on the control of venereal disease, predominance has almost always been given to syphilis, whilst gonorrhoea, with its distressing complications and sequelae both in man and woman, has been relegated to a secondary position. Although syphilis has been looked upon as a much graver malady than gonorrhoea, most authorities on venereal disease admit that gonorrhoea unless treated by the expert is as difficult or even more difficult of cure than syphilis. Moreover, whereas persons suffering from syphilis can be rendered non-infectious quite quickly, the same cannot be said of those suffering from gonorrhoea. Any practitioner can quickly pick up the modern treatment of syphilis by several visits to the nearest venereal treatment centre, but it is impossible for him to learn to treat gonorrhoea effectually in the same time and manner mainly for the following reasons: (1) There is little or no teaching at medical schools; (2) most works on venereal disease, whilst dealing exhaustively with syphilis, do not so deal with gonorrhoea; (3) the obsolete methods laid down in many quite up-to-date textbooks of surgery must be discarded as incomplete and useless; (4) an intimate knowledge of the histology, anatomy, and clinical pathology of the urethra and its adnexa is essential; (5) long practical experience is necessary for the intelligent performance of the useful manipulations, and much skill and knowledge are essential for the exact and intelligent use of the operating urethroscope, an instrument of the first importance in the treatment of gonorrhoea.

My plea is this: That it be further impressed on the general public that gonorrhoea as well as syphilis is a very grave malady, and extremely difficult to really cure. That governing bodies in appointing medical officers to take charge of venereal clinics should be reasonably sure that the officers in charge of gonorrhoea sections have the knowledge and experience necessary for the undertaking of the treatment of gonorrhoea intelligently and well. And, finally, that venereal clinics shall be supplied with the drugs and instruments essential for the proper treatment of gonorrhoea.

#### THE JAPANESE FLY-TRAP.

DR. E. K. WILLIAMS (Billesdon, Leicester) writes with reference to the Japanese fly-trap (BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, January 5th, 1918, and February 8th, 1919): I brought several home with me from India in 1916. They can be bought from Japan Imports, Ltd., Bank Street, Bombay, India. They cost 8 Rs. apiece.

CAPTAIN R. GRANYVILLE WADDY, R.A.M.C.(S.R.), writes on the same subject: While in Egypt I made a note of the maker, and give the details as quoted upon the trap: "Automatic Fly-trap, manufactured by Owari Tokai, Kabushiki-Kaisha, Nagoya, Japan. Sole agent: Takata and Co., Tokio, Shanghai, and Osaka." Where the fly pest is, there should be the automatic trap.

### 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 *poste restante* letters addressed either in initials or numbers.