

diaphragm; or, since the patient was up and about, the sighing may simply have resulted from cerebral anaemia connected with the recent vasomotor disturbance.

REFERENCES.

¹ Stivelman: *Amer. Journ. Med. Sci.*, June, 1923, 876. ² Capps: *Oxford Medicine*, 1920, vol. ii, 163. ³ Hutchison: *Applied Physiology*, Arnold, 1908, p. 221.

ARSENICAL POISONING TREATED BY SODIUM THIOSULPHATE.

BY

HILDA M. HALLIDAY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

AND

CHARLES E. SUTHERLAND, M.B., B.S.MELB.,
M.R.C.P.LOND.,

ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICERS, ST. PANCRAS HOSPITAL, LONDON.

THE following case is of importance as a sequel to the communication from Dr. H. C. Semon in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of April 12th, 1924.

A woman, aged 30, became infected with syphilis towards the end of her fourth pregnancy. She had been treated by intravenous injections for ten months, and had then been advised to take six weeks' rest from treatment. Three weeks after the last injection, and five weeks before she came under our care, she became jaundiced, and noticed loss of power in the arms and general weakness; she passed dark urine and pale stools. For seven days prior to admission she had vomiting, anorexia, constipation, insomnia, and failing vision.

On admission there was deep generalized jaundice, the mouth was dry and dirty, and answers to questions were correct but monosyllabic and very slow. There were no physical signs of neuritis, but the hands could not be lifted, and the vision was bare perception of light. The liver dullness was diminished; the urine contained albumin and bile.

While awaiting a supply of chemically pure dehydrated sodium thiosulphate we gave the patient 30 grains of the stock salt in

solution by the mouth every four hours, and continued this method of administration throughout the first week. There were no resultant toxic symptoms (colic or diarrhoea), but there was no arrest of the arsenical symptoms. By the third day the patient was apparently moribund; she vomited frequently and in excess of intake; she was restless, apathetic, and doubly incontinent; the bowels acted only after enemas.

At this stage the first intravenous injection was given, and for ten days the patient had 0.45 gram daily, followed by seven similar doses on alternate days, making a total of 7.65 grams spread over a period of twenty-six days. In addition, during the first week she took about 80 grams by the mouth, but probably much of this was lost by vomiting. From the first intravenous injection the downward trend was arrested. After five doses the mental condition was perfectly clear, muscular power of the arms was good for all movements, and the patient could read small print. She was still jaundiced, incontinent, and vomiting. There was still bile in the urine, and leucine was seen in the deposit. At the end of the third week she was convalescent and able to be up for half the day, eating well, and not vomiting; the jaundice was almost gone, and the urine normal.

The levulose tolerance was tested and seemed to show a definite derangement of liver function during the height of the illness, with rapid recovery under treatment. The deterioration in her general condition during the first two days clearly demonstrated the progressive nature of the disease and emphasized the remarkable improvement following intravenous administration of the specific remedy.

Levulose Tolerance.	April 25th.	May 13th.
Fasting blood sugar	0.131	0.100
Half an hour after levulose	0.137	0.086
One hour after levulose	0.218	0.100
One and a half hours after levulose	0.206	0.106
Two hours after levulose	0.206	0.100

We should like to express our thanks to Dr. Thackray, Medical Superintendent, for permission to publish this case.

Memoranda:

MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

MALIGNANT CERVICAL ADENITIS SIMULATING ANEURYSM.

THE case here recorded, though disappointing from a diagnostic point of view, is interesting as illustrating how very closely cervical adenitis may simulate aneurysm. An exploring needle would have settled the diagnosis, but as nothing was to be gained by the procedure it was not carried out.

A woman, aged 79, was admitted to the Tooting Bec Hospital in August, 1923. She showed evidence of specific disease, and her history confirmed this. On October 14th, 1924, she suddenly developed a tumour about the size of a hen's egg above the right clavicle. As far as can be ascertained this took only about a week to become apparent. The tumour was slightly irregular in shape and was distinctly expansile. Two little flags, one on either side of it, separated about a quarter of an inch with each beat of the heart. The heart rate was 66 and the blood pressure 130. There was no appreciable difference in the two radial pulses, but the right radial pulse gave a tracing exactly similar to that of a subclavian aneurysm portrayed in Hutchison and Rainy's *Clinical Methods*. There was a distinct systolic bruit over the aneurysm and over the aortic area. This is interesting as an illustration of a contribution I sent to the JOURNAL some time ago entitled "An aortic murmur."

A month later the tumour was noted as much larger—the size of a small orange—and the radial pulse as being much altered. The patient was treated with potassium iodide, being rapidly advanced to 40 grains every four hours, and showing no unpleasant symptoms from the drug. The size of the tumour in a week's time was distinctly less and there was a constricting band at the back of the mass. The following week the mass increased in size and the potassium iodide was discontinued. The blood pressure was 135, and the radial pulse tracings were similar, with no morbid characteristics. All this time there was little or no complaint of pain, and the patient died on December 5th from a low form of terminal pneumonia.

At the necropsy a large mass of cancerous glands was found completely encircling the subclavian and carotid arteries with secondary deposits in the mediastinal glands and deep in the liver.

The diagnosis made was a carotid aneurysm involving the subclavian and possibly innominate arteries, and several persons of wide experience saw the patient and found no

fault with the conclusion arrived at. When the change in size was brought about by administration of potassium iodide it was thought that that clinched the diagnosis. The systolic bruits were, of course, caused by compression of the artery, and not by the constriction at the entrance or exit of an aneurysmal sac.

I am indebted to Dr. E. H. Beresford for permission to publish the case.

THOMAS LINDSAY, M.D.,
F.R.C.S.Ed.
Tooting, S.W.

IMMUNITY, SPECIFICITY, AND NON-SPECIFIC FACTORS.

In the issue of December 13th, 1924 (p. 1098), Dr. R. A. O'Brien says: "It may be that the administration of *coli* vaccine does materially influence the course of typhoid fever and of arthritis, but we feel that we must have more evidence before accepting the claim." In view of this the following case of colitis and arthritis cut short by an attack of typhoid fever, and the recovery from the typhoid fever, is of interest.

A girl, aged 18, suffered since the age of 13 from attacks of subacute arthritic rheumatism. She had suffered for some years before this from five or six loose motions a day. An examination of the stools showed enormous number of *B. coli*. The arthritis was most probably caused by the colitis. At 18 years of age she contracted typhoid fever. The fever was complicated by severe haemorrhage on the twenty-third day of the disease. Widal's test was positive. The temperature fell to normal on the forty-second day of the illness, and health and strength gradually returned. The arthritis and stiffness of joints disappeared and have not returned, though it is now more than three years since recovery from the typhoid fever. The motions are now one or two a day.

One case proves nothing, as it may be entirely coincidence, though even coincidence has a cause; but the recovery from the typhoid fever and the cutting short of arthritis and of colitis appear to me to be sufficiently interesting to record, especially to those who successfully treat typhoid fever by *coli* vaccine, or those who successfully treat arthritis by intravenous injections of *B. coli* or typhoid bacilli.

J. E. BOLTON.

Queen Camel, Somerset.

pathologist as a clinician. His contributions on the inflammatory infections of the central nervous system are well known throughout the world. He was Morisonian Lecturer at Edinburgh in 1920, choosing as his subject "Functional mental illnesses." It was characteristic of Rows's broadmindedness that he broke away from the stereotyped classification of mental disorder. He was right in refusing to pigeon-hole his cases, and he treated each individual case on its own merits with a due regard to individual reactivity. His constant argument was that environment was of more importance than the vague theories of heredity advanced up to the present, and he had a special faculty of entering into the mental conflicts so commonly found in the neuroses. Apart from being a student, Rows's love of outdoor games, of music, and of general literature made him a delightful companion. He was a worker, but played with equal zest, a sportsman in every sense of the term, and combined his capabilities with a becoming modesty. His death has left a gap in psychiatry which will not be easily filled.

The Services.

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICES.

PAY OF OFFICERS IN MILITARY EMPLOY.

THE Secretary of State for India announces that he has sanctioned the extension to Indian Medical Service officers in military employ of the concessions regarding overseas pay recently introduced for officers of the Indian Medical Service in civil employ and detailed in Statutory Rules and Orders No. 1,395 of 1924, copies of which are obtainable from His Majesty's Stationery Office. The extension has effect from April 1st, 1924. Officers now in the United Kingdom who have been in receipt of rupee rates of pay for any period after this date, and who accordingly have claims for retrospective adjustment under this concession, should address the Controller of Military Accounts by whom they were last paid in India. Indian Medical Service officers in military employ are not eligible for the passage concessions recently introduced for those in civil employ, but will be included in concessions which are being announced separately for the Indian military services.

PASSAGE FOR OFFICERS OF THE INDIAN MILITARY SERVICES.

The Secretary of State for India announces that passage concessions as previously foreshadowed have been sanctioned for officers of the Indian military services. They will apply to any passage beginning on or after February 14th. Detailed rules have yet to be drawn up, but the provisional arrangements, which have been approved, are being communicated by the India Office to all officers concerned who are now under the orders of the India Office.

Universities and Colleges.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

AN examination for the Theodore Williams scholarship, value £100 a year, and tenable for four or five years, will begin on June 9th. Full particulars can be obtained on application, before May 9th, to the Senior Tutor, Pembroke College, Oxford.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

ELECTION TO SENATE.

THERE are two candidates for election to the Senate to represent the Faculty of Medicine: Sir Holburt Waring, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S., surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, the sitting member, who was until recently Vice-Chancellor; and Sir G. Lenthal Cheate, K.C.B., F.R.C.S., surgeon to King's College Hospital. Sir Holburt Waring is understood to be in favour of the Haldane report; Sir Lenthal Cheate pledges himself to "oppose the Haldane recommendations root and branch, and to support the authority of the medical faculty on every occasion."

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.

Puerperal Sepsis.—A course of four lectures on puerperal sepsis will be given at St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School by Professor B. P. Watson, M.D., F.R.C.S.Ed. (Professor of Midwifery and Diseases of Women in the University of Edinburgh), at 5 p.m. on March 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th. At the first lecture the chair will be taken by Dr. H. Russell Andrews, senior obstetric physician to the London Hospital. Admission to these lectures will be free.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

Vital Statistics.—A course of two lectures on vital statistics will be given at University College by Professor Harald Westergaard (late Professor of Political Economy in the University of Copenhagen) at 5.30 p.m. on March 9th and 11th. The lectures will be delivered in English. Admission will be free.

Primary Fellowship Examination.—A special course for the Primary Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, in preparation for the June examination, will begin at University College on Monday, March 2nd.

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL.

THE following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

FINAL M.B., CH.B. (PART II).—*Dorothy E. Crellin, *Constance L. Ham, *A. H. Lowther, *Rosalie E. Lucas, A. F. Alford, K. F. Alford, A. S. Cox, S. J. H. Griffiths, F. H. Hollingshead, J. A. Hooker, K. F. Platt, D. C. Prowse, *L. G. Robertson, H. Rogers, Gertrude M. Terrell, Maria M. Tewatex. *In Medicine (completing examination):* E. R. Clutterbuck. *In Surgery (completing examination):* Helen M. Dixon. *In Public Health (completing examination):* A. H. Marshall. *In Group I only (Surgery and Obstetrics):* Elizabeth E. Benson, Margaret P. Posthuma, H. J. Satchwell, Kathleen M. Willmore. *In Group II only (Pathology, Medicine, and Public Health):* C. F. R. Killick.

PART I (including Forensic Medicine and Toxicology): G. W. R. Bishop, J. F. O. Bodman, Muriel E. Drew, F. S. Dymond, G. L. Feneley, F. R. Gedye, A. P. Gorham, Mildred B. Harvey, T. P. Lalonde, M. E. J. Packer, C. B. Perry, L. B. Phillips, E. S. Rogers, A. A. B. Vincent.

D.P.H.—V. Ryan. *In Part II (completing examination):* J. Ledingham. *In Part I only:* Nora A. McD. Rodger, W. W. S. Sharpe.

* With second-class honours. † Distinction in medicine.
‡ Distinction in surgery. § Distinction in obstetrics.
|| Distinction in pathology.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

AN ordinary council meeting was held on February 12th, when the President, Sir John Bland-Sutton, was in the chair.

Diplomas.

Diplomas of Membership were granted to 208 candidates. Diplomas in Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery were granted jointly with the Royal College of Physicians to nine candidates. (The names were printed in the report of the comitia of the Royal College of Physicians of London, published in our issue of February 7th, p. 289.)

Diplomas of Fellowship were granted to two candidates (Frederick H. Scotson and Clement Sturton), who, having previously passed the examination, had now attained the age of 25 years.

Court of Examiners.

Mr. A. P. Dodds-Parker, surgeon to Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, was elected a member of the Court of Examiners in Surgery in the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. John Murray.

Lecturers.

Mr. James Sherren was appointed Bradshaw Lecturer and Professor Wright was appointed Thomas Vicary Lecturer for the ensuing year. The subject of the Thomas Vicary lecture will be "The mediaeval conception of the anatomy and physiology of the central nervous system."

Vote of Thanks.

The best thanks of the Council were given to Mr. H. R. Hope-Pinker for his gift of a plaster model of his bust of the late Sir George M. Humphry.

Council Election.

A meeting of the Fellows will be held at the College on Thursday, July 2nd, at 2.30 p.m., for the election of three Fellows into the Council in the vacancies caused by the retirement in rotation of Mr. V. Warren Low, Mr. James Sherren, and Sir John Lynn-Thomas. Notice of the meeting will be given to the Fellows by advertisement and by circular on March 6th. March 16th will be the last day for the nomination of candidates, and a voting paper will be sent to every Fellow whose address is registered at the College on March 31st.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON.

THE following candidates have passed in the subjects indicated:

SURGERY.—J. H. Clapp, J. L. Hopkins, O. W. Percival, C. C. Po, J. Shutt, R. F. Stubbs, B. Temple-Raston.

MEDICINE.—K. V. Mead, C. C. Po, P. B. Skeels, B. L. Steele, R. F. Stubbs.

FORENSIC MEDICINE.—A. Henson, K. V. Mead, T. K. Natesan, R. F. Stubbs.

MIDWIFERY.—N. E. Challenger, T. K. Natesan, O. W. Percival, C. C. Po, J. Shutt, B. Temple-Raston, I. Waynik, G. H. Weeber.

Medico-Legal.

ILLEGAL PRACTICE BY A DRUGGIST.

A CASE was recently heard in the Nuneaton County Court, before Judge Staveley Hill, in which the Society of Apothecaries of London were plaintiffs and Mrs. Ashton of the Coton Drug Stores, Nuneaton, was the defendant.

The action was brought under the Apothecaries Act, 1815, to recover a penalty of £20 from the defendant for having acted as an apothecary without qualification. From the evidence it appeared that the defendant had treated a child for a cold who was suffering from small-pox, and that as the result of the failure of the defendant to diagnose the disease correctly other people had been infected. The Judge said that, having carefully considered the authorities, he was of opinion that the defendant had brought himself within the statute, and gave judgement in favour of the plaintiffs for the penalty and costs. A stay of execution was granted for fourteen days.

Medical News.

THE programme has now been issued for the fifth International Congress of the History of Medicine to be held at Geneva from July 20th to 25th, as announced in our issue of October 11th, 1924. On the first day, after addresses by the president of the congress, the president of the Medical Society of Geneva, and others, M. Eugène Pittard, of the Geneva University, will open a discussion on prehistoric medicine with an illustrated lecture on operations in the Stone Age. In the evening a reception will be held by the president of the congress, Dr. C. G. Cumston. Other subjects to be considered include "Albert von Haller and the *disputationes chirurgicae selectae*," by Sir D'Arcy Power; "Robert Whytt, an eighteenth century neurologist," by Dr. J. D. Comrie; the history of typhoid fever in the child, by Professor P. Gautier; a letter of Tronchin and the Suttonian method of inoculation, by Dr. J. G. de Lint; "Voltaire and medicine," by Dr. J. D. Rolleston; "Gothic and Geneva in the Middle Ages," by Dr. E. Wickersheimer; "Lavater and his successors," by M. Fosseyeux; a note on the history of diagnosis in medicine, by Dr. F. G. Crookshank; a letter of Girolamo Fracastoro on poetry, by Dr. J. W. S. Johnsson of Copenhagen; historical researches in the history of anatomy in the Ateneo Romano, by Dr. P. Capparoni; medical literature of the seventeenth century, as exemplified in the Elzevir Press, by Dr. E. B. Krumbhaar; hygiene and public health in the early civilizations, by Mr. C. J. S. Thompson; the origin of veterinary art, by Sir Frederick Smith; the history of magic in the cure of disease, by Professor Jeanselme; Martin Luther and his noises in the ear, by Professor G. Bilancioni; a medical congress at Rome in 1681-2, by Dr. C. G. Cumston; and Benjamin Waterhouse, an American pioneer, by Dr. J. W. Courtney. On July 23rd an excursion will be made round the lake, visiting the Château of Chillon and the baths of Evian. The subscription, including the cost of excursions and a dinner on July 24th, is 45 Swiss francs. Further information can be obtained from the general secretary, Dr. A. de Peyer, Rue Général Dufour, Geneva.

THE National Union of Scientific Workers informs us that the decision of the Treasury to provide in the estimates for 1925-6 an increase in the grant to the Royal Society towards the cost of scientific publications from £1,000 to £2,500 was due to its representations. It is not intended that the Royal Society should spend the grant on its own publications, but that it should administer it for the benefit of such societies as the Biochemical, the Chemical, and the Geological, which are hard put to it to find money for making the publication of reports the results of researches presented to them. The union, which was started in 1918 to watch the economic interests of scientific men, has its offices at 25, Victoria Street, S.W.1. Its position with regard to the scientific professions is described as corresponding with that of the British Medical Association towards the medical profession. In its relations with Government departments its claim that scientific men should be placed on the same footing as members of the other professions has been largely successful. A similar campaign is being conducted to convince the large industrialists of the benefits to industry arising from the employment of scientific workers.

THE Fellowship of Medicine announces that Sir Arbuthnot Lane will preside at a discussion on post-graduate teaching in London to be held at No. 1, Wimpole Street, on March 18th, at 6 p.m., and open to all members of the medical profession in London. On March 2nd, at 5.30 p.m., Professor H. Maclean will give a lecture on renal disease, its diagnosis and treatment, at the Royal Society of Medicine. A three weeks' course in medicine, surgery, and gynaecology will begin at the Royal Waterloo Hospital on March 2nd, with special reference to gynaecological diagnosis, hernia, diseases of the stomach, intestines, etc. From March 4th to 28th Dr. Frederic Thomson will give a series of demonstrations on the diagnosis and treatment of the acute infectious diseases at the North-Eastern Fever Hospital on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 11 a.m. The Central London Ophthalmic Hospital has arranged an afternoon course in ophthalmology from March 9th to April 4th; for those desiring operative work a class can be arranged. From March 16th to 28th the Chelsea Hospital for Women will hold a course in gynaecology, and at the Brompton Hospital for Diseases of the Chest there will be a fortnight's course to include artificial pneumothorax, bronchitis, demonstrations of cases, x-ray work, protein tests, and the varying phases of chest affections. The Royal Northern Hospital, in conjunction with the Royal Chest Hospital, will hold an intensive course in medicine, surgery, and the special departments from March 16th to April 4th. Copies of the syllabus of these courses may be obtained from the secretary to the Fellowship, No. 1, Wimpole Street, W.1.

SIR W. I. DE COURCY WHEELER (Dublin) completed on February 19th a course of four advanced lectures in surgery at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. The subject chosen was "Fractures of the pelvis and lower extremity treated by conservative methods." The lectures, delivered under the auspices of the University of London, were illustrated by numerous lantern slides.

AT the meeting of the Medical Officers of Schools Association on Friday, March 6th, at 4.30 p.m., at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, a discussion will be opened by Dr. E. W. Goodall and Dr. G. E. Friend on the differential diagnosis of scarlet fever, rubella, measles, and allied rashes.

A MEETING of the Röntgen Society will be held at the British Institute of Radiology, Welbeck Street, London, W.1, on Tuesday, March 3rd, at 8.15 p.m., when a paper on the photometry of fluorescent screens will be read by Leonard A. Levy, D.Sc., and D. W. West, A.I.C.

A MEETING of the Royal Sanitary Institute will be held at the Town Hall, Halifax, on Friday, March 6th, at 4 p.m., with Professor A. Bostock Hill, M.D., in the chair. Two discussions will take place, one on the working of the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, which will be opened by Mr. John Pollard, M.R.C.V.S., veterinary inspector, and the other on some food dangers, by Mr. H. T. Lea, M.Sc., borough analyst. On the morning of Saturday, March 7th, visits will be paid to certain manufactories and in the afternoon to the corporation salvage plant for domestic refuse and the Bermerside Open-air School and Home.

ON the recommendation of the Society of Medical Officers of Health, the Ministry of Health has nominated Dr. James Fenton, M.O.H. Kensington, and Dr. Alfred Greenwood, M.O.H. Kent, for the interchange of health officers to Jugoslavia during May and June next under the auspices of the Health Section of the League of Nations. For the interchange in Belgium about the same time the Society recommended Dr. R. J. Maule Horne, M.O.H. Poole, who has been duly nominated by the Ministry. On the recommendation of the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Home Affairs of Northern Ireland, the Ministry of Health has nominated Dr. Norman C. Patrick also for the Belgian interchange.

SIR AUCKLAND GEDDES, President of the Society for the Prevention of Venereal Disease, will head a joint deputation of the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases and the Society for the Prevention of Venereal Disease which the Minister of Health has consented to receive on March 3rd. The object of the deputation is to urge the Minister of Health to give effect to the recommendation of Lord Trevethin's Committee "that the law should be altered so as to permit properly qualified chemists to sell *ad hoc* disinfectants provided such disinfectants are sold in a form approved and with instructions for use approved by some competent authority."

A PORTRAIT of Dr. Isabella M. Macdonald, painted by George Harcourt, A.R.A., has been presented by her friends and patients to the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital as a memorial of her work there for several years as senior physician.

DR. P. MAUCLAIRE, surgeon to the Hôpital de la Pitié, Paris, has been elected a member of the Académie de Médecine and Professor Barthe of Bordeaux a corresponding member.

THE second Franco-Polish Medical Congress, due to the initiative of the Franco-Polish Medical Society of Warsaw and the Franco-Polish Medical Committee of Paris, will be held in Paris, under the presidency of Professor Roger, dean of the medical faculty, next April, and will be followed by visits to Lyons, Vichy, Strasbourg, and Nancy. Further information can be obtained from the general secretary, Dr. Hufnagel, 10, Rue Freycinet, Paris XVI.

THE fifth international congress for the protection of infancy will be held at Madrid from April 12th to 20th, under the presidency of Professor Martinez Vargas, rector of the University of Barcelona, who is also president of the International Union for the Protection of Infancy. Further information can be obtained from Dr. Bardelac de Pariente, 10, Square Moncey, Paris.

THE fifth Salon des Médecins will be held from March 8th to 20th, at 117, Boulevard St. Germain, Paris, for the exhibition of paintings, sculpture, engravings, and sketches by medical men, veterinary surgeons, pharmacists, and members of their families. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, Dr. Paul Rabier, 84, Rue Lecourbe, Paris XV^e.

THE fall in the number of medical students in Germany is shown by the following figures given in the *Deutsche medizinische Wochenschrift*. In the winter term 1922-3 there was a total of 13,489 students, of whom 1,736 were women, and 2,204 foreigners, of whom 336 were women; while in the summer term of 1924 there was a total of only 9,316 students, of whom 1,373 were women, and 1,962 foreigners, of whom 280 were women.

THE West African Medical Staff List, revised up to the end of January, 1925, may be obtained from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, S.W.1. Three lists are provided, officers being classed in grades, according to colonies, and according to their qualifications and services.

MESSRS. W. HEFFER AND SONS, publishers and booksellers of Cambridge, have issued a catalogue of new and recent scientific books published by them, or of which they have copies for sale. It is arranged under suitable headings, ranging from mathematics and physics to physiology, anatomy, and medicine. It also contains a list of portraits of men of science the firm has for disposal, and a list of complete sets of journals which can be obtained from them. Copies of the catalogue can, we presume, be obtained from them at 4, Petty Cury, Cambridge.

ON his retirement from the post of medical officer of health for Hornsey to take up a similar appointment at Plymouth, Dr. A. T. Nankivell has been presented with an inscribed silver cigarette box by the Mothers' and Fathers' Committee of the Hornsey Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.

IN consequence of the outbreak of plague in the Sitapur district, the Government of India has instructed the railway authorities to cancel special trains in connexion with the religious fairs at Nimsar and Misrikh.

Letters, Notes, and Answers.

ORIGINAL ARTICLES and LETTERS forwarded for publication are understood to be offered to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL alone unless the contrary be stated. Authors desiring reprints of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL are requested to communicate with the Financial Secretary and Business Manager, 429, Strand, W.C.2, on receipt of proof. CORRESPONDENTS who wish notice to be taken of their communications should authenticate them with their names—not necessarily for publication.

ALL communications with reference to advertisements as well as orders for copies of the JOURNAL should be addressed to the Financial Secretary and Business Manager, 429, Strand, London, W.C.2. Attention to this request will avoid delay. Communications with reference to editorial business should be addressed to the Editor, BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, 429, Strand, W.C.2.

Communications intended for the current issue should be posted so as to arrive by the first post on Monday or at latest be received not later than Tuesday morning.

The telephone number of the BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION and BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL is Gerrard 2630 (Internal Exchange). The telegraphic addresses are:

EDITOR of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, *Aetiiology Westrand*, London.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND BUSINESS MANAGER (Advertisements, etc.), *Articulate Westrand*, London.

MEDICAL SECRETARY, *Mediscrec Westrand*, London.

The address of the Irish Office of the British Medical Association is 16, South Frederick Street, Dublin (telegrams: *Bacillus*, Dublin; telephone: 4737 Dublin), and of the Scottish Office, 6, Rutland Square, Edinburgh (telegrams: *Associate*, Edinburgh; telephone: 4361 Central).

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

SNORING.

DR. C. W. M. CAMERON (Grantham) writes in reply to "Wiltshire": In late adult life the muscles which keep the mouth closed tend to relax in sleep more than they do in earlier life and allow the jaw to drop, with the result that the person breathes mainly through the mouth. This causes the soft palate to flag, which produces the snoring noise. I think if "Wiltshire" were to use an elastic chin-strap at night for his patient he would get a satisfactory result.

INCOME TAX.

"G. R. H." inquires as to the calculation of the amount of profits made on letting a house furnished.

** The following expenses are deductible: rent, rates, repairs, agents' fees, and a reasonable amount for use of furniture, say 5 per cent. per annum on the insured value. If the house is owned by the person letting, then in lieu of rent the amount assessed to income tax, Schedule A, is deductible. In addition to the above, any wages paid for gardener and so on would be deductible. With regard to any articles for daily use specially purchased for the use of the tenants and likely to wear out during the period of letting, we think that the inspector of taxes may object that any such allowance would be covered by the general wear and tear allowance based on the insured value of the contents of the house. It may be worth while to claim the deduction, but whether the claim can be successfully pressed depends on the whole of the facts.

LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

THE Secretary of the Central Midwives Board for England and Wales writes with reference to the paragraph in our issue of February 14th (p. 329) to say that out of nine bodies which send up representatives to the Board, representatives from only three have been reappointed up to the present.

PLEASANTRIES AT BATH.

IN view of the Annual Meeting of the Association being held this year in Bath, the following verses, from *Eccentric and Humorous Letters*, an olla podrida concocted in 1824, may interest and perhaps amuse.

At the time that Dr. Cheyne and Dr. Winter were the two principal physicians at Bath, they adopted very opposite modes of practice; but the former gained some credence for his prescription of milk diet by making it the principal article of his own sustenance. On this occasion Winter wrote him the following stanzas:

To Dr. Cheyne.

Tell me by whom, fat-hea'd Scot,
Thou didst thy system learn;
From Hippocrate thou hadst it not,
Nor Celsius, nor Pitcairn.
Suppose we own that milk is good,
And say the same of grass;
The one for babes and calves as food,
The other for an ass.
Doctor, one new prescription try;
A friend's advice forgive:—
Eat gra-s, reduce thyself, and die,
Thy patie is then may live.

To this effusion Dr. Cheyne replied as follows:

My system, Doctor, is my own.
No tutor I pretend;
My blunders hurt myself alone,
But yours your dearest friend.
Were you to milk and straw confined,
Thrice happy might you be;
Perhaps you might regain your mind,
And from your wit get free.
I can't your kind prescription try,
But heartily forgive;
'Tis natural you should bid me die,
That you yourself may live.

Dr. George Cheyne, the target of Dr. Winter's shafts of wit, was a native of Aberdeenshire, and was born in 1671. He was at first intended for the ministry; his leaning, however, was towards medicine, and he was persuaded to adopt that profession by Dr. Pitcairn, under whom he studied. Having obtained the degree of M.D., he commenced practice in London, though without belonging to the College of Physicians. On coming to London he suddenly changed his former temperate, sedentary habits, and frequented the society of "the younger gentry and free livers," with whom he became extremely popular, for he had a genial temper and a ready wit. This life was greatly to his liking—it was not only pleasant but was of use in bringing him professional business; it, however, aggravated a natural tendency to corpulence, which, with other troubles, caused him much distress. He therefore abandoned his free habits of living and adopted a rigorous moderation, which brought some alleviation but cost him the loss of his pleasant companions and a good deal of his professional work. His health was eventually fully restored after a course of the Bath waters. Some time later he relinquished his abstemious for a "moderate" diet, and his old enemy, corpulence, so gained upon him that he eventually attained the enormous weight of 32 st. and was hardly able to walk. To reduce his weight he adopted for the remainder of his life a milk and vegetable diet; it is to be gathered, too, that he recommended this regimen to his patients, which seems so to have roused Dr. Winter's ire that he penned the gibe printed above.

Dr. Cheyne was a voluminous writer, though few of his works were purely medical. It was one of his earliest works, *Fluxionum Methodus Inversa*, one authority asserts, that procured his admission to the Royal Society.

CORRECTION.

DR. R. H. COLE asks us to correct two errors which appeared in the summary of his address, delivered before the Kensington Division, on "The present legal disabilities in the early treatment of mental disorders," published last week at page 357. In column 1, line 15 from foot, for "1884-5" read "1844-5." In column 1 of page 358, line 22 from top, for "and rate-supported hospitals" read "but not over rate-supported hospitals." The Board of Control has no power over rate-supported mental hospitals.

VACANCIES.

NOTIFICATIONS of offices vacant in universities, medical colleges, and of vacant resident and other appointments at hospitals, will be found at pages 44, 45, 48, and 49 of our advertisement columns, and advertisements as to partnerships, assistantships, and locumtenancies at pages 46 and 47.

A short summary of vacant posts notified in the advertisement columns appears in the *Supplement* at page 83.