

Memoranda:

MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

ANENCEPHALIC FOETUS.

THE following outline of a somewhat unusual occurrence is perhaps of general interest. I was recently called by a midwife to the confinement of a multipara, aged 29, and on examination I found a hand presentation. I administered an anaesthetic, and, on inserting my hand into the vagina, a small foetus was suddenly expelled. Its length was $8\frac{1}{2}$ in., and it presented a most curious, and at first glance an ape-like, appearance, with long arms extending to the lower third of the legs, long fingers, narrow heels, and broad toes. It



was anencephalic, and the skin over the dorsal region was transparent, showing a cuirass-like appearance of the vertebrae and rudimentary ribs. The mouth was open, with the tongue protruding; the penis and scrotum were only slightly developed. A pale-coloured small placenta followed. On further examination another hand was felt, and in a short time a well formed seven months male child was born alive, followed by a normal healthy placenta; this child, however, lived only one hour. The woman had had three confinements, all of which were normal, with living healthy children. Her mother had borne twins, and the husband's first wife died after giving birth to twins—all the children being healthy. The accompanying illustrations are reproduced from photographs of the abnormal child taken shortly after its birth.

D. S. RICHMOND, M.B., Ch.B.Glas.

Johnstone, Renfrewshire.

A CASE OF ACUTE GENERAL TETANUS.

THE following record of a boy who recovered from severe general tetanus seems of sufficient interest to merit publication. A similar case, in which recovery from tetanus took place after treatment with antitetanic serum and chloretone, was reported from the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, in this JOURNAL in 1910 (vol. ii, p. 1402) by Mr. R. A. Hobbs and Mr. E. W. Sheaf.

A boy, aged 14, injured his hand with a toy pistol on January 8th. Eight days afterwards spasms of the jaws were observed. When admitted to hospital, on January 19th, trismus, risus sardonicus, and opisthotonus were marked. Spasms occurred every few minutes. There was a small punctured wound in the left hypothenar eminence.

Before admission 15,000 units of antitetanic serum had been injected into the theca and 3,000 subcutaneously. A further dose of 3,000 units was given subcutaneously on admission, and the boy was placed in a dark room away from all external stimuli. The wound was excised and oxygen bubbled into the surrounding tissue.

Morphine, chloral, paraldehyde, and bromides were tried during the following two days, but failed to relieve the spasms, and chloroform anaesthesia had to be produced on three occasions. On the third day large doses of chloretone were given by the rectum, and the spasms ceased almost entirely. This treatment was kept up for nine days—sometimes as much as 90 grains of chloretone being given by the mouth in twenty-four hours. If discontinued the spasms recurred, but on repetition of the drug calm sleep supervened. No toxic symptoms were noticed.

During the first nine days antitetanic serum was given daily (5,000 units subcutaneously and intramuscularly). On the tenth day both the chloretone and the antitetanic serum were discontinued, and no further spasms ensued.

I am indebted to Dr. Arthur Saunders for his permission to publish this case.

The chief points of interest were the remarkable manner in which the spasms were controlled by chloretone, and the rarity of recovery after such a short incubation period.

ROBERT R. FOOTE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond.

London, W.6

Reports of Societies.

THE PLEA OF INSANITY.

At a meeting of the Medico-Legal Society held in London on May 19th, with the President, Lord Justice ATKIN, in the chair, Dr. LIONEL A. WEATHERLY read a paper entitled "The medical aspect of some murder cases in which insanity was the defence."

Dr. Weatherly said it was well known that ever since 1843, when the four judges made the rule which was still the law regarding criminal responsibility of the insane, the medical experts in mental diseases had unanimously objected to this rule as being unscientific and unjust to many an insane criminal. They must, however, recognize that criminal responsibility was a purely legal question, and that the law, which was the formal expression of the will of the community, was the sole authority in defining this responsibility. But while the law had more or less stood still for generations, medicine was a science which was ever advancing; it was now able to show how disease could affect the intelligence, the imagination, the reasoning power, and also the affective side of what was called mind—namely, the emotion and the will—affecting it in such a way as to make the ruling by which criminals were judged at the present time, when insanity was the defence, unsound and unfair. Personally, he deprecated heated arguments regarding the M'Naghten rulings between law and medicine. What both lawyers and doctors desired could only be justice to the prisoner and the safety of the community. Alienists should study carefully the interesting evolution of the legal rulings, and lawyers should do their best to gain a knowledge of the diseased mind in the fullest application of that term. Had the four judges who laid down the M'Naghten rulings lived for a few days in the wards of any of our mental institutions they would have given very different answers to the questions submitted to them. Excluding idiots, imbeciles, and many chronic dementes, they would have found very few of the inmates of whom they could confidently state they had no proper knowledge of right and wrong. Those judges would have seen cases of general weakening and deficiency of the intellectual powers, of the will, and of the control of emotions, where the subjects were yet capable of distinguishing right from wrong. They would have conversed with patients with delusions, hallucinations, and illusions of one or more of the senses, and yet with a clear knowledge of right and wrong. They would have had pointed out to them patients who at times were subject to transitory fury, or who reasoned insanely on sane premisses, or vice versa, and yet all these patients would have that knowledge which made them in the eyes of the law of the land responsible beings.

Medical experts were often accused of showing distinct bias in their evidence in these cases, and it might be that some were too emphatic in their statements; but it must not be forgotten that if a medical expert, with years of experience of mental diseases, was satisfied in his own mind from his examination of the prisoner and of his whole history that he was insane, he had that feeling so well expressed by the American counsel Mr. W. H. Seward: "I should be guilty of murder if in my present relation I saw the executioner waiting for an insane man and failed to say and failed to do what in my belief the law allowed." The task of the mental expert was more difficult than that of the pathological expert. The mental expert was not able to produce microscopic slides showing the abnormality in the prisoner's brain cells, nor could he give any arithmetical data as to the underweight and the will power of the prisoner; he could not demonstrate the prisoner's emotion in a glass bowl and prove to the jury that, while healthy emotion should be pure white, the prisoner's was of a dirty yellow colour. It had often been said that the mere fact that doctors would go into the witness-box and give evidence diametrically opposite minimized the value of the evidence given by the alienists in these trials, but surely this was not true reasoning. Judges even differed in their opinion of law, and judgements were often upset in the Appeal Court, and again by the House of Lords.

the nervous strain involved, the expenditure of the energy of the spirit, had become a large factor in the incidence of disease, and of disease of a different type from that with which the physicians of a past generation were acquainted.

Addison's Anaemia and Subacute Combined Degeneration.

Dr. ARTHUR F. HURST gave the concluding lecture, on the pathogenesis and treatment of Addison's anaemia and subacute combined degeneration of the spinal cord. Something like 85 per cent. of the cases of pernicious anaemia had sooner or later some nervous symptoms, shown quite definitely to be due to degeneration of the spinal cord. These two diseases were really due to the same cause; he believed it to be an infection which began in the mouth. Both conditions were marked by an absence of hydrochloric acid in the gastric juice, and there was a good deal of evidence that this achlorhydria was not a symptom of the disease but preceded the disease. This was a familial condition, and explained the familial occurrence of Addison's anaemia. To examine the gastric contents and the blood was advisable in cases in which this condition was at all suspected, and by vigorous early treatment it was possible to prevent the anaemia and the nervous disease from developing.

Dr. Hurst next described the treatment he followed, directed in the first place to the eradication of any oral infection, and afterwards to the stomach, and the preventive measures to be taken to ward off the recurrences so common in the past. It was impossible to compare the different forms of treatment; each had its use. What he urged was a combined treatment, directed in every possible way to overcoming the intestinal infection, which seemed to be the cause of both Addison's anaemia and subacute combined degeneration of the spinal cord, at the same time overcoming the results of the infection by transfusion and by arsenic. He hoped that with further development along these lines the word "pernicious" might lose its ordinary connotation. Towards the close of his lecture Dr. Hurst described a remarkable case in his experience in which a man who had been cured of Addison's anaemia became on two occasions a very successful donor of blood to patients in a like condition.

In the afternoon twenty hospitals offered post-graduate facilities to the visitors. Later proceedings will be reported in our next issue.

BIRTHDAY HONOURS.

THE list of honours conferred in connexion with the King's Birthday on June 3rd contains the names of the following members of the medical profession, to whom we offer warm congratulations.

Baronet.

Sir JOHN BLAND-SUTTON, LL.D., F.R.C.S.
President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England; Consulting Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital.

K.C.B. (Military).

Major-General SAMUEL GUISE MOORES, C.B., C.M.G., late R.A.M.C., retired pay.

K.B.E. (Civil).

JAMES CRAWFORD MAXWELL, M.D., C.M.G.
Colonial Secretary, Gold Coast Colony.

Knights.

JAMES BERRY, B.S., F.R.C.S.
Consulting Surgeon, Royal Free Hospital; Member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

HARRY EDWARD DIXEY, M.D., J.P., D.L.
Chairman and Honorary Secretary of the Bewdley and West Worcestershire Unionist Association for twenty-five years. For political and public services.

JOHN ROBERTSON, C.M.G., O.B.E., M.D.
Medical Officer of Health, Birmingham; Professor of Public Health in Birmingham University.

C.B. (Military).

Surgeon Rear-Admiral **ALEXANDER MACLEAN, D.S.O., R.N.**

C.M.G.

ARTHUR ANDREW MORRISON, M.D.

British Delegate on the International Maritime Sanitary and Quarantine Board of Egypt.

C.S.I.

Major-General THOMAS HENRY SYMONS, O.B.E., I.M.S.

Honorary Surgeon to H.M. the King; Surgeon General with the Government of Madras.

C.I.E.

Lieut.-Colonel ROGER PARKER WILSON, I.M.S.

Officiating Surgeon-General to the Government of Bengal.

Lieut.-Colonel CLAYTON ALEXANDER FRANCIS HINGSTON, O.B.E., I.M.S.

Superintendent, Government Hospital for Women and Children, Madras.

C.B.E. (Civil).

EDGARD LUCIEN DE CHAZAL, M.D.

Superintendent, Victoria Hospital, Mauritius.

GEORGE DOUGLAS GRAY, M.D.

Medical Officer, H.B.M. Legation, Peking.

Dr. VICTOR RICHARD RATTEEN.

Surgeon Superintendent, Hobart Public Hospital, State of Tasmania.

Major ALEXANDER JAMES HUTCHISON RUSSELL, I.M.S.

Director of Public Health, Madras.

GEORGE PADDOCK BATE, M.D., F.R.C.S.E., J.P.

For services to the Home Office under the Factory Acts.

DAVID MACKAY CASSIDY, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.S.

Medical Superintendent, Lancaster Mental Hospital.

O.B.E. (Military).

Surgeon Commander **JOHN SCARBROUGH DUDDING, R.N.**

Major JOHN SCOTT, D.S.O., I.M.S.

M.B.E. (Military).

Subadar Major **BARKAT RAM, BAHADUR**, Indian Medical Department.

M.B.E. (Civil).

Lieutenant **JAMES CHARLEMAGNE CHALKE, I.M.D.**

Assistant Surgeon to His Excellency the Governor of Bengal.

Kaisar-i-Hind Medal.

Miss **ESTHER G. BARE, M.D.**

Clara Swain Methodist Episcopal Mission Hospital, Bareilly, United Provinces.

Miss **EDITH L. YOUNG, M.D.**

In charge Palwal Mission Dispensary, Gurgaon District, Punjab.

MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

THE MAUDSLEY LECTURE.

THE quarterly meeting of the Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland was held at the rooms of the Medical Society of London on May 21st, with the President, Dr. M. J. NOLAN, in the chair. Professor G. M. ROBERTSON referred to the recent death of Dr. Gardiner Hill, and spoke in very appreciative terms of his work as medical superintendent of Middlesex County Asylum for twenty-eight years; Dr. Hill had formerly been at Lincoln and Cane Hill.

The sixth Maudsley Lecture was delivered by Dr. J. Shaw Bolton, F.R.C.P., professor of mental diseases in the University of Leeds, and medical director, West Riding Mental Hospital, Wakefield.

Dr. SHAW BOLTON opened with a reference to the number of theories of mind which had been advanced since the war, often in ignorance of, or with scant reference to, the accumulated knowledge of the past. Incidentally, he spoke of the "Rasputin-like philosophy of Freud." The lecturer set out to give an account of the present knowledge on mind and brain as established by fact, as opposed to preconception and theory. Purposeful action was, he said, merely action for a purpose, and not action based on intent by the agent; he objected to the attempt to "anthropize" the actions of the lower animals. He entered into a long dissertation on the origin and behaviour of insects, birds, and mammals, showing that the two latter were comparatively late comers, mammals having only begun to rise in size and degree of evolution about two million years ago. Civilized man appeared to date from 6,000 years ago. Dr. Bolton proceeded to demonstrate, as the

rooted objection to sedatives on principle, and it is very possible that more patients die from withholding than from administering sedatives.

I make no reference here to acute bronchopneumonia, or to lobar pneumonia with generalized bronchitis, where the extra muscles of respiration are being called into action, and I assure critics that I give morphine injections only after much searching of heart, and then to none but adults.

The actions of opium and morphine are in themselves uncertain. We know that some patients merely sleep under their influence, whilst to others they bring excitement and a definite stimulation.—I am, etc.,

Middlesbrough, April 20th.

JOHN M. MACPHAIL, M.D.

FRACTURE OF BOTH PATELLAE BY MUSCULAR ACTION.

SIR,—On seeing a case of simultaneous fracture of both patellae by muscular action reported in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of May 30th (p. 1006), I thought it would be interesting to record a similar case which happened in my practice in the winter of 1903. A lady, aged 62, was walking quietly home from church on Sunday evening, when she stumbled and fell, not being able to rise. On getting her home I found transverse fracture of both patellae, which were wired by the late Mr. R. J. Pye-Smith of Sheffield. She went on quite well for a month, when she suddenly died of syncope.—I am, etc.,

Chesterfield, May 30th.

W. M. CUMMINS, L.R.C.S.I.

Obituary.

JAMES PATRICK ANDREW WILSON, F.R.C.S.ED., D.P.H.

Formerly Principal Medical Officer to the Government of Johore. WITH the death of Dr. James Patrick Andrew Wilson, on May 8th in a York nursing home, there passed away one of the pioneers of Western medicine in the native States of the Malay Peninsula. Dr. Wilson was born in 1858 in Edinburgh, where he received his medical education; he obtained the diplomas L.R.C.P. and L.R.C.S. in 1882, the F.R.C.S. in 1892, and the D.P.H. in the latter year also. After some experience of general practice in Scotland, he went to the Far East as physician to the Sultan of Johore in 1885. He immediately set himself to organize a system of hospitals and dispensaries throughout that State, and his system became a model for the other native States in Malaya. He himself during many years was one of the best known and most highly respected members of the medical profession in the region having its centre in Singapore and the Straits. His holidays at home were spent in efforts to keep his knowledge up to date. In 1898 he retired from Johore, and commenced practice in Paisley, where he lived for seven years. In 1905, at the urgent request of the new Sultan of Johore, H.H. Ibrahim, he returned to that State as principal medical officer to the Government of Johore, and shortly afterwards the Sultan conferred on him the honour of knighthood ("Dato") of the Order of the Crown of Johore—D.P.M.J. After thirty years' service in Johore he returned finally to this country in 1920, and, hoping to continue his professional work, accepted the appointment of medical officer to Blackford Parish in Perthshire. Ill health, however, did not allow him to carry this on for more than a year or two, and he retired to his native city of Edinburgh. In his early pioneering days he suffered much from malaria, and in his later years he developed symptoms of sprue. Dr. Wilson was a very lovable man, and messages to his widow and family from the Sultan of Johore and from members of his family and council, as well as from many personal and professional friends in the Far East, testify to the honour and respect in which he was held in the region where he did so much to initiate and organize both the treatment of disease and a public health service.

THE LATE DR. C. B. KER.

PROFESSOR BERRY of the University of Melbourne writes as follows: Notwithstanding that the exigencies of geographical remoteness render my personal testimony to the memory

of the late Dr. C. B. Ker a somewhat tardy tribute, loyalty to a dear dead friend demands it. To have known Claude Ker at all is a privilege; to have known him as I knew him—intimately, personally, and associated in a friendship such as falls to the lot of few men—is a priceless gift beyond verbal expression. Ker was a loyal soul: loyal to the honourable profession to which he was so proud to belong; loyal to the venerable city which he loved so well; loyal to his Alma Mater, of whose reputation none was so fearlessly jealous; and loyal, as are few men, to his friends. Dr. Ker's professional reputation as a world-wide authority on his chosen subject, infectious diseases, is firmly established by his writings and vast clinical experience in every medical school in the British Empire and beyond it, and will long outlast the few fleeting years of his life. But it was Ker the man, the delightful companion in leisurely idleness, the keen lover of literature, the student of history, the learned Napoleonic scholar and collector, the wise and witty counsellor and friend—these it was which so endeared Ker to his intimates. Some few there are who will remember with affection and a quiet sense of humour those "football lunches" of his younger struggling days, those ever memorable meetings of the "fever board" held at the most unorthodox hours, those strenuous nights of travail which gave birth to the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary Residents' Club. Still fewer are there who will remember, as long as life lasts, Ker's truly happy and inspired moments at the Octagon—those few who bore him, with a proud mien and a sorrowing heart, to his long last resting place. Distance alone prevented a full meeting of the brotherhood. By these, at least, will Claude Ker long be mourned as friend, brother, genius, and gentleman. Like his beloved hero of fiction, he too has answered—Adsum.

Mr. WILLIAM PERCY BLUMER, who died on April 12th in his 71st year, was the eldest son of the late Dr. Luke Blumer of Monkwearmouth. Mr. Percy Blumer received his medical education in Edinburgh, where he obtained the diplomas L.R.C.P. and S. and L.M. in 1876, and the F.R.C.S.Edin. in 1884. He was elected honorary surgeon to the Monkwearmouth Hospital in 1884, and in 1894 he joined the honorary surgical staff of the Royal Infirmary, Sunderland, where he remained until he retired in 1914 under the age limit. He was also honorary surgeon to the Durham County and Sunderland Infirmary. In 1914 he came to London and began practice at Muswell Hill; he retired about six months ago owing to ill health. He contributed numerous articles on surgical subjects to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL and other periodicals. G. B. M. writes: Percy Blumer was a most lovable man, who endeared himself to his patients and a large circle of friends. He was always ready to help a friend or colleague at any hour of the day or night. He was keenly interested in missionary and temperance work. He leaves a widow and two daughters, for whom much sympathy is felt; his only son was killed in the war.

Universities and Colleges.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

AT a congregation held on May 29th the following medical degrees were conferred:

M.B., B.CHR.—F. M. Collins, R. E. Wilson.
B.CHR.—N. R. Cunningham.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

Lectures.

FOUR lectures on cardiology will be given at University College Hospital Medical School by Dr. John Hay, F.R.C.P., Professor of Medicine in the University of Liverpool, on Thursday, June 11th, Friday, June 12th, Thursday, June 18th, and Friday, June 19th, at 5 p.m. on each day. Professor T. R. Elliott, C.B.E., D.S.O., F.R.S., will take the chair at the first lecture. Admission is free without ticket.

Three lectures on blood and circulation from the standpoint of physical chemistry will be given at University College, Gower Street, W.C.1, by Professor L. J. Henderson, Professor of Biological Chemistry in Harvard University, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, June 10th, 11th, and 12th, at 5.30 p.m. on each day. Professor A. V. Hill, F.R.S., will take the chair at the first lecture. Admission is free without ticket.

The Services.

THE following honorary appointments to H.M. the King are announced:

To be Honorary Physician.

Indian Military Forces: Colonel A. A. Gibbs, I.M.S., vice Major-General J. Jackson, I.M.S., retired.

To be Honorary Surgeon.

Colonel E. C. Montgomery-Smith, C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., vice Colonel F. Kelly, C.B.E., T.D., retired.

Indian Military Forces: Colonel E. L. Perry, I.M.S., vice Colonel F. Wall, I.M.S., retired.

DEATHS IN THE SERVICES.

Lieut.-Colonel Charles Henry Bennett, Madras Medical Service (ret.), died on January 28th, aged 71. He was the son of the Rev. T. G. Bennett of Ballynadee, Bandon, co. Cork; he was educated at Queen's College, Cork, and graduated M.D. and M.Ch. in 1876. He entered the Indian Medical Service as surgeon on October 1st, 1877, became surgeon lieutenant-colonel after twenty years' service, and retired on February 11th, 1908. He served in the Afghan war in 1879, receiving the medal.

Medical News.

THE Fellowship of Medicine announces that Sir Thomas Horder will give a lecture on June 9th, at 5.30 p.m., at No. 1, Wimpole Street, on "Some cases of fever without physical signs." Three courses continue during the month—namely, in dermatology at the St. John's Hospital, in venereal diseases at the London Lock Hospital, and in tropical diseases at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. From June 8th to 27th will be held a course in gynaecology at the Chelsea Hospital for Women. The Victoria Park Hospital will hold a fortnight's course dealing with diseases of the heart and lungs, from June 8th to 20th. From June 22nd to July 4th an intensive course has been arranged by the London Temperance Hospital in general medicine, surgery, and the specialties. In July there will be courses in cardiology at the National Heart Hospital, in diseases of children at the Queen's Hospital, in neurology at the West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases, and in urology at St. Peter's Hospital for Stone. Further information about these courses may be obtained from the Secretary of the Fellowship of Medicine, No. 1, Wimpole Street, W.1.

A LECTURE on the sources of the fruit and vegetable supply of London will be given by Sir Daniel Hall, K.C.B., F.R.S., in the Chelsea Physic Garden, Swan Walk, Chelsea, on Thursday, June 11th. The gardens will be open to inspection at 4.30 p.m., and the lecture will be given at 5.15, with Sir William J. Collins, K.C.V.O., M.D., Chairman of the Chadwick Trustees, in the chair.

DR. W. E. THOMAS of Ystrad-Rhondda is to be the guest of the County of Glamorgan Panel Committee, of which he is chairman, at a banquet at the Royal Hotel, Cardiff, when he will be presented by the medical practitioners of the county with his portrait in oils in recognition of his many services to the profession.

DR. G. F. BUCHAN, M.O.H. Willesden, has been elected President of the Society of Medical Officers of Health for the session 1925-26. He will take office in October next.

THE Board of Education has published a list of certified schools, recognized institutions for the training of blind, deaf, and physically defective students, and of the nursery schools in England and Wales. Particulars relating to the average attendance at each of the schools in the year 1923-24 are included, and the addresses of schools are shown in every case when not self-evident. The list may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, Adastral House, Kingsway, W.C.2, price 1s., postage 1d.

THE new buildings of the University of Bristol will be opened by H.M. the King, accompanied by the Queen, on Tuesday, June 9th.

HARROGATE Corporation has issued a new pamphlet, with many illustrations, dealing briefly with the advantages of the spa and the many interesting places in its neighbourhood. The handbook may be had free from the Director, Publicity Department, Royal Baths and Wells, Harrogate.

THE new maternity hospital of the Northumberland County Nursing Association's Training Centre for District Nurses at Willington Quay will be opened on Saturday, June 13th, at 2.30 p.m., by Lady Victoria Percy.

AN obituary notice of Sir Clifford Allbutt appears in the May issue of the *Norsk Magazin for Laegevidenskaben*, signed by the editor, Dr. F. G. Gade.

THE R.A.M.C. memorial scholarship and exhibition have been awarded by Cheltenham College as follows: scholarship, £50, W. Blackwood; exhibition, £40, J. Poë.

THE eleventh International Congress of Hydrology, Climatology, and Geology will be held at Brussels from October 1st to 15th.

AN executive committee for organizing medical congresses in Latin countries has recently been formed with Professor Charles Richet as president and Professors J. L. Faure, Gley, Hartmann, Roger, and Widal as vice-presidents.

UNDER the name of *Journées médicales de Toulouse* a medical congress will be held at Toulouse from July 11th to 14th, when the following papers will be read: microbic lysis, by Professor Bordet of Brussels; biology of gynaecological radiotherapy, by Professor Recasens of Madrid; pathogeny of so-called intestinal infections, by Professor Sanarelli of Rome; the trend and destiny of surgery, by Dr. Dartigues of Paris; treatment of cancer of the cervix, by Professor Faure of Paris; the sanitary service in occupied Germany, by Inspector-General Jacob; the bismuth treatment of syphilis, by Dr. Levaditi; the role of surgery, radium, and x rays in the treatment of cancer of the uterus, by Dr. Regaud of Paris; the internal functions of the lung, by Professor Roger of Paris.

Letters, Notes, and Answers.

All communications in regard to editorial business should be addressed to *The EDITOR, British Medical Journal, British Medical Association House, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.*

ORIGINAL ARTICLES and LETTERS forwarded for publication are understood to be offered to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL alone unless the contrary be stated. Correspondents who wish notice to be taken of their communications should authenticate them with their names, not necessarily for publication.

Authors desiring REPRINTS of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL must communicate with the Financial Secretary and Business Manager, 429, Strand, W.C.2, on receipt of proofs.

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, W.C.2.

The TELEPHONE NUMBER of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL is MUSEUM 9864. The telephone number of the British Medical Association remains, until further notice, Gerrard 2630 (internal exchange).

The TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESSES are:

EDITOR of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, *Aetiology Westcent, London.*

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

MEDICAL SECRETARY, *Medisecra 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, Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh (telegrams: *Associate, Edinburgh*; telephone: 4361 Central).

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

THUNDERSTORMS.

"G" writes: In reply to "X" (May 9th, p. 908), I suggest that Mallock-Armstrong ear plugs (sound destroyers) be used and a handkerchief laid over the eyes. Thus sight and sound would be excluded. The plugs were much used during the war.

INCOME TAX.

Partnership—Motor Expenses.

"C." and "E." are in partnership, on the basis that the profits are shared in the ratio of two-thirds to one-third, but each bears his own motor expenses. "E." apparently purchased his share in January, 1924, from C., who had previously not had a partner.

** The division of the partnership assessment should be such as to leave each partner to bear the tax applicable to his share—two-thirds or one-third—of the average profits, less the motor expenses incurred in earning that share of the profits. The method adopted by the inspector of taxes does not seem to us reasonable. He has deducted from the share of the average profits the average expenses actually incurred in the practice by each partner respectively. The effect as regards the junior partner is not fair, because he receives no allowance for the expenses which were incurred in the two earlier years of the three years' average by the senior partner, then acting as sole proprietor of the practice. In our opinion one-third of the expenses incurred in those years should, for the purpose of the division between the partners, be allocated to the calculation of the average expenses applicable to "E.'s" share. It may