

found in 20 per cent., although the patients showed no sign of gastro-intestinal disorder. Most of these cases, however, had a history of previous intestinal disorder. Constipated stools were always alkaline, and blood was present in 33 per cent. All the breast-fed infants whose stools were examined were suffering from enteritis, all the stools were acid, and 80 per cent. contained blood.

The high percentage of stools containing occult blood in the subacute and chronic intestinal disorders of infancy is a fact which has not apparently attracted attention. The test used was the benzidine test, which is very delicate. The persistence of a positive reaction after convalescence and even recovery are established is also a point of some interest.

#### (B) Bacteriological Examination.

It has been found impossible to ascertain the causal agent of bowel irritation from the examination of the Gram-stained films. They showed a very mixed flora which might exhibit a preponderance of Gram-negative or Gram-positive organisms. In many cases of enteritis, particularly the acute cases, the Gram-stained film showed a large number of Gram-positive cocci (staphylococci and, more rarely, streptococci); with recovery the film tended to become more Gram-negative. This may have some significance. There is no such thing as a "normal" Gram film. Cocci, however, are rarely a prominent feature. The Gram-stained films in the breast-fed infants showed almost in every instance a uniform picture of slender Gram-positive rods, which may be taken as the normal flora of the breast-fed infant's stool.

In cases of enteritis treated with lactic acid milk (culture) the change in the flora was interesting; it was to a higher percentage of Gram-negative organisms.

The following are the tabulated figures:

	Number.	Alkaline.	Acid.	Neutral.	Blood.	Mixed Film.	Gram + Pre-dominance.	Gram - Pre-dominance.	Cocci +.
Enteritis stools ...	46	44%	54%	2%	83%	—	28%	18%	54%
Convalescent stools	31	68%	22%	10%	50%	13%	32%	42%	13%
Normal stools ...	20	90%	10%	—	20%	90%	—	—	10%
Constipated stools ...	6	100%	—	—	33%	100%	—	—	—
Breast-fed infants' stools	5	100%	—	—	80%	20%	80%	—	—

## Memoranda:

### MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

#### TAPEWORMS AND MEAT INSPECTION.

THE following account may be of interest partly because human cases of tapeworm infection are nowadays supposed to be comparatively rare in England, and partly because it raises a doubt whether even fairly close routine meat inspection is likely to detect the small cysts of *Taenia saginata*.

The three patients all came to consult me within a week, and it would be best, perhaps, to give a short history of each.

##### CASE I.

On January 12th, 1927, Miss A. came to me because for about eighteen months she had been passing some whitish things like vermicelli in her motions. I found them to be segments of *Taenia saginata*; on treatment with extract of *filix mas*, the tapeworm, many feet in length, was evacuated. The patient had suffered from severe nervous depression and "biliousness."

##### CASE II.

On January 18th, 1927, Mrs. B. told me that she was passing some flat, whitish objects. On examination of the stools, segments of *Taenia saginata* were seen, some well over an inch long. Treatment with extract of *filix mas* resulted again in the evacuation of a tapeworm several feet in length. The patient had suffered since 1924 from backache and depression, and is now feeling much better; curiously, she had been putting on weight, a rather surprising symptom for a tapeworm to produce.

##### CASE III.

On January 17th, 1927, Mr. C. consulted me, bringing with him a pot containing about six feet of tapeworm that he had

just passed. This again proved to be *Taenia saginata*, and the rest of the tapeworm (quite six feet more) was evacuated by means of extract of *filix mas*. He looked rather thin and anaemic, and felt depressed.

It has, I think, been absolutely proved that *Taenia saginata* in man is due to the eating of infested beef. Yet Cases I and II are both religious Jewesses and have never been out of England; they take their meat from different butchers, but this, of course, does not exclude the possibility of the infection having come from the same animal. Their meat is always examined both by the British meat inspectors and by the Jewish trained slaughter officials, and at home, as well, during the process of "koshering" any abnormalities are likely to be detected. Case III has never been further away from England than France; he states that he ate a great deal of partially cooked meat in France about two years ago.

The specimens from the above cases were identified by Professor R. T. Leiper, F.R.S.

London, N.5. J. VICTOR LANDAU, M.D.Lond., D.P.H.

#### ULTRA-VIOLET RAYS IN THE TREATMENT OF RICKETS.

SINCE the curative properties of artificial ultra-violet rays in rickets were demonstrated, eight years ago, there has been difference of opinion as to the most suitable source of the rays. During the past eighteen months we have attempted to ascertain the relative curative value of different types of lamps.

All the patients selected suffered from severe active rickets, as shown in radiograms of the wrist; radiograms taken at frequent intervals formed the criterion of the progress of healing and of ultimate cure. All the patients were kept in the same environment and were given a standard antirachitic diet rich in fats and poor in carbohydrates; in addition they were all given cod-liver oil. The ages of the patients ranged from 1 to 4 years.

*Group A.*—Fifteen patients were given the standard diet and cod-liver oil, but no ultra-violet radiations. It was found that on an average a severe case of rickets was cured in fifteen weeks. These cases are included for comparative purposes.

*Group B.*—Eleven patients were exposed on alternate days, at a distance of 30 inches, to the rays of an open-flamed carbon arc lamp consuming 35 amperes, for periods of ten minutes increasing to one hour. It was found that these patients were not more rapidly cured than those in the first group, the average time being fifteen weeks.

*Group C.*—Eight patients were exposed on alternate days to the rays of an arc lamp burning electrodes of carbon cored with tungsten-molybdeno powder, at a distance of 32 inches. The initial exposure of two minutes was slowly increased to five minutes. It was found that the average time necessary to effect a cure was eight weeks.

*Group D.*—Four patients were exposed twice a week to the rays of a K-B-B mercury vapour atmospheric lamp, at a distance of 20 inches. They were cured in approximately five weeks.

The radiological evidence of cure does not apparently synchronize with the clinical evidence, for the square head, beading of the ribs, and deformities of the limbs may persist long after the radiogram of the wrist presents a normal picture. The antirachitic properties of ultra-violet rays seem to be due to those having a wave-length of 3,000 Angström units or less. It is probable that these rays, being absorbed by the deeper layers of the skin, there activate a vitamin precursor, converting it into a potent antirachitic vitamin, which is liberated into the circulation.

The mercury vapour lamp, giving as it does an abundance of rays around 3,000 Angström units and beyond it, proved the most potent in the treatment of rickets. The rays emanating from the carbons cored with tungsten-molybdeno powder, while not being so powerful, were still definitely antirachitic; whereas the carbon arc lamp with its wealth of "near" ultra-violet rays does not apparently possess any marked antirachitic properties.

We wish to thank Dr. P. Macdiarmid, the medical superintendent of Alder Hey Hospital, for his permission to make use of these statistics.

W. E. CROSBIE, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.,  
Senior Resident Medical Officer,

R. AIDIN, M.D.,  
Assistant Resident Medical Officer,  
Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Liverpool.

## CARCINOMA OF THE MALE BREAST.

CASES of carcinoma of the breast in males are sufficiently rare to warrant placing on record.

A man, aged 63, was sent to me by Dr. Langmuir with a view to admission to the Glasgow Royal Infirmary. The patient stated that the condition began several months previously as a small "boil," which repeatedly broke down and healed again, and gradually increased in size. He had been losing weight for the past six months, and, for a couple of weeks prior to admission, had experienced pain in the breast region, and extending down the arm.

An ulcer about the size of half a crown, covered by a brown crust, and surrounded by an inflammatory zone, was found in the position of the right breast, the nipple having been entirely destroyed. It was hard to the touch and was adherent to the pectoral fascia, but moved on the subjacent structures. The axillary glands were extensively involved and hard; several were much enlarged.

Operation was performed as for removal of the female breast, together with muscles and axillary contents. The areolar tissue in the axilla was unusually dense and fibrous, rendering removal of the glands more difficult than usual, particularly those surrounding the vein. Enlarged glands extended up to the apex of the axilla, under the clavicle.

Microscopical examination of the tumour and of the axillary glands by Dr. Burton showed it to be a scirrhous carcinoma of the atrophying type. The Wassermann reaction was negative.

The patient has made an uninterrupted recovery.

JOHN A. C. MACFARLANE, M.B., C.M., F.R.F.P.S.,  
Surgeon, Royal Infirmary, Glasgow.

## CAVERNOUS ANEURYSM OF THE CAROTID.

THE following record of a rather unusual case in which the diagnosis of carotid cavernous aneurysm was made will be of interest.

A married woman, aged 30, had suffered since adolescence from severe headache on the right side, accompanied by attacks of vomiting, and preceded by sensations of spots in front of her eyes. Since marriage, eight years ago, her husband had detected a curious noise proceeding from her head. Five years ago she had "attacks" preceded by hunger; her lips became red, she suffered with cold shivers, and then developed biliousness and faintness. She had been losing weight. She had scarlet fever four and a half years ago, and four years ago a convulsive attack nine days after the birth of her second child; since then the attacks had been worse. She menstruated every three weeks with severe loss.

I found the thyroid gland uniformly enlarged, and a systolic murmur was audible over it. There was slight exophthalmos. The cardiac apex beat was  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches from the mid-line, and there was a systolic apical murmur connected both inwards and outwards; this murmur became less when she was kept in bed, and it did not appear to be organic. She had a fair tolerance for exercise; there was no sign of failure of compensation, and the blood pressure was 120/80. By listening over the head a systolic and diastolic murmur could be heard behind both ears, and a systolic murmur alone over the vertex. The patient was aware of a noise in her head, which became worse when she was worried. No abnormality was found in the eyes and there was no pulsating exophthalmos.

I came to the conclusion that this was a case of carotid cavernous aneurysm; I find in the literature that this may occur spontaneously after childbirth. Assuming this diagnosis to be correct, the question is whether such a condition would account for the symptoms, including those resembling migraine. Could such a condition be congenital and be made worse by childbirth? Could any effective treatment be recommended?

Johannesburg.

H. L. HEIMANN, M.D., M.R.C.P.

## INFLUENZAL NEPHRITIS AND PYELITIS.

NEPHRITIS and pyelitis seem to have been more common complications of influenza during the recent epidemic than is usual. To the several cases already recorded in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL (December 11th, 1926, April 2nd, 1927, etc.) can be added some cases treated at the Bristol Royal Hospital for Sick Children and Women.

E. P., female, aged 13. Influenza; followed by (about a week later) epithelial casts, red blood corpuscles in urine, and slight generalized oedema.

E. J., female, aged 6. Combination of epithelial casts and pus cells in urine, and slight oedema.

J. B., female, aged 11. Pyrexia; many red blood cells and some pus cells.

S. B., female, aged 12. Pyrexia; many red blood cells and many pus cells (sent in as an acute abdominal case).

The above cases were characterized by the rapidity with which they cleared up. Cases of haematuria (influenzal) have been recorded (*Medical Echo*, March, 1927) which, together with the cases of albuminuria and those of true nephritis, raise the question as to whether they were different stages of the same disease, just as in the respiratory system one may get aborted cases of pneumonia.

In the eighth edition of Osler's *Principles and Practice of Medicine* it is noted that G. Baumgarten has called attention to the frequency of nephritis as a complication of influenza, though Holt states that it is only occasionally seen.

I am indebted to the kindness of Dr. O. C. M. Davis, senior physician to the hospital, for permission to submit these cases.

J. L. DELICATI, L.M.S.S.A. Lond.,  
House-Physician, Bristol Royal Hospital for  
Sick Children and Women.

## Reports of Societies.

## ICHTHYOSIS AND CANCER OF THE SKIN.

At a meeting of the Section of Dermatology of the Royal Society of Medicine on May 19th, Dr. J. H. SEQUEIRA, the President, in the chair, a paper was read by Dr. LOUIS SAVATARD of Manchester, on ichthyosis and cancer of the skin, with special reference to mule-spinner's cancer.

Dr. Savatard considered that it was quite justifiable to regard xeroderma pigmentosum as a precancerous inflammation of the skin, because in this comparatively infrequent affection it was the rule rather than the exception for cancer to supervene, but he did not think that the fact that xeroderma simplex, or ichthyosis simplex, was also a frequent precursor of cancer was yet recognized as it should be. He considered ichthyosis of the skin of importance as predisposing to skin cancer. In some cases of external cancer, by making a routine examination of the skin of the whole body, he had found lesions not previously suspected even by the patient, and in some of these ichthyosis was present also. This was especially the case when carcinoma was found supervening on a keratotic skin condition. It was not improbable that the keratosis was secondary to the ichthyosis, and might be the precursor of all types of carcinoma and the first sign of squamous carcinoma to be clinically recognized. Dr. Savatard then exhibited a patient whom he had brought from Manchester, illustrating this condition, together with slides of about a dozen cases. He mentioned that Dr. Prosser White of Wigan had described what he called "shagreen skin" occurring in mule-spinners, but among the Manchester mule-spinners whom he had seen he had not noticed this condition, and he regarded this type of skin as only ichthyosis, which was fairly common in Lancashire. Among 400 mule-spinners whom he had seen the incidence was 5 per cent. These mule-spinners, whom he had had an opportunity of examining at their work, were of various ages, and the twenty of them who had ichthyosis (in ten only in a mild degree) included both youths and men. Two out of the twenty had suffered from cancer of the scrotum. From the observations he had been able to make he was convinced that ichthyosis was an important etiological factor in mule-spinner's cancer. He was sorry to see that the departmental committee on mule-spinner's cancer<sup>1</sup> had reported that in the absence of exposure to mineral oils there would be no mule-spinner's cancer. Dr. Robertson, medical officer of health for Darwen, as a result of his own investigation, had come to the opposite view.

Dr. ARTHUR WHITFIELD said that in his opinion Dr. Savatard had attributed to ichthyosis an importance which was hardly warranted. It was true that the ichthyotic skin was a poorly nourished skin, especially in respect of the absence of true maturity of the horny cell, as well as the production and exudation of grease. Since the ichthyotic patient started life with a skin defect in the

<sup>1</sup> Departmental Committee Report on Occurrence of Epitheliomatous Ulceration among Mule-Spinners (1926). London: H.M. Stationery Office. Summarized, BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, April 24th, 1926, p. 746.

of the Lister Institute on May 18th, when Sir James Fowler was in the chair, a vote of condolence with Mrs. Starling was adopted. It recorded the great loss the Institute had sustained by the death of Professor Starling, who for twenty years had devoted to its interests his gifts of a rare ability and a capacity for whole-hearted sympathy with all engaged in the endeavour to promote the advance of science by research. His wise judgement had always proved a safe guide in the conduct of the Institute's affairs.

Dr. NEVILLE THOROLD WOOD, who died on May 14th, aged 69, received his medical education at St. George's Hospital and Paris. He obtained the diplomas M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. in 1883, the M.R.C.P. in 1892, and graduated M.D. Durham in 1899. A colleague writes: Dr. Neville Wood, who belonged to an old Lincolnshire family and inherited property in that county, was never a very robust man, and, after qualifying, travelled extensively, part of the time as ship surgeon in the P. & O. Co. As a result of his travels he became no mean linguist, knowing French, Spanish, and German. He subsequently settled in Kensington and built up a good high-class practice. He had held the posts of president of the West London Medico-Chirurgical Society, and consulting physician to the Kensington Dispensary and Children's Hospital. Neville Wood will be chiefly remembered for his book on the British health resorts (1912). He had an extensive knowledge of the European waters and climates, and was an active worker in the Section of Balneology and Climatology of the Royal Society of Medicine, of which he became President in 1920. His book on the British health resorts was written in collaboration with a committee of the Section, and contains many articles on the British localities by first-rate authorities. It may be regarded as marking the first step in the co-ordination of the British spas and their recognition as a national asset. Had not his health given way five or six years ago he would doubtless have taken an active part in the post-war developments at the spas in England and in other countries, but his was the task of the pioneer. Men of a strong and determined character like Neville Wood are, inevitably perhaps, a little liable to the "lonely furrow." It is to his honour that in spite of physical weakness, his active and versatile intelligence asserted itself in bold initiation and persevering work.

Dr. SAMUEL EDGAR MARTIN, who died on May 10th, in his 76th year, received his medical education at Queen's College, Belfast, and the London Hospital. He graduated M.D., R.U.I., in 1874, and in the following year obtained the M.Ch. and the diploma M.R.C.S. Eng. In 1877 he was appointed medical officer of Newry Infirmary, from which he retired recently owing to failing health. He was consulting sanitary officer to the Newry Urban and Rural councils, one of the founders of the district nursing society, and a governor of Newry Intermediate School. He was a member of the Ulster Branch of the British Medical Association. Dr. Martin took great interest in Freemasonry, having joined in 1874 St. Patrick's Lodge, Newry, the premier Lodge in Ulster. He rose to be Senior Grand Warden in the Masonic province of Down. He is survived by five sons, four of whom have adopted the medical profession, and by three daughters, one of whom is a nurse.

Surgeon Lieutenant Commander GEORGE AUBREY, R.N., died of pleuropneumonia at Hong-Kong on May 9th. He was the youngest son of Mr. John B. Aubrey of Cowes, was educated at the Middlesex Hospital, took the M.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P. Lond. in 1917, and, after serving as house-physician at Middlesex Hospital, was gazetted surgeon lieutenant, R.N., in January, 1917. He became surgeon lieutenant commander in January, 1923, and had passed for surgeon commander. In May, 1917, he was posted to the monitor M.27, in which he had nearly two years' war service, receiving the medal. In 1919 he was sent to Malta hospital as a specialist in bacteriology and pathology; in 1922 he joined the battleship *Ajax* in the Mediterranean;

in 1923 the submarine parent ship *Adamant*; in 1925 the surveying ship *Kellett*, and in 1926 H.M.S. *Tamar*, being also in charge of the dockyard hospital at Hong-Kong.

The following well known foreign medical practitioners have recently died: Dr. K. OOSAWA, emeritus professor in the medical faculty of Tokyo University, one of the first to introduce European methods into medical science in Japan, aged 76; Dr. KARL STARGARDT, professor of ophthalmology and director of the eye clinic at Marburg, aged 51; Dr. A. BEVEROCK, professor of neurology and psychiatry at Prague; Dr. MAX HESSE, extraordinary professor of dermatology at Graz, aged 41.

## Universities and Colleges.

### UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

At a congregation held on May 20th the degree of Bachelor of Medicine (M.B.) was conferred on the Hon. C. B. Buckley.

Dr. T. R. Elliott, F.R.S., has been appointed an elector to the Professorship of Physiology until February, 1933, in the place of the late Professor E. H. Starling, F.R.S.

### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

#### MEETING OF THE SENATE.

A MEETING of the Senate was held on May 18th, when it was announced that as the result of the semi-general election of members of the Senate the following have been appointed: by Convocation (medicine), Mr. W. G. Spencer, O.B.E., M.S.; by Royal College of Physicians of London, Dr. J. Fawcett; by Royal College of Surgeons of England, Mr. V. Warren Low, C.B., F.R.C.S.; by the Faculty of Medicine, Lord Dawson of Penn, G.C.V.O., M.D., and Mr. H. L. Eason, C.B., M.D., M.S.

#### Sir William Collins.

In connexion with the retirement of Sir William Collins from the Senate the following resolution was adopted:

That Sir William Collins be informed that the Senate have learned with great regret of his decision not to seek reappointment on the termination of his period of office as one of the representatives of the London County Council on their body, and that they desire to place on record their high appreciation of the distinguished services which for so many years he has rendered to the University.

#### Chair of Dietetics.

With reference to the anonymous offer, already announced, of £10,000 towards the establishment of a chair of dietetics, Messrs. Wauder have intimated their desire to contribute a similar sum to the same object.

#### The Bloomsbury Site.

An anonymous offer of £250 has been received as a contribution towards any preliminary expense involved in the preparation of a comprehensive plan for the development of the Bloomsbury site.

#### Appointments.

The following appointments were made: Mr. D. MacC. Blair, M.B., Ch.B. Glasg., to the University chair of anatomy at King's College, and Dr. G. S. Wilson to the University readership in bacteriology and immunology tenable at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. The title of Emeritus Professor of Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery at University College has been conferred upon Mr. Percy Flemming, M.D., F.R.C.S.

#### Exhibitions.

The Dunn exhibitions in anatomy and physiology have been awarded to Mr. K. M. Robertson, an internal student of St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School.

### QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, BELFAST.

THE Senate of Queen's University, Belfast, has decided to confer the honorary degree of Doctor of Science upon Sir Berkeley Moynihan, Bt., K.C.M.G., President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and upon Professor G. Elliot Smith, M.D., F.R.S., Professor of Anatomy in University College, London.

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF EDINBURGH.

At a meeting of the College held on May 17th, Dr. A. Logan Turner, President, in the chair, the following were admitted Fellows:

J. N. Adam, H. G. Armstrong, T. O. Chenoweth, A. L. Clowes, A. H. Coleman, K. A. Gilchrist, M.C., A. C. Gillies, P. N. Gokhale, N. D. P. de V. Graaff, G. M. Gray, J. F. Hackwood, W. K. R. Hamilton, B. M. Johns, B. G. Kane, J. J. Kelly, H. Lewis, A. N. McMillan, B. T. Rao, M. S. Ross, R. R. Simpson, A. Sourasky, W. C. Wilson, Ruth E. Millar.

The Bathgate Memorial prize, consisting of bronze medal and set of books, was, after a competitive examination in materia medica, awarded to C. J. Poh and D. M. O'Flaherty, who obtained equal marks.

## SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON.

The following candidates have passed in the subjects indicated:

**SURGERY.**—P. V. Bamford, F. W. Crossley-Holland, P. F. Fanaken, S. Goldman, H. M. de Hartog, G. L. McDermott, E. H. Roberts, V. K. Samy.  
**MEDICINE.**—P. Brookes, J. H. Gillatt, A. W. Marsden, W. D. Neill, E. H. Roberts, V. K. Samy, S. le B. Switzer, T. de L. Walker.  
**FORENSIC MEDICINE.**—T. M. Beattie, P. Brookes, J. H. Gillatt, W. Howard, A. W. Marsden, E. H. Roberts, D. D. Stidston.  
**MIDWIFERY.**—G. Danby, J. A. Fernandez, A. W. Lassowsky, M. H. Rashwad, E. A. Stroud, L. D. Williams.

The diploma of the Society was granted to Messrs. P. V. Bamford, P. Brookes, G. Danby, J. A. Fernandez, J. H. Gillatt, W. Howard, A. W. Marsden, W. D. Neill, V. K. Samy, and L. D. Williams.

## Medical Notes in Parliament.

[FROM OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.]

THIS week the House of Commons made further progress with the Committee stage of the Trade Disputes and Trade Unions Bill, in the course of which references were made to "boycotts" by medical men. Inquiries are being made to ascertain whether the position of the medical profession is covered by the words "trade or industry" in Clause 1 of the bill.

On Tuesday the Prime Minister announced to the House of Commons that the Government had decided to sever diplomatic relations with Soviet Russia.

The address by Lord Dawson of Penn to members of Parliament on the use of animals in experiments has been postponed owing to pressure of other parliamentary business.

### International Labour Conventions.

Brief mention was made last week of the debate raised in the House of Lords, on May 17th, by Lord Arnold, on the use of white lead paint. The statement made for the Government by Lord Cecil of Chelwood as to the obligation of the Government to ratify international labour conventions was important. Lord Arnold had pointed out the two aspects the subject assumed—the technical and the moral. While it was true that a vote for a Draft Convention was not constitutionally binding until the Convention had been ratified by Parliament there was a moral obligation to honour the vote given by its delegates, unless, possibly, circumstances altered very materially after the vote had been given. In the case of the Draft White Lead Convention not only had the Government not ratified, but it had passed an Act to do exactly the opposite of what the Convention, approved by ninety delegates from thirty countries, had laid down. What wonder, when this is done, that someone resigns! Countries would say quite properly: What is the good of sending delegates and technical advisers, at great expense, to try and raise the standard of the workers if, after attaining agreement, the vote really carries no obligation at all? There was reason to fear, if this danger was not recognized, that the pernicious effect would react on treaty obligations of the League of Nations itself.

Viscount Cecil (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster), who replied, described the differences in the machinery for negotiating international conventions of the League and international labour conventions of the International Labour Office, which is a branch of the League. In the latter case the technical obligation, as laid down in Article 405 of the Treaty of Versailles, is to "bring the Draft Convention before the authority or authorities within whose competence the matter lies, for the enactment of legislation or other action." In this respect, therefore, it differed from a treaty obligation seeing that the only technical duty is to present it to Parliament. As to the moral obligation, he agreed with Lord Arnold that it was not right that a Government at home should ignore altogether the action which its representative had taken in an international assembly and treat his vote, as representing the Government, as of no account at all. "Personally, I think it a very unfortunate thing when it becomes necessary, not only in this case but in any case, for a Government to take a different view from that which is taken by its representative. . . . It gives an impression of infirmity of purpose and vacillation. No one who has had, as I have, to discuss similar topics before international assemblies since these events took place can have failed to feel that the unfortunate circumstance . . . does to some extent weaken the position of the British representatives who are discussing similar matters before international assemblies. It is obvious that it does."

The debate was continued by Viscount Burnham, who said that but for the steady sympathy and support of this country it was doubtful whether the International Labour Office would

be in existence; by Lord Parmoor, who considered that there was a strong moral obligation on this country to go forward with ratification; and by Lord Arnold, who thought that the speech of Lord Cecil was a great advance on the previous position taken up by certain members of the Government.

### "Trade Unionism" and Medicine.

During the debate on the Trade Unions Bill, on May 23rd, Mr. Lawson said that anyone who had acted towards the medical profession as Mr. Spencer, the Labour member for Broxtowe, had acted towards the Miners' Federation, would have been driven out of the profession. There was the case of Dr. Axham, which had attracted great attention in the press and among the public, but the British Medical Association, despite public opinion, persisted in its action toward that gentleman. In mining districts, where it was considered that the medical service was not as good as it ought to be, arrangements had been made locally to appoint doctors who were given better salaries than they got elsewhere and better instruments, but in every case the British Medical Association had intervened to prevent these men practising.

Dr. Vernon Davies: Do I understand the hon. member to say that the British Medical Association have definitely threatened these men, or that they have simply offered advice to them not to undertake the work?

Mr. Lawson replied that these professional men had been "advised." They had been brought down to meet representatives of the British Medical Association in the country. They had put their case and defended themselves, and there was not a single case where they had not been driven out and intimidated.

Dr. Vernon Davies said that Mr. Lawson seemed to be suffering under some slight misapprehension in his remarks concerning the British Medical Association. That Association was not a trade union, it was a voluntary combination of certain medical men, but there was no compulsion upon any man to join. He had been a member of the Association ever since he went into practice and had sometimes been opposed to its policy. In that House he had voted against their policy on committees, and yet he had not been penalized in any way, threatened, or interfered with. He had given his point of view and said that, as he believed the Association was wrong, he should vote against them, and he had done so and had not suffered. Cases were mentioned where the British Medical Association had interfered with certain appointments. All that the British Medical Association did was this. They said, "We are an Association of medical men out to protect the interests of the medical men and the public. We think a certain job is worth a certain amount of money. This particular society or company is advertising a job at a rate of remuneration which we think is too low. If you accept it you will be very foolish, because if you stick out you can get more." Suppose a man took it, nothing was done to him. All that the British Medical Association did was to say, "You are satisfied with a lower rate; we cannot interfere, we cannot penalize you, and we cannot turn you out of the Association, nor can we advise anybody to have nothing to do with you."

Mr. Lawson: They drive him out.

Dr. Davies: Not at all; that is where hon. members make a mistake. All that the British Medical Association does is to say, "You are foolish if you are prepared to work for a lesser wage," but it cannot, and does not, penalize that man in any shape or form.

Colonel Watts-Morgan asked Dr. Davies to take it from him that he could give him the case of four doctors who had accepted appointments and had been boycotted by all the medical men in the district, who had refused their assistance in operations and in cases in hospitals. If that was not intimidation, heaven knew what intimidation was!

Dr. Davies said that he was referring to the British Medical Association. It might be that the local doctors considered that a man who accepted this appointment was doing what would bring down the rates of remuneration, and they might say, "We do not approve, and, socially, we will not meet you." But, professionally, they were bound to meet him. If any doctor refused to assist his professional brethren who might request consultation he would not receive the backing of the British Medical Association or of any medical man.

### Small-pox.

On May 23rd Sir K. Wood told Captain Garro-Jones that the Minister of Health was of opinion that local authorities had all the necessary powers to safeguard the population from small-pox if adequate use were made by the public of the facilities provided for free vaccination. Further cases had occurred in the Hackney Wick area. The Minister was unable to say when the inhabitants would be free from the danger of infection. Captain Garro-Jones asked if the question of overcrowding would be considered in connexion with preventive measures. Dr. Vernon Davies inquired if Sir K. Wood was aware that overcrowding would not cause small-pox. Sir K. Wood: Yes. Mr. Chamberlain, on May 23rd, said that nine small-pox patients (one male and eight female), whose homes were in the urban district of Hendon, had been removed to hospital. One patient was 8 days old, and the others were aged 8, 15, 16, 21, 23, 37, 42, and 47 years respectively. There were five fatal cases. At the time of infection four of these were unvaccinated and one vaccinated. Of the non-fatal cases, two were unvaccinated and two vaccinated at the time of infection. The vaccinated cases were all vaccinated only in infancy.

## Medical News.

A JOINT meeting of the Guildford Branch of the British Medical Association and the Royal and Southern Counties branches of the National Veterinary Association was held on May 19th, at the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, when Professor Hobday opened a discussion on clean milk, in which he recommended the appointment of special boards to deal with milk inspection; these should include the medical officer of health, a veterinary officer of health, and a sanitary inspector. Dr. Nathan Raw said that 10 to 12 per cent. of the milk samples examined contained tubercle bacilli, and that pasteurization was, therefore, necessary at present. Dr. Howell, medical officer of health for Hammersmith, agreed that, owing to the present uncertain condition of milk production, pasteurized milk was the cleanest and safest.

THE ninth Carlsbad international post-graduate course in balneology and balneotherapy will be held from September 18th to 24th. Among others, Dr. H. H. Dale, F.R.S., will deliver a lecture on the theory of insulin action. The course is open to all medical practitioners, for whom full opportunities for studying the local therapeutic institutions will be provided. In connexion with the course a Czechoslovakian visa will be supplied without charge and a 33 per cent. reduction allowed on the State railways. Further information may be obtained from the honorary secretary, Dr. Edgar Ganz, Carlsbad, Czechoslovakia.

THE April issue of *The Fight Against Disease*, the journal of the Research Defence Society, contains an account of Lord Lister's evidence before the Royal Commission on Vivisection in 1875, and his letter to Queen Victoria in the same year. Sir Berkeley Moynihan's recent broadcast speech about Lister is printed, and there is a reprint of the account in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of April 9th of the conference with reference to the Dogs' Protection Bill held at the House of the Association. The methods and menace of antivivisection are described, and a short reference is made to the benefits which experimental research has brought to animals. The subscription for membership of the society is 10s.; and further information may be obtained from the secretary, Dr. G. P. Crowden, at the offices of the society, 11, Chandos Street, W.1, who will also supply copies of *The Fight Against Disease*, price 6d. net.

A PARTY of 120 members of the Inter-State Post-Graduate Assembly of North America will visit London from June 1st to the 3rd. A series of lectures has been arranged at Dartmouth House on the mornings of the three days, and in the afternoons special demonstrations have been arranged at several London hospitals. Receptions will be held at the Royal College of Surgeons, at 5.30 p.m., on June 2nd, and at the Royal Society of Medicine, at 8.30 p.m., on June 3rd.

THE Council of the Medical School, medical women, and medical women students are arranging a fair at the London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women, 8, Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.1, in aid of the Centenary Fund of the Royal Free Hospital. It will be opened on Friday, June 10th, by Lady Rayleigh, O.B.E.

THE Fellowship of Medicine announces that on May 30th, at 2 p.m., Dr. A. S. Woodwark will deliver a lecture on diabetes at the Royal Waterloo Hospital, and on the same date and at the same hour Mr. W. McK. McCullagh will give a special demonstration at the Samaritan Hospital; the lecture and demonstration are free to medical practitioners. There will be a series of demonstrations during June at the Royal Eye Hospital, the first of which will be given on June 9th, at 3 p.m., by Mr. Letchworth. The Chelsea Hospital staff will hold a special course from June 8th to 21st, including operative technique and lectures on the diseases of women. From June 8th to 29th there will be an afternoon course at the Central London Ophthalmic Hospital and an operative course will be arranged if desired. From June 13th to 25th a combined course in diseases of children will be held at the children's clinic, the Royal Waterloo Hospital, the National Hospital for Diseases of the Heart, and the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital. An afternoon course has been arranged at the Blackfriars Skin Hospital from June 20th to July 1st; special cases of interest will be shown on each Tuesday. The Victoria Park Hospital will provide a special course from June 27th to July 9th. The Fellowship of Medicine can arrange for practical courses in anaesthetics and obstetrics and for clinical assistantships in gynaecology. Copies of all syllabuses are obtainable from the Secretary of the Fellowship, 1, Wimpole Street, W.1.

A POST-GRADUATE course on the plastic surgery of the face will be given at the St. Louis Hospital, Paris, from June 15th to July 13th, by Dr. Ferris Smith of Grand Rapids and Dr. Eastmann Sheehan, of New York. The course, which will be given in English, will include lectures, clinical work, and

practical instruction in operations on the cadaver. As the entry is limited early application should be made to Professor F. Lemaitre, St. Louis Hospital, 40, rue Bichat, Paris, from whom further information may be obtained. At its conclusion Dr. Chevalier-Jackson will commence a complete course on broncho-oesophagoscopy at the Paris Faculty of Medicine.

The house and library of the Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, W.1, will be closed on Saturday, June 4th, and Monday, June 6th.

THE May issue of the *Tropical Diseases Bulletin* contains an historical section dealing with early records of research in tropical medicine, including Portuguese contributions in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, and ancient reports of plague, malaria, dysentery, leprosy, and scurvy.

LIEUT.-COLONEL JAMES CRAN, M.D., O.B.E., V.D., Principal Medical Officer, has been appointed an official member of the Legislative Council of the Colony of British Honduras.

THE seventh annual Congress of German Oto-Rhino-Laryngologists will be held at Vienna from June 2nd to 4th.

THE nineteenth French Congress of Medicine will be held in Paris from October 10th to 13th under the presidency of Professor Teissier. The subjects to be discussed include the symptomatology of the medical septicaemias; the pathology of the oedemas; and the medical indications and therapeutic value of splenectomy. Further information can be obtained from the general secretary, Dr. M. Chiray, 14, rue Pétrarque, Paris XVIe.

IT was reported to a recent meeting of the Standing Committee of the Office International d'Hygiène Publique that leprosy, which for a number of years had been declining in Bosnia and Herzegovina, is now increasing. In Korea, where there are three or four thousand lepers, treatment with the fatty esters of chaulmoogra oil has produced some results. The curious circumstance was disclosed that three cases of indigenous leprosy have recently been detected in Switzerland. The patients lived in a high lonely valley, which can only be reached on mule-back, and had never been away from home. It is conjectured that some old focus of infection has revived.

THE second part (E-L) of the sale catalogue published by *L'Art Ancien*, Lugano, of early books on medicine, natural science, and alchemy has recently appeared. Each entry is accompanied by an explanatory or historical note in English, and the text is freely interspersed with contemporary woodcuts.

A THREE weeks' summer holiday cruise is being arranged by the *Bruzelles Medical* to leave Havre on August 10th and visit Bordeaux, Lisbon, Tangiers, Algiers, Palma, Barcelona, and Marseilles. The cost will be from £16 upwards; further information may be obtained from Dr. F. F. Imianitoff, 29, Boulevard Adolphe Max, Brussels.

THE number of persons attacked by rabies in 1924 in Germany was 41. It was 63 in 1923, 101 in 1922, and 52 in 1921. Deaths from rabies after inoculation numbered 8 in 1921 (1.44 per cent. of those bitten), 9 in 1922 (0.43 per cent.), 6 in 1923 (0.55 per cent.), and 5 in 1924 (0.34 per cent.), while the deaths among the non-inoculated were 4 in 1921 (8.01 per cent. of those bitten), 9 in 1922 (10 per cent.), 10 in 1923 (22.22 per cent.), and 5 in 1924 (2.36 per cent.).

THERE are at present 32,000 medical practitioners in Italy; 800 medical students become qualified annually.

PROFESSOR EUGEN FISCHER, the well known anatomist of Freiburg, has been appointed director of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Anthropology at Berlin, which is to be opened in September on the occasion of the International Congress on Heredity.

AN institute for the study of tuberculosis has been founded in the Hamburg-Eppendorf General Hospital.

THE Chinese Physiological Society has established a new quarterly periodical entitled the *Chinese Journal of Physiology*, under the editorial direction of Drs. R. K. S. Lim, B. E. Read, and Hsien Wu of Peking, and H. G. Earle of Hong-Kong. The first number, January 1st, 1927, contained papers on the pharmacology of Chinese aconite, the use in anaesthesia of mixtures of ephedrine and procaine, observations on the secretion of the transplanted stomach, and reports of investigations of Chinese pharmacological products. The April issue is larger and includes twelve reports of physiological, pharmacological, and biochemical investigations. The articles appear in English, French, or German, with abstracts in Chinese. The journal may be obtained from the Peking Union Medical College; the annual subscription is £1 2s. 6d.

THE Bureau of the Far East at Singapore reports that for the week ending April 16th there were 18 cases of plague with 16 deaths, 213 cases of cholera with 178 deaths, and 600 cases of small-pox with 241 deaths.