

thought of acute appendicitis. Although the patient was thin, there was no obvious alteration of the contour of the abdominal wall, but a curious thrill was obtained in the lower abdomen, so that torsion of an ovarian cyst was also considered.

Under anaesthesia, the patient was catheterized, but the cystic mass remained. Through a mid-line incision a large mulberry-like mass was encountered; it was connected with the right broad ligament by a pedicle that had rotated five times. The cyst was multilocular and anatomically a par-ovarian cyst. This purple mass, about the size of a coco-nut, was readily removed, but the ovary which was involved in the pedicle was saved. A very congested appendix was also removed, and the patient made a good recovery.

The pulse rate during the first twenty-four hours was about 60, and became faster and faster, so that in two days it reached 84, at which it has since remained.

COMMENTARY

The bradycardia is the feature of great interest in this case. Was it due to the appendix or the cyst, or might the two have combined to produce this unusual state? The suggestion offered is that the afferent stimuli from the twisted pedicle travelled by the autonomic fibres to the vagal centre, and also to its neighbour, the respiratory centre. The vagal response was a decrease in cardiac rate, or in this case the bundle of His might have been impaired, producing a two to one heart-block. The fact that the pulse rate gradually returned to normal indicates that the vagal inhibition was probably the cause, and the relatively large number of autonomic nerves in the area adds weight to this conception.

In conclusion, it may be pointed out that the above facts do not accord with the usual assumption that the peritoneal irritation necessarily provides all the indications of shock, including increased pulse rate, and that the increased pulse rate is a guide to the diagnosis.

REFERENCES

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- ² Palmer Findley: *Journ. Obstet. and Gynaecol. of the British Empire*, 1921, xxviii, 151.
- ³ Reuben, M. S.: *Arch. Pediat.*, New York, 1926, xliii, 54.
- ⁴ Keatings, G. F.: *Ibid.*, 1926, xxxiii, 653.
- ⁵ Chu, J. S.: *National Med. Journ. of China*, 1926, xii, 203.
- ⁶ Nutt, J.: *Journ. Amer. Med. Assoc.*, 1927, lxxxviii, 1112.
- ⁷ Pillai, M. K.: *Indian Med. Gazette*, 1927, lxii, 88.
- ⁸ Stevens, I. H. K.: *British Medical Journal*, 1930, ii, 1083.

Memoranda

MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL

TUBERCULOSIS OF THE MAMMARY GLAND

Tuberculosis of the mammary gland is a comparatively rare condition. Wakeley¹ states that only 212 cases have been recorded. He describes two forms (1) disseminated, (2) confluent, in which a single chronic abscess cavity is formed. The commonest cause of infection is via the blood stream secondary to pulmonary tuberculosis, but infection may occur as a result of direct contact following tuberculosis of rib or sternum. More rarely the source of infection is pleura or axillary lymphatic glands. The following case is of interest, as illustrating the presence of a single chronic tuberculous abscess cavity in the breast tissue, following lupus of face with tuberculous cervical and axillary glands of many years' standing.

A married woman, of coarse, swarthy type, born in 1893, was referred to me at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Leigh, by her doctor in June, 1917. She was well nourished and had several scars (some scabbed over) on both sides of her neck and under her chin. There was slight discharge here and there, with some enlargement of the cervical and left axillary glands. Scraping was performed at the Manchester Royal

Infirmery and she was discharged on July 26th, the lesions being apparently healed. In January, 1918, she had several small glands down the left side of her neck, with many scars and some scrofuloderma; she was doing her housework. After September, 1918, she ceased attendance at the dispensary until January, 1920, when painful swollen glands in the left axilla and lupus of the right cheek were noted. Her condition improved following treatment at the Manchester and Salford Skin Hospital. When she next visited the dispensary in May, 1923, there was extensive lupus of the right side of face and neck, together with a discharging sinus in the left axilla. She again attended the Skin Hospital regularly, and in September, 1926, she had extensive scars from ear to ear, with only a few active spots of lupus. She visited the Leigh Dispensary at intervals, and in January, 1931, she drew attention to her right breast, when a firm swelling was detected in the upper and outer quadrant adherent to the skin, but freely movable on the deeper structures. There were scars of old sinuses in both sides of neck and both axillae, also lupus of the right cheek. There was no evidence of pulmonary tuberculosis.

She was admitted to the Manchester Royal Infirmery, and the tumour, with overlying skin and surrounding tissue, was removed by Mr. A. H. Southam. The following particulars were kindly supplied to me by the surgical registrar (Dr. R. P. Osborne): Section of tumour at the time of the operation proved that it was an abscess. Subsequent pathological examination of the whole of this material resulted in the following report: "Section shows the structure of tuberculosis with caseation and abscess formation." The tumour was thus a tuberculous abscess.

With some intermissions, this patient was under frequent supervision at a tuberculosis dispensary for thirteen and a half years, first of all with tuberculous adenitis of neck and scrofuloderma, and subsequently with lupus of right cheek. The development of the tuberculosis of the mammary gland appears to have been a direct sequela of the foregoing conditions.

GEORGE JESSEL, M.D., D.P.H.,
Consultant Tuberculosis Officer,
Lancashire County Council.

Reports of Societies

PHARMACOLOGY

A meeting of the Pharmacological Section of the Royal Society of Medicine was held in the Pharmacological Laboratory, Cambridge, on May 30th, with the president of the Section, Dr. P. HAMILL, in the chair.

AVERTIN AND THE LIVER

Dr. F. B. PARSONS read a communication on "The action of avertin on the liver," in which he described some preliminary experiments designed to show the effect of avertin (tribromethyl alcohol) upon the liver. For some considerable time it had been known that organic halogen compounds were prone to cause liver damage. More recently Lucas had investigated the effects of certain bromine-containing anaesthetics—namely, bromoform, ethylene bromide, ethyl bromide, and methylene bromide—upon rabbit's liver, and he had concluded that these substances were capable of producing fatty degeneration and necrosis of this organ. Dr. Parsons stated that he had repeated these experiments with avertin. A series of rabbits were given this drug, and after varying periods they were killed and the livers were examined histologically. Technical difficulties in the histology of rabbit's liver made it impossible to draw any definite conclusion, but in all the sections there was a certain amount of fatty degeneration. He proposed to repeat the experiments upon dogs.

Sir FRANCIS SHIPWAY mentioned that he had successfully administered avertin for the performance of cholecystectomy in a case of congenital cystic liver.

¹ *Clinical Journal*, 1928, lvii, 224.

ETIOLOGY OF ULCERATIVE COLITIS

SIR,—In the article by Dr. Arthur F. Hurst, which appeared in your issue of April 25th, the following sentence appears: "Several American physicians have told me that they have been quite unable to confirm Barga's enthusiastic reports about vaccination with his organism, which has not been accepted by any other American workers as the cause of ulcerative colitis." I would like to point out that the final clause gives scarcely an accurate impression. The enclosed list of articles is only a portion of a number that have appeared, in which our work has been confirmed.—I am, etc.,

J. A. BARGEN.

Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, May 22nd.

** The following is the list of references sent by Dr. Barga:

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3. Streicher, M. H., and Kaplan, B.: Chronic Ulcerative Colitis, *ibid.*, January 4th, 1930, xciv, 10.
4. Lynch, Jerome: Discussion, *Trans. Amer. Gast. Assoc.*, May 4th and 5th, 1930.
5. Portis, S.: Diagnosis and Treatment of Non-specific Ulcerative Colitis, *Illinois Med. Journ.*, February, 1927, li, 111.
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9. Chisholm, A. J.: Symptomatology and Treatment in Chronic Ulcerative Colitis, *Colorado Med. Journ.*, January, 1928, xxv, 28.
10. Horgan, Edmund, and Horgan, Joseph: Chronic Ulcerative Colitis: Results of Treatment with Vaccine in Five Cases, *Journ. Amer. Med. Assoc.*, July, 1929, xciii, 263.

Obituary

A. T. MACCONKEY, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Late Bacteriologist in Charge, Serum Department, Lister Institute
The death of Dr. Alfred T. MacConkey, on May 17th, at the age of 70, recalls to bacteriologists his early researches connected with the bacteriology of sewage and water supplies. It was his work for the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal which led him to devise the culture media known by his name. The most distinctive feature of the liquid and solid MacConkey media was the use of bile salts in order to inhibit the growth of bacteria not derived from the intestine, and so to recognize those of faecal origin. He also incorporated glucose or lactose with the bile salt in the nutritive media. Later the commonly used "MacConkey agar" always contained not glucose, but lactose and neutral red, so that not only were the characteristic intestinal bacteria given an advantage over other forms, but also colonies of various pathogenic bacteria in faeces which did not ferment lactose were made conspicuous and differentiated from the non-pathogenic *B. coli*. In spite of the many other prescriptions for media intended to fulfil the same purpose, "MacConkey agar" is still used in this country and in other parts of the world in preference to its many rivals, especially by British workers, on account of its simplicity and effectiveness. When MacConkey began to work for the Royal Commission in 1899 the knowledge of the great variety of bacteria present in faeces and their differentiation from others commonly found in water was very elementary. The task in this field of work must have appeared overwhelming. MacConkey became intensely interested in the important problems involved, and by his enthusiastic and persistent work added considerably to our knowledge of the most useful means of distinguishing the bacteria, generically called *B. coli*, which were of recent intestinal

origin from others associated with cultivated and uncultivated soils, and he helped to investigate the distribution in nature of the various somewhat similar bacteria, especially *B. lactis aerogenes*. Between 1900 and 1909 he published several papers on aspects of the same subject.

Alfred Theodore MacConkey began his medical studies at Cambridge, where he took an honours degree in Natural Science. After subsequent work at Guy's Hospital he graduated M.B., B.Ch. in 1889, and then served as house-surgeon at that hospital. He was in practice for some years at Beckenham, but illness following influenza determined his retirement from practice and devotion to bacteriology. In 1901 he joined the staff of the Lister Institute at Chelsea, and very soon was transferred to the serum department of the Institute at Elstree. In 1906, when Dr. George Dean retired, Dr. MacConkey succeeded him as bacteriologist in charge of the serum department, and thenceforward his interests lay in the technique of preparing serums. He devoted himself with characteristic attention to detail to the production of toxins and other antigens, the care and inoculation of the animals, and the management of the laboratories and farm. He took great personal interest in the individual horses, showing much kindly feeling for them. His work in producing therapeutic and prophylactic serums he looked on as a form of public service. The enthusiasm with which he rapidly enlarged the stables and laboratory accommodation during the war in order to make greatly increased supplies of serum for the Expeditionary Forces was for him an expression of his desire to be of use to the country. He was especially interested in antitetanic serum, and published several papers on its value and in exposition of his belief that it should be used more actively as a therapeutic agent. He was always ready to give help and the benefit of his experience to visitors from other serum institutes and to those starting to make medicinal serums in various parts of the Empire. His kindly advice, and hints warning beginners against avoidable difficulties, must have proved of great value to many who sought his assistance.

Dr. and Mrs. MacConkey delighted to entertain visitors from all over the world and to display his remarkably successful garden, in which he spent so much of his leisure. After 1926, when he retired from his post at Elstree, he lived at Blindley Heath in Surrey, and continued to gratify his love for the culture of flowers, especially roses.

J. A. A.

There recently died in a Dublin hospital Daniel Crowley, formerly a student of Queen's College, Cork, who graduated M.D. in 1888 at the old Queen's University. Until quite lately he carried on a large practice in the town of Loughrea and the surrounding part of County Galway, and was much esteemed. He recently resigned the coronership of the County Galway (Southern Division), and at that time he was probably the last survivor of those who had been elected to the office by vote of all the electors on the parliamentary franchise of the county; it speaks much for the charm of his personality and character that he should have been elected by popular vote in a county where clannishness was such a dominant factor. Dr. Crowley is greatly regretted by his colleagues, who could always rely on his helpful kindness and consideration. They offer their sympathy to his widow and son, Albert Crowley, who is also a member of the medical profession.

J. M.

The following well-known foreign medical men have recently died: Dr. JEAN DUMONT, secretary of the *Presse Médicale*, aged 63; Professor AXEL HOLST, the eminent bacteriologist and hygienist of Oslo, aged 71; and Dr. J. WAGENHAUSER, formerly professor of otology at Tübingen, aged 81.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

At a congregation held on June 6th the following medical degrees were conferred:

M.D.—R. M. B. MacKenna, C. C. R. Downing, J. P. Marsden, M. E. Lampard.
M.B.—H. L. Hoffman.
B.CHIR.—C. O. Barnes.

Sir Humphry Rolleston, Bt., Regius Professor of Physic, has been appointed to represent the University at the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, from November 29th to December 1st, next.

Presentation to John Lane

The completion of fifty years' service by John Lane, chief assistant at the Anatomy School, was celebrated in the large lecture theatre of the Anatomy School on June 2nd, when Mr. Lane was presented with a gold watch and chain and a cheque for 105 guineas. The Vice-Chancellor of the University honoured the occasion with his presence, and Professor Wilson presided over a large and enthusiastic gathering. Miss Macalister represented the family of the late Professor Macalister. Letters expressing regret for absence were read from Sir Donald MacAlister and Professor E. Barclay Smith. Before making the presentation, Professor Wilson called upon the senior members of the presentation committee to report on their proceedings. In response, Dr. Duckworth and Mr. Hopkinson recounted the progress of their appeal, and illustrated its success by reference to the large number (1,066) of those who had contributed. Particular reference was made to the co-operation of Cambridge men now holding prominent positions on the staffs of the principal London hospitals. Thanks to their devoted efforts, the presentation had been brought to the notice of a large number of medical graduates and of students who, having left Cambridge, were now engaged in clinical work in London. Warm acknowledgment was also made of the assistance rendered by the committee and college representatives of the University Medical Students' Society, whose president was a member of the presentation committee. Professor Wilson then made the presentation, and Mr. John Lane made a brief but effectively appropriate and grateful reply. The inscription inside the cover of the watch was as follows:

"1881-1931. The presentation of this watch marks the completion of John Lane's 50th year of service in the Anatomy School, and assures him of the warm appreciation of that service by those who have combined to make the gift."

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

The following have been recognized as teachers of the University at the medical schools indicated. Westminster Hospital Medical School: Mr. E. P. Brockman (orthopaedic surgery), Mr. C. P. Thomas (surgery), Mr. Reginald Worth (mental diseases); London Hospital Medical College: Mr. Victor W. Dix (surgery), Mr. W. S. Herman (dental surgery), Mr. E. P. Stibbe (anatomy); Charing Cross Hospital Medical School: Dr. C. W. Hutt (hygiene).

Regulations for Examinations

The regulations for the M.D. and M.S. examinations for internal students have been amended by the addition of the following sentence at the end of the first paragraph on page 219, and the last paragraph but one on page 224 of the Red Book, 1930-31:

In the pass list a mark of distinction will also be placed against the names of all candidates who, in the opinion of the examiners, have qualified for the award of a University medal, irrespective of whether the medal is awarded to them or not.

The regulations for the M.D. and M.S. examinations for external students (Blue Book, September 30th, 1930, pp. 271 and 276) have been similarly amended.

It has been decided that in and after 1932 the regulations for the academic diploma in public health be amended by the substitution of the following for the last paragraph on page 468 and the first paragraph on page 469 (Red Book, 1930-31):

(1) Part I of the examination will be held twice a year, beginning on the first Monday in April, or, if that be a bank holiday, on the second Monday in April; and on the Monday of the week prior to the first Tuesday in July.

(2) Part II of the examination will be held twice a year, beginning on the Monday in the week following that in which the June-July examination for Part I is held; and on the fourth Monday in September.

It was also decided that in 1931 Part II of the examination shall begin on the Monday in the week following that in

which the September examination for Part I is held, and not on the Tuesday in that week, as provided in the existing regulations.

Mickle Fellowship

Applications for the William Julius Mickle Fellowship must reach the Principal of the University by October 1st. It is of the value of at least £200, and is awarded annually to the man or woman who, being resident in London and a graduate of the University, has, in the opinion of the Senate, done most to advance medical art or science within the preceding five years, and has therein shown conspicuous merit. Full particulars can be obtained on application to the Academic Registrar, University of London, S.W.7.

The following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

THIRD M.B., B.S.—§*H. W. Howell, §*L. H. Howells, §*Alison F. Z. Judd, §†Muriel H. E. Long, §†P. V. Reading, §†T. F. Todd, §†Marion E. Townsend, R. M. Alderton, Gwendolen E. Austin, F. Back, E. E. Barnett, A. L. Basham, J. E. L. Bendor-Samuel, C. C. Beresford, Ilma B. S. Bingemann, Helen B. Burt, Joan Butterworth, A. C. Byles, P. H. Charlton, D. O. Clark, A. R. Clarke, R. D. Darley, H. L. G. Davies, S. D. Elliott, W. J. Ferguson, L. P. Friedman, R. J. Furlong, A. P. Gaston, J. B. George, S. J. Golden, Rebecca Goldstein, R. T. S. Goodchild, P. R. Graves, S. R. Gunewardene, F. R. Gusterson, R. L. H. Harris, Ruth M. Harris, W. H. Harris, W. Hogg, S. W. Holmes, H. R. Hovsha, D. T. Ishmael, E. Jones, H. W. Jordan, J. D. Kershaw, A. T. L. Kingdon, N. Kramer, F. P. L. Lander, E. S. Lee, P. A. T. Lowden, M. Luckeenarain, R. Machray, W. McKissock, Henrietta M. Macleod, K. M. Masani, J. H. G. Mason, Bertha I. Meyer, T. W. Mimir, J. Mindline, I. More, Kathleen J. Mulvany, Lois M. Munro, W. L. Neustätter, G. H. Newns, J. E. A. O'Connell, A. P. M. Page, D. N. Parfitt, F. L. L. Patrick, A. L. Pereira, J. H. Pierre, N. S. Plummer, D. C. Price, Helen M. M. Reid, T. S. Rodgers, K. M. Ross, S. Scher, V. E. P. Senewiratne, G. C. Sheldon, Helana Sidarous, S. K. Squires, Eileen M. G. Stevenson, R. G. Thomas, J. A. White, I. G. Williams, F. W. Willway, W. Young. *Group I:* W. Aukin, H. B. Barker, H. W. Benham, A. I. P. Brown, A. Burkhardt, E. H. Capel, A. F. H. Coke, H. E. B. Curjel, J. O. F. Davies, S. B. Dimson, P. G. Dowdell, E. H. Evans, Phyllis M. Fraser, J. B. Great Rex, Hilary S. M. Hadaway, D. W. James, E. G. M. Jones, B. W. Knight, G. A. M. Lintott, W. F. McGladdery, Dorothy Makepeace, S. F. Marshall, Gwendolen E. M. Meyer, J. E. Morton, D. D. Payne, R. N. C. Smith, B. Southwell, T. Standing, F. L. Wheaton, S. J. Wheeler, E. L. Williams. *Group II:* I. S. Acres, K. C. Buck, Margaret E. Cope, D. F. L. Croft, J. R. Crumie, E. B. Grogono, J. M. Harker, B. T. W. Harvey, K. L. James, S. Lefcovitch, K. S. May, E. R. R. Mellon, H. S. Morton, D. K. Mulvany, C. F. Price, W. M. Priest, J. M. Robertson, R. W. Scarff, M. R. Thomas, W. J. Tindall, R. S. Wale, G. Wells.

§Honours. *Distinguished in Medicine. †Distinguished in Forensic Medicine. ‡Distinguished in Surgery. ‡Distinguished in Midwifery.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON

The following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

MASTER OF MIDWIFERY.—A. V. Clemmey, B.M., B.Ch.Oxf., A. Gardiner, M.B., B.Ch.Glas., Greta Hartley, M.B., B.S.Lond., Eva J. Newton, M.B., B.S.Lond.

The Services

SHORTAGE OF MEDICAL OFFICERS IN THE SERVICES

COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY

A committee, constituted as follows, has been appointed by the Prime Minister to investigate the causes of the shortage of officers and nurses in the medical and dental branches of the three defence Services, and to recommend by what means the situation can be remedied: Sir Warren Fisher, Permanent Secretary to H.M. Treasury (chairman); Mr. C. L. Bullock, Secretary of the Air Ministry; Sir Herbert Creedy, Permanent Under Secretary of State for War; Mr. H. E. Fass, Principal Assistant Secretary to the Treasury; Lieut.-General Sir Harold Fawcus, Director-General Army Medical Services; Professor G. E. Gask, Director of the Surgical Unit, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Surgeon Vice-Admiral Sir Arthur Gaskell, Medical Director-General Royal Navy; Dr. A. M. H. Gray, Dean of University College Hospital Medical School; Air Commodore J. McIntyre, Director of Medical Services Royal Air Force; Sir Oswyn Murray, Secretary of the Admiralty; and Sir S. Findlater Stewart, Permanent Under Secretary of State for India. The secretary of the committee is Mr. W. Lindsay Scott of the Air Ministry.

already had to bear the handicaps of this service. They said that they were compelled to do so pending the nationalization of those services. There might one day be the nationalized medical service proposed by Mr. Hastings, but it would be a long time before it came. It would be the acid test of the theory, because people would then have an opportunity of realizing the rights and wrongs, the advantages and disadvantages, of a mechanical system. This clause would add considerably to the cost of running ambulances and to the expenses of the country doctor. He reckoned that to the ordinary country doctor who covered 20,000 miles a year, and whose car did twenty miles to the gallon, the extra 2d. would cost an extra £10 a year. Therefore the clause would place an additional burden of £10 a year on the country doctor who used his car in order that he might get more quickly about his district and attend the people under his care. There was a definite case which the Government ought to face.

The clause was agreed to.

Vaccination

Mr. FREEMAN put a question, on June 4th, concerning a boy aged 7, who (he alleged), had lost the sight of his right eye as a result of vaccination by the public vaccinator at Dagenham in October, 1930, while under treatment at the same time for a septic knee. Mr. GREENWOOD said his attention had been drawn to the case. The vaccination had been performed with the consent of the parents, and the public vaccinator found no physical reason why the boy should not be vaccinated, nor did he observe any evidence of an affection of the eye when he inspected the vaccination on November 4th. It was not until thirty-six days after the date of vaccination that the boy was taken to the school clinic at Barking on account of eye trouble. Mr. Greenwood was advised that the course of events was not consistent with the suggestions which had been made that the affection of the eye was the result of the vaccination, or that vaccine entered the eye at the time of vaccination. Mr. FREEMAN asked whether the Minister knew that the parents of the child were not present at the vaccination, and whether any medical examination of the child took place to show that he was in a fit state to stand the result of the operation. Mr. GREENWOOD said the public vaccinator was himself a medical man and he should accept his report. The Minister could not say without notice whether an inspection of the child was made or whether the public vaccinator found that there was a septic condition at the time. It was very difficult to say that medical evidence, or an examination of the child, could prove vaccination was the cause of the blindness, when the additional disability was discovered well after a month from the vaccination.

Replying to Mr. Freeman, on June 4th, Mr. GREENWOOD said the circumstances of the death at South Wigston, near Leicester, of twin children, both considered to be in good health, who were vaccinated on May 14th and died on May 29th and 30th respectively, had been inquired into by a medical officer of his department, and pathological investigations were now in progress. He would communicate with Mr. Freeman when the results were available. He could not say without notice whether Government lymph was used in this case, or whether public vaccination had now ceased in that district.

Small-pox

Miss LAWRENCE, on June 2nd, stated that there were 11,839 cases of small-pox among the civilian population notified in England and Wales (including port sanitary districts) during the fifty-three weeks ended January 3rd, 1931. Of the total deaths registered in England and Wales during 1930, 28 were classified to small-pox.

Committee on Food Standards

On June 4th, in reply to Mr. R. J. Russell, Mr. GREENWOOD stated that a Committee on Food Standards had been set up to inquire into the working of the law as to the composition and description of articles of food other than milk, and to report what alterations, if any, in the law or its administration appeared to be desirable. The members of the committee were Sir Frederick Willis (chairman), Mrs. J. L.

Adamson, Mr. W. Barratt, Mrs. E. Beck, Mr. J. N. Beckett, Mr. G. A. Birse, Mr. H. F. Carlill, Mrs. M. E. Cottrell, Mr. A. T. A. Dobson, Mr. H. E. Goodby, Dr. J. M. Hamill, Mrs. Jean Roberts, Mr. R. A. Robinson, Mr. H. Shaw, and Mr. G. Stubbs.

Sale of Butter

Replying to Captain P. Macdonald, on June 2nd, Miss LAWRENCE said that an examination was made of butter imported into Great Britain for sale. Butter exposed for sale might be seized and destroyed if found to be unfit for human consumption. Samples were taken by officers of local authorities under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act and the Sale of Butter Regulations, and the vendor was liable to prosecution if there was evidence of adulteration. Answering Colonel Ruggles-Brise, Miss LAWRENCE said that samples of recent consignments of Russian butter had been found on analysis to be genuine. She was having further samples examined bacteriologically.

Supervision of Nursing Homes.—Mr. GREENWOOD told Mr. West Russell, on June 4th, that under the Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927, the London County Council was the local supervising authority for private nursing homes in the metropolitan area outside the City of London, and a complete statement of the present position would be included in the Council's report for 1930, which was now in preparation.

Indian Hospitals and Dispensaries.—Mr. BENN, in reply to Mr. Freeman on June 4th, said that in 1928 there were 552 State-public hospitals and dispensaries in British India, 3,713 local fund institutions of the same character, and 306 privately aided institutions. During that year 888,651 indoor and 49,229,903 outdoor patients were treated at these institutions.

Tuberculosis in H.M.S. Warspite.—On June 8th, Mr. G. HALL told Sir B. Falle that the number of cases of tuberculosis which had occurred in H.M.S. *Warspite* since she recommissioned on January 23rd, 1929, was thirteen, of which eleven had been invalided and two had died in hospital. Sir B. FALLE asked Mr. Hall specially to inquire into this matter and ascertain why there had been so many cases, and how many of these men had been pensioned. Mr. HALL replied that eight were pensioned out of thirteen. An inquiry had already been held, but unfortunately they were not able to ascertain the actual cause of the very high percentage of cases in 1929.

Veterinary Medical Research.—Dr. ADDISON told Mr. C. Williams, on June 8th, that he could not say at present whether it would be necessary for him to ask the House to pass a supplementary estimate to carry out the scheme now being prepared for the development of veterinary medical research.

Medical News

In the list of medical men included in the Birthday Honours, published last week at page 1004, we accidentally omitted the name of Lieut.-Colonel Thomas Reginald St. Johnston, C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Leeward Islands, who receives the K.C.M.G.

On the afternoon of Tuesday, June 30th, H.R.H. The Duchess of York, President of St. Mary's Hospital, will lay the foundation stones of the new medical school and pathological institute, and the Right Hon. Stanley Baldwin will give a short address. The operating suites, wards, and laboratories of the hospital will be open for the inspection of visitors.

The next meeting of the Biochemical Society will be held at the Marine Biological Station, Plymouth, to-day (Saturday, June 13th), at 3.30 p.m.

Sir W. R. Morris, Bt., will distribute the prizes at St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School on Wednesday, June 24th, at 3 p.m. The whole hospital will be open for inspection during the afternoon.

Lord Macmillan, chairman of the University Court of the University of London, will distribute the prizes at the London Hospital Medical College on Wednesday, June 24th, at 3 p.m.

Sir Robert Horne will be the principal speaker at the dinner to be held by the British Science Guild at the Hyde Park Hotel on Friday, June 19th, with Sir Samuel Hoare in the chair.

The Home Secretary, Mr. J. R. Clynes, will speak at the annual meeting of the National Institute for the Deaf, to be held at the Church House, Westminster, to-day (Friday, June 12th), at 3.30 p.m., when Dr. F. E. Fremantle, M.P., will preside. The meeting is a public one, and those who are interested in deafness and the welfare of those suffering from it are invited to attend.

The annual meeting of the Incorporated Lancashire and Cheshire Society for the Permanent Care of the Feeble-Minded will be held at the Sandlebridge Institution, Alderley Edge, on Wednesday, June 17th; the Lord Mayor of Manchester will take the chair at 3.15 p.m. The Thomasson and Sam Gamble Day School will be open for inspection at 2.30 p.m., and tea will be served at Warford Hall at 4 p.m.

Particulars of the lectures and demonstrations arranged for next week by the Fellowship of Medicine will be found at page 244 of the *Supplement*. The special evening lectures to candidates for the M.R.C.P. are being continued. Syllabuses and tickets for all the courses may be had from the Fellowship of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, W.1.

The secretary-general asks us to state that the second International Congress for Light will be held in Copenhagen in 1932 and not this year. A detailed programme will be issued in the autumn of this year.

The first International Neurological Congress, the foundation of which was suggested by the late Professor Hermann Oppenheim in 1912, will be held in Berne from August 31st to September 6th under the presidency of Dr. B. Sachs of New York. The four official languages will be English, French, German, and Italian.

On Sunday, June 7th, H.R.H. Princess Victoria visited Gerrard's Cross, and in the parish church unveiled a tablet which has been placed there to the memory of the late John Llewelyn-Jones, M.D.Lond., J.P., well known in South Bucks, who died in February, 1930. A short address was given by Mr. D. Cotes-Preedy, K.C., Recorder of Smethwick, himself a member of the medical profession and an old friend of the deceased. A large congregation testified to the esteem in which—to quote the words on the tablet—"a beloved physician and steadfast friend" was held.

At a special meeting of the Royal Society of Medicine, held on May 19th, a resolution was adopted abolishing the Sections of Balneology and Climatology and of Electro-Therapeutics. It was also decided to establish in substitution thereof a Section of Physical Medicine, which shall have for its object the study of balneology, climatology, and electrology, and ancillary subjects, and also a Section of Radiology for the study of radiology and subjects relating thereto.

Commemoration Day at Livingstone College, Leyton, was held on June 4th, when the chair was taken by Mr. W. McAdam Eccles, F.R.C.S., the visitors including many representatives of missionary organizations. The chairman recalled that some thirty-nine years ago Dr. Harford, Dr. Guinness, and himself worked out, in a very small way, the great desire that they had that men and women going to the mission field might be so instructed as to be able to take care of their own health. In those days there was terrible mortality among British and American folk going to unhealthy climates. Personal experiences, testifying to the great practical value of the courses of instruction at Livingstone College, were given by the Rev. F. Hart of the Regions Beyond Missionary Union, Congo, and the Rev. Geoffrey Holmes, Church Missionary Society, Ruanda, East Africa. Mr. R. L. Barclay, the treasurer, spoke as to the financial position of the College;

he appealed for £100 in order to close the financial year without an overdraft at the bank, and for a further £250 to £300 for urgent necessary repairs. The principal, Dr. Tom Jays, made a short statement with regard to the work of the College, and a vote of thanks to the chairman was accorded on the motion of Dr. L. E. Wigram.

A new series of conducted tours has been arranged in aid of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London. On June 18th there is to be a river trip to Tilbury Docks, including inspection of s.s. *Orontes*, with buffet lunch on board, by invitation of the Orient Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. The party will leave Westminster Pier at 9.30 a.m. On July 2nd a visit will be paid to Somerset House, where the party will meet in the quadrangle (off the Strand) at 4.30 p.m. The assistant Registrar-General, Mr. W. L. Rind, will receive the visitors and tell them something of the history of Somerset House. The last visit will be to the Air Port of London on July 14th, a private omnibus leaving Charing Cross underground station, Victoria Embankment, for Croydon at 2 p.m. As the number of each party is limited, application for tickets (price 25s. for the first tour, and 7s. 6d. for each of the others) should be made without delay to the secretary, King Edward's Hospital Fund, 7, Walbrook, E.C.4.

The twenty-fourth Voyage d'Etudes Médicales to the watering places of France will take place this year in the Western Pyrenees during the second and third week of September, under the leadership of Professors Paul Carnot and Maurice Villaret. The party will assemble on September 8th, at Capvern. The principal places to be visited are Bagnères-de-Bigorre, Le Cirque de Gavarnie, Cauterets, Lourdes, Argelès, Pau, St. Jean-de-Luz, Biarritz, Hossegor, Dax, Arcachon, Bordeaux (Faculty of Medicine and the hospitals), continuing along the coast to Royan, where the tour ends on September 20th. Further information can be obtained from Madame Juppé-Blaise, Federation of the Health Resorts of France, Tavistock House (North), Tavistock Square, W.C.1.

The issue of *La Medicina Ibero* for May 23rd contains an illustrated account of the first Hispano-Portuguese Congress of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, held at Madrid from April 28th to May 4th.

A general account, by Dr. P. Heffernan, of the transatlantic tuberculosis tour of 1930 has been published in the April issue of *Public Health*. It contains some comparative statistics of tuberculosis in England and Wales and Canada, a description of the work at Ninette Sanatorium, Manitoba, and a general evaluation of British and Canadian sanatorium methods. Dr. Heffernan also contributed to the January number of *Tubercle* some notes on pneumoconiosis, in which he referred to silicosis in Canada, and mentioned the adoption by the Government of Ontario of the Bulmer air mask, which is thought by some to have gone far towards solving the problem of the dust risk in the mining industry.

The jubilee issue of the *Journal de Médecine de Paris*, the official organ of the Paris medical societies, contains the history of the journal, which was founded by Auguste Lataud in 1880.

A bronze bust of the late Professor Clemens Pirquet was unveiled in the garden of the New General Hospital of Vienna on May 12th, when addresses were delivered by Professors Argt, Hamburger, and Noeggerath, and Miss Harriette Chick of the Lister Institute.

Dr. H. I. Daggett, on the occasion of his retirement after over thirty-eight years' practice at Boroughbridge, Yorks, has been presented by his friends and patients with an inscribed wallet, containing a cheque for £161, as a mark of their esteem and appreciation of his services.

Professor Raffaele Bastianelli has been nominated director of the Institute for the Study and Treatment of Cancer at Rome.

According to the Japanese Red Cross the average duration of life in Japan is 42 years for men and 43 years for women, as compared with 55 and 59 years in England, and 50 and 53 years in the United States.