

A leading article in the *Sun* pays high tribute to the part played by Welch in the advance of American medicine, and adds:

"Baltimore, where Dr. Welch lived and worked, must not be allowed to forget that the man was, from his arrival here as a young man to the end of his life, an explorer, a scholar who challenged, every time he met it, the tendency to 'believe nothing so firmly as that which we least know.' That he did it with a gentle urbanity did not weaken his attack. Those who opposed Dr. Welch in his early fight for public health work here in Baltimore knew they had been in a fight. The epicure, the lover of books and plays and talk, the homely philosopher—all merged into Welch the scientist, tireless in the search for truth and restless in its propaganda. Should this be ignored, and this amazing career be passed over in favour of amusing anecdotes about Dr. Welch's attitude on woman suffrage or the long cigars he smoked, then we could say that Dr. Welch was dead. But the world of science and achievement will place a true and lasting estimate upon Dr. Welch, knowing that, above and beyond the gracious memories of kindness and wit and worldly wisdom, there was the great man."

#### THE LATE DR. CAMPBELL McCLURE

Dr. TEMPLE GREY writes: Medicine can ill afford to lose such men as Campbell McClure. Big in mind and big in body, narrowness of vision and pettiness alike were strangers to him. It is a tragedy that in the nature of things men who have seen and done so much should have so little time to write for our instruction. One of the dwindling body of true clinicians, he could have written as few others on common sense in medicine. He saw his patient as a whole, and was able to bring to bear upon his case a true erudition culled rather from experience and observation than from books. It was little satisfaction to him to be "right" in his diagnosis unless he could relieve his patient. High-sounding diagnoses made little appeal to him, nor did fussy therapeutics enchant him. Large numbers of patients to whom he brought comfort and relief, and friends who valued his friendship, will miss him badly.

The death took place at his residence, St. Catherine's, Linlithgow, on May 9th, of Dr. JAMES HUNTER, one of the best-known practitioners in West Lothian. Dr. Hunter was born at Dumfries in 1856, and after a medical course at Edinburgh University graduated M.B., C.M. in 1878, proceeding M.D. with honours in 1887. After a period of study in Vienna, Dr. Hunter went to Linlithgow as assistant to his uncle, the late Dr. George Hunter, and subsequently was in practice in South Queensferry at the time when the Forth Bridge was being built. Later he took over his uncle's practice in Linlithgow, where he continued for fifty years. He identified himself with local public affairs, serving on the town council for nine years, and as J.P. for the county of West Lothian. In 1929, in recognition of his fifty years' service to the community, Dr. Hunter was presented with his portrait. He was a brother of Dr. Joseph Hunter, Member of Parliament for Dumfries, and is survived by a widow and family, of whom one son and three daughters are members of the medical profession.

We regret to announce the death of Dr. JAMES KIRK, on May 3rd. Dr. Kirk, who was in his sixty-seventh year, had only within the last twelve months relinquished practice in Bridlington to take up work in North London. After winning the Grierison bursary in pathology and materia medica, he graduated M.B., C.M. at the University of Edinburgh in 1895, obtaining the M.D. two years later. In the meantime he had made a special study of ophthalmology. He joined the Colonial Medical Service, being stationed for many years in Penang, where he acted as ophthalmic surgeon to the Government hospitals, and was physician to the King Edward VII Hospital for Women and Children; he was also, at one time, surgeon to Singapore General Hospital, held the rank of major, and was officer commanding the Ambulance Company of the Penang Volunteers. At the outbreak of the Great War he came home and at once obtained a temporary com-

mission in the R.A.M.C., serving as ophthalmic specialist at the Curragh and in Malta. At the conclusion of hostilities Dr. Kirk entered into general practice at Bridlington, where he remained till the middle of last year: he held appointments as ophthalmic surgeon to the Education Committee and to the Lloyd Hospital. He was a member of the North of England Ophthalmological Society, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, and had been a member of the British Medical Association since 1898. Dr. Kirk was of a quiet, retiring disposition, never seeking to be in the limelight, fond of country walks, his dog, and a pipe by his own fireside. Behind a somewhat aloof manner was hidden a genial and kindly nature, and his colleagues knew him to be incapable of any mean thought or petty action. He is survived by a widow, two daughters, and a son.

The sudden death of Dr. DAVID FALCONER RIDDELL came as a shock to Woolwich and its neighbourhood, where he was very well known. Born in Glasgow in 1878, he was educated at the High School, where he obtained the Lumsden gold medal, and at the University of Glasgow. He took his degree in Arts in 1897, and in 1903 graduated M.B., Ch.B., and in 1907 obtained his D.P.H. at Cambridge. After holding house appointments in the Glasgow Royal Infirmary and Ruchill Hospital he entered the service of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, and was a senior assistant medical officer when he resigned, in 1919, to take up general practice in Woolwich. When the war broke out he became medical officer in charge of the Belgian Dispensary (Sheffield Street, London) until 1916, and for his work there he received King Albert's Medal. Thereafter, as an officer in the R.A.M.C., he served with distinction, and was awarded the Military Cross in 1918. For many years Dr. Riddell was the secretary of the School Treatment Committee in Woolwich, and was a past chairman of the Woolwich Division of the British Medical Association. He leaves behind a widow, and a son and daughter. His name and record of service will not soon be forgotten, and his fine qualities will be warmly cherished by a wide circle of colleagues, patients, and friends.

We regret to record the death of Dr. HUGH JONES of Dolgelly, at the age of 70. Dr. Jones graduated M.B., C.M. (with commendation) at the University of Glasgow in 1888, and in the following year received the D.P.H. He had been a member of the British Medical Association for forty-four years, and was a member of the Insurance Acts Committee from 1919 to 1921, and the Rural Practitioners Subcommittee from 1920 to 1922; he also served on the British Medical Association's Ministry of Health Committee during 1920 and 1921, and had been president of the North Wales Branch of the Association. Among his medical appointments were those of senior house-physician, Western Infirmary, Glasgow; house-surgeon, Glasgow Maternity Hospital and Glasgow Lock Hospital; medical officer of the Endowed High School for Girls, Dolgelly; lecturer and examiner of the St. John Ambulance Association; medical officer of health for the Dolgelly Rural and Urban District Councils; public vaccinator for the Dolgelly District; and medical referee for the Prudential Assurance Company. Dr. Jones was an honorary member (late president) of the Glasgow University Medico-Chirurgical Society. He was a justice of the peace for the county of Merioneth.

The May issue of the *Canadian Medical Association Journal* contains a full memoir, with portrait, of Professor Archibald Byron Macallum, M.D., F.R.S., whose death was announced in these columns on April 14th. "In him," our contemporary says, "Canada loses one of the most distinguished scientists she ever produced, a man outstanding all over the world in the field of biochemistry. His great achievements were never spectacular, but among the scientists of the nations he was recognized as a leader."

### ROYAL MEDICAL BENEVOLENT FUND

During the first quarter of this year £3,674 has been voted in grants, as against £3,489 during the corresponding period of last year. The increasing number of cases and the necessity of helping the many applicants who are known to be deserving and in great financial difficulties render the appeal for the support of the Fund the more urgent. Cheques should be made payable to the Honorary Treasurer, Royal Medical Benevolent Fund, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W.1.

The following are particulars of a few cases recently helped:

M.B., Ch.B., aged 47, married, daughter aged 10. On leaving the Army after the war the applicant had no practice to return to, and, having developed disseminated sclerosis, he was not capable of undertaking the medical work of an arduous practice. A county council in 1930 appointed him medical officer, in which post he made a great effort to carry on. His condition did not improve, and finally he had to resign in 1933. Income, pension £100, wife's private income £20. Fund voted £40 in four instalments for a period of one year.

Widow, aged 32, of M.B., Ch.B. The husband served abroad, and died recently from tuberculosis at the age of 33, leaving the widow and two children—boy aged 7, girl 5. The widow is entitled to a pension of £60 and allowances for children £45. A life policy, when invested, will yield £35. Total income £140. No relations can help. Fund granted £26 in four instalments over a period of one year.

Daughter, aged 69, of M.R.C.S. The applicant has been working for her living for over thirty years. She and a cousin ran a boarding house up to two years ago, when they had to give up owing to local competition. They moved to a smaller house with a view to taking lodgers. Only a little money is now earned. The cousin has the old age pension of £26, but the applicant is not eligible for that till next year. Fund granted £26 in four instalments over a period of one year, and is endeavouring to get other assistance for these two ladies.

## Universities and Colleges

### UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

On the evening of May 3rd an audience of over 200, including many eminent people in university and city life, attended a demonstration of x-ray cinematograph films, given in the large Lecture Theatre of the University Museum by Dr. Russell J. Reynolds of London and Dr. Robert Janker of Bonn, two of the pioneers of this branch of medical science.

The examination for the Diploma in Ophthalmology will be held on Monday, June 18th. Names must be entered by 10.30 a.m. on Thursday, May 31st.

The following nomination has been duly received by the Registrar: As a member of the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, Sir E. Farquhar Buzzard, Bart., D.M., Student of Christ Church. Nominated by K. J. Franklin, D.M., Fellow of Oriel College and Dean of the Medical School, and E. W. Ainley Walker, D.Sc., D.M., Fellow of University College.

### UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

At a congregation held on May 11th the following medical degrees were conferred:

M.B.—R. W. Billington, M. Westwood.

### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

The following appointments to the Senate for the period 1934-8 are announced: Faculty of Medicine, Mr. H. L. Eason, M.D., M.S. (reappointed), and Dr. A. M. H. Gray; General Medical Schools, Mr. W. Girling Ball, F.R.C.S.

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

A meeting of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England was held on May 10th, when the President, Sir Holburt Waring, was in the chair.

Diplomas of Membership were granted to A. J. W. Branch and V. P. Gupta, and to 164 other candidates who had passed the Final Examination in Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery of the Examining Board in England, and whose names were printed in the report of the meeting of the Royal College of Physicians of London in our issue of May 5th (p. 827).

The Diploma in Gynaecology and Obstetrics was granted, jointly with the Royal College of Physicians, to K. S. Jayakar.

Mr. C. A. Pannett was re-elected a member of the Court of Examiners.

Mr. Laurence O'Shaughnessy was reappointed College Research Scholar from June 24th to September 29th, and Mr. G. C. Knight and Mr. G. Slome were reappointed Leverhulme Scholars for a second year from July 1st. Sir Holburt Waring was appointed, *ex officio* as President, a member of the Governing Body of the British Post-Graduate Medical School, to hold office from July, 1934, to July, 1935.

Mr. Claude Frankau has resigned his membership of the Court of Examiners as from the end of the July examination. His resignation was received with regret, and the vacancy thus occasioned will be filled at the Council meeting on August 2nd.

The following nominations were reported for the Primary Examination for the Fellowship beginning in Melbourne on November 29th: Assessor in Anatomy, Professor F. Wood Jones, D.Sc., F.R.C.S., F.R.S.; Assessor in Physiology, Professor W. A. Osborne, M.B., D.Sc.; Superintendent of Dissections, W. E. A. Hughes-Jones, F.R.C.S.

### UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

At the annual degree ceremony, on June 30th, the honorary degree of LL.D. will be conferred on C. A. Lovatt Evans, D.Sc., F.R.S., F.R.C.P., Jodrell Professor of Physiology, University College, London.

## Medico-Legal

### ALLEGED POISONING BY OYSTERS

In the King's Bench Division, before Mr. Justice Swift and a special jury, a case was heard on May 7th and following days in which Mr. Charles Frederick Wimble of Beckenham claimed damages from the Royal Victoria Hotel, St. Leonards, for supplying him with oysters which, he stated, brought about a severe attack of typhoid fever. The defendants denied negligence or breach of warranty, or that the plaintiff's illness was the result of his eating the oysters. They brought in as a third party the fishmonger, Mr. W. E. Baker, who had supplied the oysters to the hotel, and he in turn brought in as a fourth party the Seasalter and Ham Oyster Fishing Company, Ltd., from whom he obtained them. All denied liability.

Mr. J. E. Singleton, K.C., said that on a certain date in October, 1932, Mr. Wimble ordered two dozen oysters at the hotel, which were shared between him and two other persons (these others also became ill, although they did not suffer from typhoid). Some days after he returned home he became ill, Lord Horder was called into consultation, and a blood test confirmed the view that he had contracted typhoid fever. He was away from business for five months, and the special damages, subject to liability, were agreed at £525.

Dr. G. R. F. Stilwell of Beckenham, who attended the plaintiff, said that he had no reasonable doubt that the illness was traceable to the oysters. In cross-examination he said that he was aware that there was an outbreak of typhoid in Hastings at about that time. In reply to a suggestion that if the oysters were sent open from the fishmongers and remained on the hotel table for twenty minutes they might be contaminated by flies, Dr. Stilwell thought that unlikely at St. Leonards.

Lord Horder, in evidence, said that he was called in consultation to see Mr. Wimble in November, 1932, and came to the conclusion that he was suffering from typhoid fever. He judged that the onset of the disease had taken place about three weeks earlier, and that it was probably the oysters which had infected him. In general it was very uncommon for an oyster to become infected after it had been opened, and the care taken to prevent infection at the filter beds was shown in the fall in total incidence of typhoid. He agreed that if there were shown to have been five cases of typhoid in Hastings in 1932 it pointed to a source of infection in the town, and that if a number of those who suffered were not oyster eaters it indicated some other source of infection. One contaminated oyster was sufficient to have done the injury to the plaintiff, and the fact that

*Voluntary Hospitals Commission's Report.*—Sir ROBERT GOWER gave notice that on May 16th he would ask Sir Hilton Young whether he had given further consideration to the report of the Voluntary Hospitals Commission, and whether he proposed to provide public funds for hospital extension on the lines recommended.

*Rural Water Supply Schemes.*—Mr. SHAKESPEARE states that applications have been received for grants in aid of rural water supply schemes from thirty-seven rural district councils in respect of 175 parishes and from four urban district councils. The total cost of the schemes involved is £615,000. The applications are under consideration.

#### Notes in Brief

Sir HILTON YOUNG told Captain Erskine-Bolst on May 10th that he had no statistics showing the number of domestic servants who made use of the services of panel doctors in any given year, nor the percentage of those who did so.

Since the Borstal system was brought into operation nearly 11,600 young men have been licensed from Borstal institutions. Of 3,407 discharged on licence during the five years ended 1933, approximately 60 per cent. have not been reconvicted.

Proposals for the voluntary restriction of exports to the United Kingdom of condensed milk, milk powder, and cream have been accepted by Belgium, Switzerland, and Germany.

## Medical News

Sir Gomer Berry and the Committee of Management of the Infants Hospital, London, have issued invitations to a dinner in the Guildhall on Wednesday, May 30th, to meet H.R.H. Prince George.

The annual dinner and dance of the West Kent Medico-Chirurgical Society will be held at Chiesmans Restaurant, High Street, Lewisham, S.E., on Thursday, May 24th, at 8 p.m. Reception at 7.30.

A meeting of the Medico-Legal Society will be held at 11, Chandos Street, W., on Thursday, May 24th, at 8.30 p.m., when Mr. W. J. Foster will read a paper on "Incapacity for Work within the Meaning of the National Health Insurance Acts," followed by a discussion.

A joint meeting of the Society of Medical Officers of Health and the Fever Hospital Medical Service Group will be held at 1, Upper Montague Street, W.C., on Friday, May 25th, at 5 p.m., when there will be a discussion on "Current Methods of Control of the Common Infectious Diseases," to be opened by Dr. H. Stanley Banks, Dr. E. H. R. Harries, and Dr. William Gunn.

A meeting of the School Medical Service Group will be held at the House of the Society of Medical Officers of Health, 1, Upper Montague Street, W.C., on Friday, June 1st, at 5.30 p.m., when Dr. Temple Gray will give an address on "The Bacteriology of Diphtheria." Members of the Fever Hospital Group and others interested are invited to attend.

We are informed that the annual general meeting of the British Institute of Radiology will be held at 32, Welbeck Street, W., on Thursday, May 31st, at 8 p.m., and not on May 17th, as announced in the *Supplement* to last week's issue (p. 252).

The thirty-fifth annual meeting of the Lebanon Hospital for Mental Diseases, Asfuriyeh, Beirut, Syria, will take place at the Westway Hotel, Endsleigh Street, W.C., on Tuesday, May 22nd, at 3.30 p.m., with Dr. Percy R. Smith, president, in the chair. The speakers include Dr. H. Watson Smith, medical director of the hospital, and Dr. Henry Wilson.

Founders' Day will be celebrated at Lord Mayor Treloar Cripples' Hospital and College on Monday, June 11th, when the Lord Mayor of London, the Lady Mayoress, and Sheriffs will visit Alton. After the meeting in the college hall at 1.15 p.m., presided over by Colonel the Hon. Frederick Lawson, chairman of the hospital, the wards, workshops, etc., will be open for inspection.

The Medical Prayer Union will hold its annual medical missionary breakfast at the Refectory, University College, Gower Street, W.C., on Wednesday, May 30th, at 8 a.m. The chair will be taken by Mr. W. McAdam Eccles, and Dr. Florence Robinson will give an address. The honorary secretary is Dr. Tom Jays, Livingstone College, E.10.

Meetings of the Tuberculosis Association will be held at Manson House, 26, Portland Place, W., on Friday, May 25th. At 5.15 p.m. a discussion on "The Palliative Treatment of Cases of Advanced Pulmonary Tuberculosis" will be opened by Dr. C. D. Agassiz and Dr. Ernest Ward. At 8.15 p.m. Dr. Jacques Stephani (Montana, Switzerland) will give an illustrated lecture entitled "Some Observations on the Value of Improved Radiological Technique in Pulmonary Tuberculosis."

The Fellowship of Medicine (1, Wimpole Street, W.) announces a further lecture-demonstration, on functional heart disease, at 11, Chandos Street, W., on May 29th (there will be no lecture on May 22nd). A week-end course at the Brompton Hospital will be given on May 26th and 27th, followed by a week's course in chest diseases at the City of London Hospital, Victoria Park (May 28th to June 2nd). A fortnight's course in gynaecology has been arranged at the Chelsea Hospital for Women from May 28th to June 9th, and a month's course in venereal disease at the London Lock Hospital from May 28th to June 23rd. There will be a week-end course in medicine and surgery at St. Mary's Hospital, Plaistow, on June 2nd and 3rd. A panel of teachers provides daily clinics in various branches of medicine and surgery. A debate will take place on May 30th, at 8.30 p.m., at 26, Portland Place, W., on the motion, "That in the absence of complications surgical interference in cases of gastric and duodenal ulcer is unnecessary," with Lord Moynihan in the chair. The motion will be proposed by Dr. A. F. Hurst and seconded by Mr. Mortimer Woolf. Dr. Robert Hutchison, seconded by Mr. Herbert Paterson, will oppose the motion. All members and associates of the Fellowship, and their medical friends, are invited to be present.

A congress of the Italian Medical Association of Hydrology, Climatology, Thalassotherapy, and Physical Therapy will be held in June, partly at Acqui and partly at San Remo.

The nineteenth French Congress of Legal Medicine will be held at Lille from May 27th to the 30th, under the presidency of Professor J. Leclercq, when the following papers, among others, will be read: "Blood Groups in Legal Medicine and Anthropology," by MM. Lattes, D. Dujardin de la Rivière and Kossowitch; "The Painful Sequelae of Injuries and their Indemnification," by MM. Héger-Gilbert and de Laet; and "Contradictory Medical Expert Opinion," by MM. Raviart and Vullien. Visits will be paid to mines, sanitary institutions, and air parks. Further information can be obtained from the general secretary, Dr. Muller, 14, Rue de Friedland, Lille.

On May 10th the Duke of York paid his first visit to the new offices of the Industrial Welfare Society, of which he has been president since its inception in 1918. The society is an association of about a thousand firms who find it advantageous to pool their information on matters of health, co-operation, accident prevention, canteens, and working conditions. This store of information is available to any employer in return for a nominal annual subscription. The Duke welcomed those who were present, and said that members had been meeting at the old office for fourteen years, but that the society had long since outgrown the accommodation there. He believed that with returning prosperity the organization would soon outgrow even its spacious new home, for welfare work had now undoubtedly become an established branch of any progressive enterprise. As president, he welcomed to 14, Hobart Place old friends of the society, and extended an invitation to those many employers who had not yet availed themselves of the services it was so well equipped to render, and which industry had found so valuable in the past. His Royal Highness was received by Mr. Robert R. Hyde, the founder and director, who thanked the Duke for all that he had done for the movement.

The Committee of Award of the Commonwealth Fund Fellowships has made a number of appointments to fellowships tenable by British graduates in American universities for the two years beginning September, 1934. These fellowships are offered by the Commonwealth Fund of New York, of which Mr. Edward S. Harkness is president. The only award in medicine is to A. G. M. Weddell, M.B., B.S., of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College, to the University of Rochester.

At the annual general meeting of members of the Society for Relief of Widows and Orphans of Medical Men, held on May 8th, with Mr. V. Warren Low, president, in the chair, the report of the directors for 1933 showed that £4,993 had been distributed during the year as grants to the fifty-three widows and six orphans at present on the books of the society. Each widow over 75 received £90, those over 65, £85; and those under 65, £70; each orphan £60. Included in the amount distributed was £442 allotted to orphans to enable them to continue their school education or start on some professional career. It was stated that the by-laws of the society had been re-drafted and brought into accord with existing practice, and that the Propaganda Subcommittee had been active in trying to obtain new members. By the payment of a small annual subscription a newly married man assures, in the event of his early death, that his widow and young children will not be left unprovided. At the present time the widow of a member, left with £125 per annum or under, is eligible for a grant. Membership is open to any registered medical man who, at the time of his election, is resident within a twenty-mile radius of Charing Cross. The secretary will give full information to any prospective candidate who writes to the offices of the society, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W.1.

The Board of Education has approved an extension of the course—from eighteen months to two years—for blind students at the massage school of the National Institute for the Blind. Such extension is considered necessary in view of the wide range of subjects, which now include massage, remedial exercises, and medical electricity. All scholarships awarded by the Gardner Trust for the Blind for this particular study will be increased accordingly.

A State academy for racial and health welfare was opened at Dresden on April 14th, the first institution of the kind in the world, with Ministerialrat Dr. Ernst Wegner as director.

Professor Spillmann, dean of the Faculty of Medicine of Nancy, and Professor Mouriquand, who occupies the chair of paediatrics at Lyons, have been elected national corresponding members of the Académie de Médecine.

Dr. Alfred Shearer, who has been appointed High Sheriff of Montgomeryshire, is deputy coroner for Montgomery and surgeon to the county infirmary. For many years he has been chairman of the county Panel Committee. Dr. Shearer graduated M.B., B.Ch.Ed. in 1898, and had been medical officer of health for Newtown up to December, 1931.

Professor L. Lichtwitz, formerly director of the Rudolph Virchow Hospital of Berlin, has recently been appointed director of the medical department of the Hospital of New York.

Geh. Rat Anschutz, professor of surgery at Kiel, has been elected corresponding member of the Société Nationale de Chirurgie, and Professor A. von Eiseler, the well-known Vienna surgeon, has been elected an honorary member of the Surgical Society of Lyons.

A neurological investigation institute has been founded at Breslau under the direction of Professor Otfried Foerster, who has received a grant of 50,000 dollars from the Rockefeller Foundation.

On the initiative of Professor Lowenberg a centre for distribution of convalescent serum has been formed at Strasbourg, where, in the course of a year, three and a half litres of serum have been collected from thirty-five scarlet fever convalescents, 4,180 c.cm. from thirty-eight cases of infantile paralysis, and about a litre of serum from measles convalescents.

## Letters, Notes, and Answers

All communications in regard to editorial business should be addressed to **The Editor, British Medical Journal, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.**

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## QUERIES AND ANSWERS

### Unusual Symptom in Diabetes Mellitus

Dr. E. M. R. FRAZER (Burton-on-Trent) writes: The discussion on the white powder found on the boots of these cases prompts the memory to recall the story of the methods of a famous Edinburgh teacher who was renowned for his "spot" diagnoses of certain cases. For instance, he would astonish both clinic and patient by announcing, as soon as he saw the latter, what was his particular occupation by the soil on his boots, the colour of the hands, situation of trade callosities, and so on. If he saw an old gentleman with white powder on his boots he would announce that here was a case of diabetes mellitus and enlarged prostate, the sugar having dried out on the boots, and its site being determined by the small dribbling stream. This diagnosis would be clinched in hot weather by the presence of flies, feeding on the dried sugar.

\*\* This Edinburgh teacher must have been Joseph Bell, surgeon to the Royal Infirmary, whom Sir Arthur Conan Doyle acknowledged as having served in part as the original of Sherlock Holmes.

### Movement of Needles in the Tissues

"F. S. D. H." writes: The following may interest "Sceptic," whose query appeared on May 12th (p. 880): An ordinary sewing needle, carelessly left sticking in the back of an armchair, penetrated, and broke off, into the skin somewhere over my right scapula. An abscess formed, which was opened, but the needle was not removed. A small subcutaneous nodule remained, which slowly travelled in the course of the next year or two to my left axilla, where it disappeared.

### Income Tax

#### Commencement of Partnership

"IN DIFFICULTIES" was engaged from February 1st to November 1st, 1933, as an indoor assistant, and received £x. Since November he has been carrying on his profession elsewhere, it having been arranged that he should enter a partnership as from January 1st, 1934—the agreement, however, has not yet been signed. On what basis should his return be made? He has not yet received any money for his work since November 1st, 1933.

\*\* As regards the year 1933-4, our correspondent is liable to account for tax on (a) his earnings as an assistant up to January 1st, 1934, and (b) on his share of the partnership assessment for the three months to April 5th, 1934. For the year 1934-5 he will be liable as a member of the firm on his share of the firm's assessment, which will normally be based on the practice profits of the previous year—probably preferable to claiming to restart the calculations as if a new practice were set up as at January 1st, 1934. The fact that the partnership agree-