

vertebrae and that these displacements cause direct pressure on the blood vessels and nerves leaving the intervertebral foramina. I believe this to be an entirely erroneous interpretation of present-day osteopathic principles. Certainly the osteopath is concerned with even the least disturbance of blood and nerve supply to any part of the body, and he is trained to recognize abnormalities in the spinal column or elsewhere which give rise directly or indirectly to interference with the circulation and nerve stimuli. As I understand it, these spinal displacements, which Mr. Bankart describes as imaginary, are, in the main, static fixations of articulations which have been carried beyond the normal range of movement, and held in abnormal positions by sustained unequal tension of ligaments, muscles, and surrounding soft tissues. If the abnormal condition of the joint and surrounding tissue is allowed to continue it eventually gives rise to either a local anaemia or congestion. This in turn results inevitably in disturbance of function in that part of the body, "remote" or otherwise, which is dependent on the blood and nerve supply from the affected area. Owing to the highly cultivated tactile sense, which can only be developed by years of special training, the osteopath is able to detect these fine deviations from the normal, vertebral or otherwise, which are usually not apparent to the surgeon.

Mr. Bankart classes osteopaths with chiropractors, and dismisses them both as an American "stunt." As I know nothing about chiropractic work I must not express an opinion, but I am sure that many medical practitioners who make use of osteopathy will agree with me that the work is based on simple and sound pathological teaching, and the results achieved by a good osteopath may be safely left to speak for themselves.—I am, etc.,

DOROTHY WOOD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

London, W.1, May 23rd.

The Services

COMMISSIONS IN THE R.A.M.C.

The War Office announces that applications are invited from medical men for appointment to commissions in the Royal Army Medical Corps under the new conditions announced recently.

Candidates will be selected for commissions without competitive examination, and will be required to present themselves in London for interview and physical examination on or about June 6th, 1934. They must be registered under the Medical Acts, and normally must not be over the age of 28 years.

Successful candidates will in the first instance be given short-service commissions for five years, at the end of which period they may either retire with a gratuity of £1,000 or apply for a permanent commission. Permanent commissions will be given to officers selected from among those who wish to make the Army their permanent career.

Full particulars of the conditions of service and emoluments, also forms of application, may be obtained on application, either by letter or in person, to the Assistant Director-General, Army Medical Services, the War Office, London, S.W.1.

THE I.M.S. DINNER

The annual dinner of the Indian Medical Service will be held at the Trocadero Restaurant, London, on Wednesday, June 20th, at 7.15 p.m. Major-General Sir Leonard Rogers, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., F.R.S., will preside. Tickets and all particulars may be had from the joint honorary secretary, Sir Thomas Carey Evans, Hammersmith Hospital, Ducane Road, W.12.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

In a Convocation to be held in the Sheldonian Theatre on Wednesday, June 20th, at noon, it will be proposed to confer the degree of D.Sc., *honoris causa*, upon Professor Archibald Vivian Hill, F.R.S., M.A., Sc.D. (Cambridge), nominated by the Chancellor on the occasion of the Encaenia following his installation.

The President and Fellows of Magdalen College have elected John Carew Eccles, M.A., D.Phil., Staines Medical Fellow of Exeter College and formerly Rhodes Scholar of Magdalen College, to an official Fellowship and Tutorship of the College in Natural Science. Dr. Eccles, who will take up his new duties on October 1st, 1934, is a graduate in medicine of the University of Melbourne, obtained first-class honours in the Oxford Final School of Natural Science (Physiology), and was awarded in 1927 the Christopher Welch Scholarship and in 1932 the Rolleston Memorial Prize.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Dr. G. Norman Myers (Sidney Sussex College) has been appointed university demonstrator in pharmacology for a period of three years, and Dr. H. A. Krebs of Hamburg university demonstrator in biochemistry for the same period.

Dr. Ffrangcon Roberts has been appointed an examiner for the Diploma in Medical Radiology and Electrology, 1934, Part II, in the room of the late Dr. Stanley Melville. Mr. G. Stead, M.A., and Professor Sidney Russ, D.Sc., have been appointed examiners for this diploma, Part I, 1935; and Dr. A. E. Barclay, Dr. G. H. Orton, and Dr. E. P. Cumberbatch examiners for Part II, 1935.

At a congregation held on May 26th the following medical degrees were conferred:

M.D.—The Hon. W. S. Maclay, M. D. Nosworthy, R. W. Windle, J. B. S. Lewis.

M.B., B.CHIR.—G. W. Whittall, E. R. Hargreaves.

M.B.—J. Glyn Jones.

B. CHIR.—C. M. Barker.

Fearnside's Scholarship

The E. G. Fearnside Scholarship, which is for clinical research on the organic diseases of the nervous system, is open to members of the University or of Girton or Newnham Colleges who are graduates or titular graduates in medicine, or to graduates or titular graduates in arts who have passed Part II of the Natural Sciences Tripos. Applications must be sent to the Registry of the University before June 27th, 1934.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

GUY'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL

The following awards have been made for 1934:

Entrance Scholarship in Arts (value £100): H. F. Lunn. *War Memorial Scholarship in Science* (value £200) and *Entrance Scholarship in Science* (value £100): Divided between A. Bloom and A. R. Bradley. *Confined Scholarship in Science* (value £100): Divided between D. Fumrasvin and H. Wormald.

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

The Council has appointed Henry Cohen, M.D., F.R.C.P., lecturer in medicine in the University, to the chair of medicine, as from October 1st, 1934, in succession to Professor John Hay, who retires at the end of the current academic session.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON

The following candidates have passed in the subjects indicated:

SURGERY.—P. E. Cresswell, M. T. Curran, R. Fleming, S. Kay, S. Klein, R. Sugerman, C. E. Wetherall, W. E. Whaite.

MEDICINE.—P. C. Alexander, C. N. Chowdary, G. W. Hardy, C. C. Joannides, S. Kay, A. G. Manley, J. Mason, S. E. Roberts, E. C. Rowlands.

FORENSIC MEDICINE.—P. C. Alexander, F. M. Chalkley, M. V. Matthew, M. A. Walsh Conway.

MIDWIFERY.—A. E. Ginn, L. A. Lewis, H. Paroulakis.

The diploma of the Society has been granted to P. C. Alexander, A. E. Ginn, G. W. Hardy, S. E. Roberts, E. C. Rowlands, R. Sugerman, and C. E. Wetherall.

in dispatches. The C.B.E. was subsequently conferred upon him. He was a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. He retained an active interest in athletic and sporting pursuits, and was a member of two golf clubs, the Toronto Hunt and Jockey Clubs, the Royal Canadian Yacht Club, and the Royal Canadian Institute. He is survived by his widow and three brothers. His uncle, Frederic Newton Gisborne, was the originator and first manufacturer of the earliest submarine telegraph, and connected Cape Breton and Newfoundland by nearly ninety miles of cable.

The death of Dr. WILLIAM BROGDON PATERSON at his home at Aigburth on May 11th takes from Liverpool a practitioner who was widely known and respected by a large circle of colleagues, patients, and friends. For the last four years he had struggled against serious illness; and when, a few months ago, the inevitable end became clear to him and to those who were looking after him, he met it with quiet courage. He was born in 1865, his father being minister of Tranent, East Lothian. He was schooled in medicine at Edinburgh, where he qualified M.B., C.M. in 1887, afterwards becoming resident physician at the Cowgate Dispensary, Edinburgh. Later he came to Liverpool as house-surgeon to the Royal Southern Hospital. For some time he was medical officer to the Liverpool Medical Mission, and afterwards he became a partner of the late Dr. John Grimes of Grassendale, with whom he remained until 1903. Until a few years ago he was associated in partnership with Dr. H. R. Hurter of Cressington. His colleagues honoured him at various times by electing him first librarian and later vice-president of the Liverpool Medical Institution. His small stocky figure, with bright and kindly eyes shining from behind rather shaggy eyebrows, became well known to the men and women of all walks of life who made up the field of his large and widely extended family practice. His skill as a practitioner kept pace with the rapid advances of medicine, and to his professional duties he brought a discipline and integrity of purpose which left him with neither time nor inclination to waste words or energy on small talk or trivialities. At times life had hit him hard, but he emerged out of disappointment and sorrow to a fine sensitivity and sympathy, which was all the stronger for his reticence. His love of the beautiful in life brought him delight in art, in the engaging loveliness of children, and most of all in the contacts of his daily work. He possessed that austere sense of fitness and restraint which is associated with the classical Greek spirit, but with it were fused a serene kindness and an unusual power of feeling. A man's relations with children are a revealing touchstone of its quality; I had the intimate privilege of seeing how, busy as he was, he treated children with winning dignity and seriousness, so that they loved him and regretted he could not stay longer on his visits. I learned too his power not only of saying the right thing but of giving that rare sympathy which has an astringent and strengthening quality in it. He leaves a widow, whose comradeship and courage supported him always, especially in the last years. To her his colleagues offer their sympathy.

ROBERT COOPE.

Dr. WILLIAM RUTHERFORD WOOD, who died at the age of 35, on May 17th, of septicaemia following the removal of tonsils, was one of the most promising of the younger practitioners in the Oxford district. The son of a medical man, he was educated at Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall, and after matriculation served with the R.F.C. during 1917 and 1918. After the war he went up to Pembroke College, Oxford, and in 1923 took second-class honours in natural science (physiology). Proceeding to St. Thomas's Hospital, he qualified M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. and B.M., B.Ch. in 1926, and completed his training with a year as resident at the Radcliffe Infirmary. He then entered general practice in Oxford. In 1929 he married Elinor, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs.

Smith-Hill of Braithwaite, Cumberland; she, with two daughters, survives him. Although never robust of physique, Wood enjoyed all outdoor pursuits, and was never happier than when boating or swimming in his beloved Thames, or floundering in Alpine snows to improve his considerable prowess on skis. He lies buried at Thornthwaite, surrounded by the hills which were his spiritual home. Shy by nature, and always diffident of his own powers, "Bill" Wood was no showman. Medicine has lost a conscientious servant, and humanity a loyal and sympathetic friend.

H. N. B.

The death took place on May 23rd at his residence, 73, Murrayfield Gardens, Edinburgh, of Dr. H. C. GIBSON, who was well known in connexion with the neurological activities of the Ministry of Pensions. After a medical course at Edinburgh University, Hugh Craigie Gibson graduated M.B., C.M. in 1904. During the war he served as a major in the Royal Army Medical Corps, and after doing duty for some time at the Edinburgh War Hospital, Bangour, was placed in command of the special Neurological War Hospital at Glen Lomond Sanatorium. He afterwards became director of the Ministry of Pensions neurological clinic, Glasgow, and was attached to its neurological clinic in Edinburgh. Dr. Gibson was a member of the British Psychological Society and of the British Medical Association, which he joined in 1906.

We regret to announce the death, on May 16th, of Dr. RICHARD HENRY CYRIL GOMPERTZ of Barnstaple, at the age of 57. He was educated at Bedford Grammar School, King's College, London, and King's College Hospital, where he had a distinguished student career, gaining the junior and senior Clothworkers' scholarships and the Sambrooke scholarship. He obtained the M.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P. diplomas in 1904, and, after graduating in 1907 as B.Sc. M.B., B.S. (gold medal, with honours in medicine and surgery), was appointed demonstrator in physiology at King's College and surgical registrar to the hospital. He served throughout the war, mainly in France, with a temporary commission in the R.A.M.C., and was mentioned in dispatches. After a few years as medical officer to Berkhamsted School, Dr. Gompertz went to Barnstaple in 1923, joining a partnership there, and was appointed honorary medical officer to the North Devon Infirmary, with charge of the x-ray department. At Barnstaple he continued his close interest in the first-aid movement, and was medical officer to the local Voluntary Aid Detachment. Dr. Gompertz was a man with intellectual gifts beyond the ordinary, and found time to cultivate varied tastes outside the work of a busy general practitioner.

The following well-known foreign medical men have recently died: Dr. MAX VON KRYGER, emeritus professor of surgery, Erlangen, aged 72; San.-Rat Dr. HANS AXMANN, an Erfurt dermatologist, aged 72; Dr. ANTON LIEVEN of Aix-la-Chapelle, a prominent syphilologist; Professor ROBERTO NOVOA SANTOS, professor of general pathology at Madrid, aged 49; Dr. FRANCISCO FABRÉGAS Y MAS, ex-president of the Academy of Catalonia; Professor PIETRO LIGABUE, dean of the Faculty of Medicine of Florence; Professor THEODOR GÖTT, professor of children's diseases at Bonn, aged 53; Dr. RODRIGUEZ CADARZO, rector and professor of anatomy at the University of Santiago de Compostello; Dr. SCHREVE, formerly secretary of the Dutch Society of Medicine, aged 66; Dr. K. A. IOUDINE, director of the ophthalmological clinic at Saratov University and organizer of the anti-trachoma institute on the Lower Volga; Dr. BOUSQUET, emeritus professor of surgery and director of the medical school at Clermont-Ferrand and national correspondent of the Académie de Médecine; Dr. HEINRICH HAIKE, extraordinary professor of otology at Berlin, aged 70; and Geh. Rat Professor ALBERT SIPEL, an eminent Frankfurt gynaecologist, aged 83.

Medical Notes in Parliament

[FROM OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT]

The House of Commons reassembled on May 29th and the House of Lords next day. The business of the week in the Commons included a debate on the Ministry of Education Estimates, and the committee stage of the money resolution relating to the milk marketing scheme.

On May 29th the Statutory Salaries Restoration Money Resolution was taken by the House of Commons in committee. Mr. Chamberlain, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in moving the resolution, said that abatements which were made in salaries and allowances in 1931 would be restored by one-half by administrative action where that was possible. Certain salaries, however, were fixed by statute, which required legislation to restore abatements. The resolution was moved to enable that legislation to be introduced; the first paragraph went further than was necessary to restore half the abatements made in 1931, and would authorize a Bill to restore the other and second portion of the abatements at some future time, if it was thought desirable to do so, without further legislation. The resolution was accepted.

Diphtheria and Enteric Inoculation in the Army.—On May 29th Mr. GROVES asked the Financial Secretary to the War Office if instructions of any kind had been issued to Army Medical Services or any other department of the Army in connexion with inoculation against diphtheria and enteric. Mr. DUFF COOPER replied in the affirmative. Immunization by means of protective inoculation against diphtheria and typhoid fever was on a voluntary basis in the Army. All ranks, with few exceptions, took advantage of these preventive measures in their own interests.

Fatal Road Accidents to Children.—On May 29th Sir HILTON YOUNG informed Mr. Groves that figures of the number of fatal accidents occasioned to children in the United Kingdom last year were not yet available. In 1932 the approximate number of persons in Great Britain under 15 who died as a result of accidents was 3,700. Of these deaths approximately 1,450 were due to road accidents. The other principal causes were burns and scalds, suffocation, drowning, falls, and inattention at birth.

Import Duty on Publications of Learned Societies.—On May 29th Captain CUNNINGHAM-REID asked if the Government would consider excluding from the operation of the Additional Import Duties (No. 6) Order, 1934, the publications of learned and scientific societies. Mr. HORE-BELISHA answered that this question was one in the first instance for the consideration of the Import Duties Advisory Committee, to whom representations should be made by the parties concerned.

Medical News

The Prosser White Oration before the St. John's Hospital Dermatological Society will be delivered by Dr. William Allen Pusey of Chicago on Wednesday, June 27th, at 5 p.m., at the Royal Society of Medicine, by permission of the president and council of the society. Dr. Pusey's subject will be "Disease, Gadfly of the Mind. Especially the Stimulus of Disease in the Development of the Mind."

Lord Moynihan will open the new private ward block of the East Suffolk and Ipswich Hospital, and the new ear, throat and nose, and x-ray departments, on Thursday, June 7th, at 3 p.m.

The Committee Against Malnutrition will hold a public meeting at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, June 13th, at 34, Red Lion Square, Southampton Row, W.C.1. The chair will be taken by Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins, P.R.S., and Dr. Stella Churchill, Professor J. B. S. Haldane, Dr. R. D. Lawrence, and Dr. R. A. Lyster will be among

the speakers. Tickets (1s.) can be obtained from the honorary secretary, 19c, Eagle Street, Holborn, W.C.1.

A short course of lectures, on the approach to the psychoneuroses (for practitioners and medical students), will be given at the Institute of Medical Psychology, Malet Place, W.C., beginning June 18th. The fee for the course is £2 2s. for medical graduates and 10s. 6d. for medical students.

The British Waterworks Association will hold its twenty-third annual general meeting and conference in Edinburgh from June 26th to 30th. The subjects of "The Drought and its Lessons" and "Freshwater Biological Research and Water Supply" will be open for discussion arising out of the report of the Executive Committee, and papers will be read on "The Policy and Practice of Chlorination of Water Supplies," by Colonel P. S. Lelean, professor of public health, Edinburgh University, and on "Consumption, Misuse, and Waste of Water," by Mr. John Bowman.

The Joint Tuberculosis Council has arranged a post-graduate course, to be given by the medical and surgical staff of the Royal Chest Hospital, City Road, E.C., for one week from June 18th. The fee for the course is £3 3s. All inquiries should be addressed to the honorary secretary for post-graduate courses, Joint Tuberculosis Council, Pembury, The Drive, Rickmansworth, Herts.

The Fellowship of Medicine (1, Wimpole Street, W.1) announces further medical lectures at 11, Chandos Street, W., on June 5th and 12th, at 2.30 p.m.; also on June 9th, at 3 p.m., a surgical lecture-demonstration at the National Temperance Hospital. On June 9th and 10th there will be a week-end course in obstetrics at the City of London Maternity Hospital; from June 11th to June 23rd a course in medicine, surgery, and the specialties at the Prince of Wales's Hospital; and from June 11th to 16th a course in proctology at St. Mark's Hospital. Other forthcoming courses include cardiology at the National Heart Hospital, June 25th to July 7th; diseases of children at the Children's Clinic, June 25th to July 7th; ophthalmology at the Central London Ophthalmic Hospital, July 2nd to July 28th; a week-end course in medicine and surgery at the Metropolitan Hospital, June 30th and July 1st. Particulars are given each week in the diary column of our *Supplement*.

We are informed that the formal opening of the Voluntary Hospitals Conference by the Prince of Wales in the Guildhall on Wednesday, June 13th, will take place at 11.30 a.m., and not at 10 a.m. as previously announced.

A post-graduate course on tuberculosis will be held at the Hôpital Broussais, Paris, under the direction of Professor Émile Sergent, from June 11th to July 7th.

The National Birth Control Association (with which is incorporated the Birth Control Investigation Committee) has arranged a conference on birth control, for general nurses, public health workers, and midwives, to be held at the College of Nursing, Henrietta Street, London, W.1, on Friday, June 15th. At the morning session, with Lord Horder in the chair, Mr. Claude Mullins, metropolitan stipendiary magistrate, will lecture on "The Ethics of Birth Control," and Mrs. Stocks, J.P., on "Birth Control and the Public Health Service." In the afternoon, with Lady Denman in the chair, Dr. Helena Wright will lecture on "The Technique of Birth Control," and Mr. Cedric Lane-Roberts, F.R.C.S., on "The Contribution of the Nursing Profession." There will be time for discussion after each lecture. Tickets (price 2s. 6d.), admitting to both sessions, can be obtained from the secretary, N.B.C.A., 26, Eccleston Street, S.W.1.

The sixth international medical post-graduate course arranged by the Tomarkin Foundation will be held at St. Moritz (Grisons, Switzerland) from August 5th to 18th. The subject-matter to be dealt with is grouped over the following special branches: heart diseases, diseases of children, balneology, nutrition problems, gastro-intestinal diseases, and social medicine. Particulars may be had from the secretary, Tomarkin Foundation, Via Marco Minghetti 17, Rome.

The June number of *Great Thoughts* includes a well-informed and well-written article, over the signature "Note-Taker," on the public career of Sir Henry Brackenbury, Chairman of Council of the British Medical Association.

The ninth International Congress of Dermatology and Syphilology will be held at Budapest, under the presidency of Professor Louis Nekam, from September 15th to 21st, 1935. Dr. A. M. H. Gray of 69, Harley Street, W.1, the national secretary for this country, will be glad to receive short papers before the end of 1934, or at the latest by the end of January, 1935.

The twentieth International Congress on Alcoholism will be held at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, from July 30th to August 3rd, under the presidency of Lord Astor. The aim of the congress is to secure a comprehensive world picture of the present position concerning alcoholism in its various ramifications in social life. Further information can be obtained from the convener, Dr. C. C. Weeks, 33, Bedford Place, W.C.2.

The annual congress known as the Journées Médicales Belges will be held in Brussels under the presidency of Professor Edgard Zunz from June 23rd to 27th, when the subject for discussion will be the physiology and pathology of the endocrine glands. The opening address will be delivered by Professor Loeper of Paris.

The London County Council, in an advertisement published this week, invites applications for the post of director of the radiological department of the Hammer-smith Hospital and British Post-Graduate School, Ducane Road, W., and consulting radiologist to the Council's hospitals. The salary is £1,500 a year, and application forms, containing full particulars, may be obtained from the Clerk of the Council, County Hall, S.E.1, and are returnable by June 18th.

Dr. B. Holroyd of Pannal, near Harrogate, has, for the fourth successive year, been elected chairman of the Claro Guardians Committee of the West Riding County Council.

Professor Max Neuburger, having reached the age of 65, is retiring from the chair of medical history in the University of Vienna. He will continue his directorship of the Medico-Historical Institute.

The eightieth birthday of Professor Johann Horbaczewski, who was appointed the first Minister of Health in Austria in June, 1917, was celebrated on May 15th in the Ukrainian Free University of Prague. As a young assistant of Professor E. Ludwig in 1882 he had carried out the artificial preparation of uric acid.

Dr. John A. Hartwell has been nominated president of the New York Academy of Medicine.

Included in the will of the late Dr. Edward J. Cave of Bath, who left £49,679, is a bequest of £6,000 to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, for an entrance scholarship to be known as the "Helen Cave Memorial Scholarship."

The late Mr. Ernest White of Clanfield bequeathed £1,000 to the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, to endow a bed to be used as far as may be for patients from Clanfield, and in the event of his net estate being more than £30,000, a further £1,000 to the Radcliffe Infirmary for general purposes. The net personalty of Mr. White's estate was £66,600.

The following appointments have recently been made in foreign faculties of medicine: Dr. L. Melanowski, professor of ophthalmology at Warsaw; Dr. Popoviciu, professor of physiology at Cluj, in succession to Professor Nitzescu, who has been appointed to the chair of physiology at Bucarest; Dr. Max Baur, rector of Marburg University, professor of pharmacology at Frankfurt; Dr. Mario Aresu, professor of clinical medicine at Cagliari; and Dr. H. A. Tschernogabow, professor and director of the Dermatological Clinic of the Second University, Moscow, in succession to Professor Arthur Jordan.

The supplement to the *Paris Médical* of May 12th contains a complete list of the medical staff of the various Paris hospitals.

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.**

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

Authors desiring REPRINTS of their articles published in the *British Medical Journal* must communicate with the Financial Secretary and Business Manager, British Medical Association House, Tavistock Square, W.C.1, on receipt of proofs. Authors over-seas should indicate on MSS. if reprints are required, as proofs are not sent abroad.

All communications with reference to ADVERTISEMENTS, as well as orders for copies of the *Journal*, should be addressed to the Financial Secretary and Business Manager.

The **TELEPHONE NUMBER** of the British Medical Association and the *British Medical Journal* is EUSTON 2111 (internal exchange, four lines).

The **TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESSES** are:

EDITOR OF THE *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, Aitiology Westcent, London.

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

MEDICAL SECRETARY, Medisecra Westcent, London.

The address of the Irish Office of the British Medical Association is 18, Kildare Street, Dublin (telegrams: *Bacillus, Dublin*; telephone: 62550 Dublin), and of the Scottish Office, 7, Drumshugh Gardens, Edinburgh (telegrams: *Associate, Edinburgh*; telephone: 24361 Edinburgh).

QUERIES AND ANSWERS

? Bed-sore: Diagnosis Wanted

Dr. R. STEVENSON DOIG (Stornoway, Isle of Lewis) writes: I should be greatly obliged if some expert surgeon would give me his opinion on whether the condition described below is or is not a bed-sore. I had a woman in the hospital with an osteomyelitis of the symphysis pubis. This was operated upon on November 13th last after the patient—a very sturdy, well-built woman—had been in bed for a month. There was no sign of anything wrong with her back on the day of operation. However, the day after, when I turned her over on her face to allow the wound to drain, I discovered a red, inflamed area the size of my hand over the sacrum: it had a raised edge and a "root," while in the centre was an elliptical spot the size of a pigeon's egg, which was black and without sensation. Thinking of erysipelas, I painted around with iodine and applied ichthyol and glycerin over it. After two days serum oozed out, and the black portion began to separate. Hot boric fomentations were now applied, and two days later a huge slough came away right down to the sacrum, while pockets of pus were all around the central opening, and extended beneath the skin for two to three inches, and in parts a probe went in two and a half inches deep. The root was exquisitely tender. A bacteriological examination on December 2nd, 1933, revealed staphylococci. (The only organism present in the osteomyelitis was *B. coli*.) The lesion gradually became more widespread, and did not heal up until the beginning of April this year. The Wassermann reaction was negative. The opening was situated on the left buttock, but the undermining extended for three inches past the middle line to the right buttock. A surgeon who exposed the sacrum found it healthy. There has been divergence of opinion as to whether it was a bed-sore, and I would be grateful for help as to the nature of the initial condition in November.

Persistent Epistaxis

"W. D. C." (Alloa) has a patient who suffers from severe epistaxis. Examination of urine, blood pressure, heart, and blood has failed to reveal anything abnormal, and there is nothing in the nose of an unusual nature, though the mucous membrane is very congested. Local treatment has been tried—weak caustic, bland ointments, and cautery; internally, calcium lactate and ammonium carbonate have been given. The patient states that the condition came on after a prolonged period of nursing, with heavy lifting. "W. D. C." would like to know of any further treatment which might prove beneficial.

Wanted: G.P. Laboratory Equipment

"Q. R. S." asks for information as to the setting up of a cheap bacteriological laboratory in connexion with a surgery, and where such could be procured, as well as media, etc.