

professional demands on his time, he gratified a cultured taste in literature, and, with fine discrimination, he had acquired a valuable library of classical and modern authors. He came of a medical family, his father having been a well-known practitioner in Dublin, and two of his brothers are members of the medical profession. Of these one practised in Dublin as a specialist, and the other is Colonel R. J. Cahill, D.S.O., R.A.M.C., who resides in England. Another brother, Sir Robert Cahill, has for the past fifteen years held the office of commercial counsellor at His Majesty's Embassy in Paris. Dr. Cahill is survived by his wife and two daughters, to whom his colleagues tender their sympathy.

Dr. HUGH ALEXANDER LOGAN, who was for forty-five years a resident of Ballyclare, died in Belfast on January 12th last at the age of 75. He was held in high esteem in his native town, to which he returned after practising in Rasharkin for five years. He qualified in 1885, after studying medicine at Queen's College, Belfast, and obtained the M.D. and M.Ch. degrees of the Royal University of Ireland. He was a member of the Ballyclare Town Council, and subsequently its chairman; and the welfare of the inhabitants was always his interest. Dr. Logan leaves a widow and four daughters. Of him a professional colleague, who knew him intimately for many years, writes: "Dr. Logan spent most of his professional life in Ballyclare. He had a large practice, both in the town and in the neighbouring country, and he had deservedly won the trust and affection of many. He was an exceedingly hard worker, never sparing himself if he thought he could serve another; he practically never took a holiday, and was endowed with that valuable gift of being able to diagnose potentially serious cases in their earliest stage, and thus he prevented many tragedies. His death was due to a stricture of the oesophagus, and eight days before he died, when he was unable to swallow even water, he was out paying visits to his country patients. He died as he had lived, thinking of and working for others, and the state of his books showed that the question of fees occupied a small place in his estimation; neither money nor self was his god."

We regret to announce the death, at the age of 50, of Dr. JAMES ALEXANDER GORDON of Wigton, Cumberland, which occurred on January 25th. He had suffered ill-health for the past three years with great fortitude. Dr. Gordon, who was a native of Buckie, Banffshire, graduated M.B., Ch.B. at the University of Edinburgh in 1908. After long assistantships in Edinburgh and Durham he became ship surgeon on the Blue Funnel line, travelling extensively. During the war he saw active service in the Navy and in the Air Force. After being demobilized he settled in Wigton, and worked there for a little over sixteen years. Skilful and attentive, he was greatly liked by his patients and had their full confidence. He married Phyllis Glendenning, second daughter of the late W. G. Glendenning of Newcastle-on-Tyne, who survives him with a son and daughter. His remains were cremated in Edinburgh on January 28th.

The following well-known foreign medical men have recently died: Dr. CÉSAR ROUX, professor of surgery at Lausanne, aged 77; Dr. E. W. WALCH, professor of bacteriology in the University of Batavia (in the recent air disaster to the Dutch liner); Professor WILHELM TAUFFER of Budapest, an eminent gynaecologist and founder of a school for Hungarian women doctors, aged 83; Professor HUBERT PETERS of Budapest, a prominent gynaecologist and eugenicist, aged 75; Dr. WENDELL C. PHILLIPS, professor of otology in the New York Post-Graduate Medical School, and author of a textbook on diseases of the ear, nose, and throat; Dr. EDOUARD BAUER of Neuchâtel, president of the Swiss Society of Internal Medicine; and Dr. RICARDO NOZANO MONJON, formerly dean of the Medical Faculty of Clinical Surgery at Saragossa.

## Medical Notes in Parliament

[FROM OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT]

Parliament reassembled this week. The House of Commons discussed and approved Estimates for the Unemployment Assistance Board for grants to local authorities in distressed areas and for the new "special area" schemes. The Housing Bill came up for second reading.

Mr. Levy, who has first place for a motion on the House going into committee on the Civil Estimates, proposes to call attention to water supply throughout the country. Captain Harold Balfour has third place on the same Estimates, with a motion on the health and mortality of the nation. The latter may not be reached.

In the House of Commons on January 28th a report was received of the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills, stating that among the Bills which had complied with the standing orders and would originate in the House of Lords was the St. Bartholomew's Hospital Bill.

### B.M.A. Standard in Unemployment Assistance

On January 28th the House of Commons considered a supplementary estimate for £5,000,000 for salaries and expenses of the Unemployment Assistance Board. Mr. OLIVER STANLEY said that he had never attempted to conceal from the House that the regulations, if passed, would lead, in certain cases, to a reduction. Mr. T. SMITH said that they had been told by the British Medical Association that it was going to write a cookery book for people with small incomes. He challenged the British Medical Association, or any member of the House, to draw up a cookery book giving meals that would nourish the body as it ought to be nourished, and which could be purchased by those who were in receipt of the allowances under the new regulations. Miss RATHBONE said that it was not the case that the new scales, in almost every instance, satisfied the standards laid down by the British Medical Association. When a family was living wholly on the scale, and where the question of resources did not come into the case at all, if the House brought the British Medical Association standard up to the present cost of living and compared it with the scale allowed under the regulations it would be found that there were deficits varying from a few pence to something like 11s. in the case of a man with five children.

Mr. R. S. HUDSON said all the cases had not yet been finally decided, and the whole of the people had not exercised their right of appeal.

When the debate was resumed, on January 29th, Mr. OLIVER STANLEY said that the Unemployment Assistance Board was looking into every hard case. If inquiry showed that there was hardship the Board would have no hesitation in advising the Government of the amendments that were necessary, and in asking the Government to submit them to the House. He outlined concessions which could be made immediately by instruction from the Board.

The House agreed to the vote.

### Matrimonial Causes Bills

On January 29th, in the House of Lords, Lord MERRIVALE moved the second reading of the Matrimonial Causes (Procedure in Suits for Nullity) Bill. The measure provides that, in any case in the High Court in England wherein a decree of nullity of marriage is prayed on the ground of the impotence of one of the parties, the evidence on the question of sexual capacity shall be heard *in camera*, unless on an application in that behalf the judge is satisfied that in the interests of justice the evidence ought to be heard in open court and directs that it shall be so heard. The LORD CHANCELLOR said that the Supreme Court of Judicature (Amendment) Bill, which was now before the House of Commons, contained a clause to the same effect. He asked their Lordships to give Lord Merrivale's Bill a second reading, but he hoped that it might not be necessary to proceed on

the remaining stages, since the other Bill might be passed in the course of the next few days.

The Bill was read a second time.

In the House of Lords, on January 29th, the Matrimonial Causes (Amended Procedure) Bill was read a second time.

### Water Supplies: Present Position

On January 28th Sir HILTON YOUNG, replying to Mr. Paling, said that urban water undertakers generally were in a much stronger position than they were at that time last year, both in consequence of the measures taken to improve supplies where necessary, and because reserves had been largely replenished by the heavy December rains. Deep underground sources in a few areas were still not up to normal level. In rural areas the primary need was for permanent supplies, and the total capital cost of schemes for which State grants had been provisionally allocated was now over £2,600,000 for schemes in 940 parishes.

### Coroners' Inquests: Committee of Inquiry

On January 29th Sir JOHN GILMOUR informed Mr. Morgan Jones that he had under consideration whether changes in the law or practice regarding coroners' inquests were desirable. The issues involved were complex, and, after consultation with the Lord Chancellor, he had decided to appoint a committee of inquiry into the subject. He hoped to be able to announce the membership and precise terms of reference of the committee at an early date. Mr. Jones asked whether pending the result of such an inquiry it would be in the public interest to circularize coroners to secure that their inquiries should be confined to the cause of death. The Minister said that it would be better to await the result of the pending inquiry.

### Protective Equipment for Mine Workers

On January 29th Mr. ERNEST BROWN, replying to Mr. T. Smith, said that he had given formal notice of his proposal to make general regulations on the provision of fire-damp detectors for use by workmen in mines. The notice was published on January 16th last, and the period during which objections might be lodged expired on March 7th. Good progress, he said, in reply to Mr. Tinker, was being made in the development of protective equipment for mine workers, particularly with hard hats, of which some 60,000 had recently been supplied. He had had no consultation with the colliery owners collectively regarding protective equipment, but, in view of the importance of the matter, he had recently come to an arrangement with the Safety in Mines Research Board for the appointment of a special technical officer who would devote his whole time to this question under the general supervision of the Board's chief mining engineer.

**Consultant Services under National Health Insurance.**—Sir HILTON YOUNG, on January 28th, informed Mr. Llewellyn-Jones that he had received representations from organizations associated with the administration of national health insurance, urging that the scope of medical relief should be extended to the provision of consultant services and of improved diagnostic facilities, as recommended by the Royal Commission of 1926. He had, however, nothing to add to a reply on the matter which he gave on November 8th last year.

**Mine Fatalities in British India.**—Sir SAMUEL HOARE told Mr. Grundy, on January 28th, that during 1933, at mines in British India, there were 142 fatal accidents, in which 130 men and twenty-three women lost their lives, and thirty-two people, whose sex was not recorded, were injured. There were 655 other serious accidents, involving injuries to 670 persons, 605 of whom were men and sixty-five women. Figures for 1934 were not at present available.

**Economy Cuts of 1931.**—Sir HILTON YOUNG states that information available indicates that most local authorities which made reductions in the salaries and wages of their staffs in 1931 have restored them in full, and that only a few have not restored any part of the reductions.

### Notes in Brief

Mr. Hore-Belisha states that he proposes to bring the speed limit of thirty miles an hour in built-up areas into force on March 18th.

Mr. Ernest Brown states that 1,068 persons were killed and 3,175 seriously injured in and about coal mines during 1934.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald states that immediate legislation is proposed to deal with ribbon development.

## Universities and Colleges

### UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

#### Professorship of Pathology

The electors have appointed Howard Walter Florey of Magdalen College, late Fellow of Caius College, Cambridge, and now Joseph Hunter Professor of Pathology in the University of Sheffield, to the chair of pathology from May 1st next, in succession to the late Professor Dreyer. Professor Florey graduated M.B., B.S. at the University of Adelaide in 1921; he holds the B.A. and B.Sc. degrees of Oxford and the M.A. and Ph.D. of Cambridge.

At a congregation held on January 24th the following medical degree was conferred:

M.B.—N. K. Stott, C. A. Hinds-Howell.

Congregations will be held for the purpose of granting Graces and conferring degrees on March 2nd, May 2nd, June 8th and 27th, July 20th, and August 3rd, at 2.30 p.m.

### UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

At a congregation held on January 23rd the following medical degrees were conferred:

M.B., B.CHIR.—F. Ridehalgh, Susanta Kumar Sen, L. C. Martin, M.B.—H. H. Bayley.

B.CHIR.—\*R. M. Jones, \*W. H. H. Jebb, A. G. V. Aldridge, W. H. C. M. Hamilton, J. G. Chappel, J. W. Macmillan, A. R. Pope, M. S. M. Rayner, Feeroze Hormasji Masina.

\* By proxy.

### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

A meeting of the Senate was held on January 23rd, with the Vice-Chancellor (Professor L. N. G. Filon, F.R.S.) in the chair.

The William Julius Mickle Fellowship for 1935 was awarded to Dr. S. Zuckerman, and the Carpenter Medal for 1934 to Dr. R. J. Lythgoe.

### UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN

At the winter commencements, held on January 23rd, the following medical degree was conferred:

M.D.—W. J. E. Jessop, Elinor D. Price (née Stopford), C. de V. Shortt, J. E. Stokes.

### SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON

The following candidates have passed in the subjects indicated:

SURGERY.—J. A. Carter, R. J. Crompton, J. E. Garson, S. M. Sabet.

MEDICINE.—R. J. Crompton, L. Gottlieb, W. McC. Graves-Morris, J. Richter, D. Rocyn Jones.

FORENSIC MEDICINE.—R. J. Crompton, M. M. El Badri, G. E. Ftyaras, D. W. Hoodless, I. M. McEne.

MIDWIFERY.—G. G. O. Evans, T. I. Palmer.

The diploma of the Society has been granted to S. M. Sabet, W. McC. Graves-Morris, and D. Rocyn Jones.

### BRITISH COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS

At the quarterly meeting of the council, held on January 26th, it was decided to confer the Honorary Fellowship upon Naguib Mahfouz Bey of Cairo.

The following were elected to the Membership of the College:

M. D. Black, J. G. Bonnin, I. Goldberg, R. MacK. Honey, K. A. K. Hudson, R. W. Knowlton, E. Maduram, H. McCurich, J. L. Mewton, Joyce Morgan, R. H. Nattrass, O. Robertson, Helen Rodway, Margaret Rorke, F. Stabler, J. A. Stallworthy, D. M. Stern, H. Stirling.

Dr. T. G. Wilson (Adelaide) was admitted a Foundation Fellow (*in absentia*), and the following were admitted to the Membership:

J. R. C. Canney, D. A. D. Kennedy (*in absentia*), Marjorie J. Lyon, R. C. Thomas, R. G. Worcester.

## The Services

### R.N. MEDICAL COMPASSIONATE FUND

At the quarterly meeting of the directors of the Naval Medical Compassionate Fund, held on January 25th, with Surgeon Vice-Admiral R. W. B. Hall, C.B., K.H.P., Medical Director-General of the Navy, in the chair, the sum of £100 was distributed among the several applicants.

### DEATHS IN THE SERVICES

Colonel Hubert Alaric Bray, C.B., C.M.G., late R.A.M.C., died at Chilcombe, Winchester, on January 23rd, aged 67. He was the son of Major-General G. F. C. Bray. Born at Guildford on July 18th, 1867, he was educated at King's College Hospital, and took the M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Lond. in 1888. After acting as house-surgeon at King's College Hospital, he entered the Army as surgeon lieutenant on July 27th, 1892, became lieutenant-colonel on November 27th, 1914, and colonel on December 26th, 1917, and retired in 1921. He served with the Expeditionary Force in the Tirah campaign of 1897-8 on the North-West Frontier of India (medal and clasp); and in the Sudan in 1906, in operations against the Nyam-Nyam tribe, in the Bahr-el-Ghazal Province, as senior medical officer, was mentioned in dispatches in the *London Gazette* of May 18th, 1906, and received the medal with clasp, and the 4th Class of the Osmanieh. During the war of 1914-18 he was A.D.M.S. at Mudros during the Gallipoli campaign, and afterwards A.D.M.S. of Egyptian hospitals, and later D.D.M.S. of the Seventeenth Army Corps in France, and of the Rouen hospitals; and was mentioned in dispatches in the *London Gazette* of July 13th, 1916, and May 25th, 1918. After the war he was D.D.M.S. of the Western Command. He received the Medjidieh, 3rd Class, in 1903, the Osmanieh in 1906, the C.M.G. in 1916, and the C.B. on September 1st, 1919. He served with the Egyptian Army from 1899 to 1906, and again from 1912 to 1915, as principal medical officer, and was President of the Sudan Sleeping Sickness Commission and of the Central Sanitary Board of the Sudan. After retirement he served as medical superintendent of the Ministry of Pensions hospital at Bath. He married Maude, fourth daughter of the Rev. W. J. Boys, and had two sons and four daughters.

## Medical News

The annual dinner of past and present students of the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital will be held at the Langham Hotel, Portland Place, W., on Thursday, February 7th, at 7.30 p.m. The chair will be taken by Mr. Malcolm L. Hepburn. Applications for tickets (15s., excluding wine) should be addressed to Mr. P. G. Doyné, 60, Queen Anne Street, W.1.

The fourteenth annual dinner of the Society of Radiographers will be held at the Restaurant Frascati, Oxford Street, W., on Saturday, February 16th, at 7.15 p.m., with the president, Dr. L. A. Rowden, in the chair.

Bacteriological and other standards for ice-cream will be discussed at a sessional meeting of the Royal Sanitary Institute at 90, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W., on Tuesday, February 12th, at 6 p.m. Dr. L. H. Lampitt and Mr. E. B. Anderson will open the discussion, and several public health officers will also speak. The chair will be taken by Dr. Thomas Orr.

A meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain will be held at 17, Bloomsbury Square, W.C., on Tuesday, February 12th, at 8.30 p.m., when a lecture on "The Work of the Government Laboratory" will be given by Sir Robert Robertson, F.R.S.

A lecture and demonstration on contraceptive technique will be given on February 7th, from 2.30 to 6 p.m., at 108, Whitfield Street, Tottenham Court Road, W. Application for tickets, which will be supplied to medical practitioners only, should be made to the honorary secretary, C.B.C., at that address.

The Guthrie Lecture of the Physical Society will be delivered at the Imperial College of Science and Tech-

nology, South Kensington, S.W., at 4.45 p.m. to-day (Friday, February 1st), by Professor Arthur H. Compton of the University of Chicago, who is at present Eastman visiting professor at Oxford University. The title of the lecture is "An Attempt to Analyse Cosmic Rays."

The Section of Laryngology of the Royal Society of Medicine meets to-day (Friday, February 1st) at 4.30 p.m., and not at 5 p.m. as announced last week (p. 186).

The special meeting of the Clinical Section of the Royal Society of Medicine, on "Generalized Diseases of Bone," arranged for February 12th, has been postponed until May 10th.

The Fellowship of Medicine (1, Wimpole Street, W.) announces that a lecture on diarrhoea will be given at 11, Chandos Street, W., on February 8th, at 4.15 p.m.; the lecture on February 15th will be on jaundice. At the Wellcome Museum of Medical Science, on February 7th, at 3 p.m., there will be a demonstration on syphilis, and on February 14th on helminthology as it affects the clinician. A demonstration of surgical cases will be given at the National Temperance Hospital on February 9th, at 3 p.m. Forthcoming special courses include: chest diseases, at the Brompton Hospital, February 11th to 16th, all day; gynaecology, at the Chelsea Hospital for Women, February 11th to 23rd, all day; an evening clinical and pathological M.R.C.P. course, at the National Temperance Hospital, on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8 p.m., February 19th to March 7th; medicine and surgery, at the Prince of Wales's Hospital, February 25th to March 9th, all day; and week-end courses in physical medicine, at the St. John Clinic and Institute of Physical Medicine, February 9th and 10th; children's diseases, at the Princess Elizabeth of York Hospital for Children, March 2nd and 3rd; clinical surgery, at the Royal Albert Dock Hospital, March 9th and 10th. These courses are open only to members and associates of the Fellowship, from whom full details may be obtained.

The Lent session of the South-West London Post-Graduate Association opens at St. James's Hospital, Ouseley Road, Balham, S.W., on February 6th, and will be continued on Wednesdays, at 4 p.m., till March 27th. Details will be given week by week in the diary column of our *Supplement*.

A new post-graduate course opened at the National Hospital, Queen Square, W.C.1, on January 28th, and will be continued till Friday, March 29th. The course includes: out-patient clinics, lectures and clinical demonstrations on each week-day, except Saturday, at 2 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. respectively; demonstrations on the pathology of the nervous system, on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 12 noon; and demonstrations on the anatomy and physiology of the nervous system, on Mondays at 9.30 a.m. and on Tuesdays at 5 p.m. The fee for the course is £10 10s., and for clinical clerks or those who hold perpetual tickets £8 8s. Special arrangements will be made for those who cannot take the whole course.

At the invitation of the Joint Tuberculosis Council Dr. Peter W. Edwards, medical superintendent, Cheshire Joint Sanatorium, near Market Drayton, Salop, is prepared to continue his series of short, intensive post-graduate courses of a practical nature on modern methods of therapy in tuberculosis of the respiratory system, with special reference to collapse therapy. Methods of Sanatorium administration will also be demonstrated. Suitable arrangements for board and residence can be made within a convenient distance of the sanatorium. Details of dates, expenses, etc., will be sent on application being made to the honorary secretary for post-graduate courses, Dr. William Brand, Pembury, The Drive, Rickmansworth, Herts.

The memory of the great physiologist Claude Bernard, the author of *Introduction to the Study of Experimental Medicine*, was recently honoured at a reception given at the Collège de France, when addresses were delivered by Professors A. Mayer and D'Arsonval, and a visit paid to Claude Bernard's laboratory, in which his table, instruments, and manuscripts are preserved.

The *Canadian Medical Association Journal* for January contains an account of the conferment upon Sir Henry Dale of the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by the University of Toronto. The president, Dr. H. J. Cody, recalled that Sir Henry had been in close touch with the University ever since the discovery of insulin by Banting and Best.

By the Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act, 1926, power is given to the Minister of Health to make orders extending the provisions of the Alkali, etc., Works Regulation Act, 1906. In the exercise of this power an order was issued in 1928 extending the list of noxious or offensive gases mentioned in the Act of 1906, and extending the list of scheduled works requiring registration. A draft order has now been prepared further extending the list of such gases and works; copies may be seen at the Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W., or be purchased through any bookseller from H.M. Stationery Office. A public inquiry into the subject-matter of the draft order will be held at the Ministry on February 6th, at 11 a.m. Any person interested may attend and give evidence.

Dr. H. N. Stafford (Inner Temple) and Dr. Mary C. Sheppard and Dr. H. E. Marsden (Gray's Inn) were called to the Bar on January 28th.

Dr. Meige, the well-known neurologist, has been elected a member of the Académie de Médecine. Dr. Vreven has been elected President of the Belgian Royal Academy of Medicine for 1935.

Dr. Herbert Pernice, director of the Berlin University Institute for Industrial Diseases, has organized a public health exhibition for the medical profession of Iceland at Reykjavik, where he will deliver a course of lectures.

The ninth International Congress of Military Medicine and Pharmacy will be held in Rumania this spring.

Dr. Louis Martin, director of the Pasteur Institute of Paris, has been nominated president of the French Superior Council of Public Health, in succession to the late Professor Léon Bernard.

## 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).

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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, Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh (telegrams: *Associate, Edinburgh*; telephone: 24361 Edinburgh).

## QUERIES AND ANSWERS

### Offensive Breath

Dr. J. FINER, asking for advice, writes: I have a patient, a female aged 43, who has for the last five years complained of an offensive taste in her mouth and foul breath. Her teeth have been overhauled, her tonsils and adenoids removed, and colonic irrigation performed. Fractional gastric analysis has been found normal, and I am unable to make a definite diagnosis or to institute successful treatment.

### New Cars for Old

"R. L. C." writes: I would be grateful if any of your readers could advise me if, in their experience, it is generally more satisfactory as well as economical to get a new car every year instead of waiting until the one in use is no longer roadworthy. I have a Morris coupé, 1929; it has done well for five years, and its value now is £15. I must get a new car very shortly, and as I am told that quite a number of doctors find the new-car-each-year system more economical in the long run I would be very glad of some advice on the point.

### Oedema of One Arm: ? Cause

Dr. HUGH SMITH (Oxton, Birkenhead) writes in reply to Dr. H. B. A. Ratcliffe-Densham (January 19th, p. 137), who asked for suggestions in the treatment of oedema of the arm (cause yet unknown): I suggest he tries a method which I devised for a patient who had marked oedema of the left arm, including the dorsum of the hand, which followed a radical operation of the breast and axillary gland excision. In this case a reduction of the whole arm to nearly normal proportions was obtained. Records of the measurements before and after treatment have been kept for reference. I first tried bandaging the entire arm with a 3-inch elastoplast bandage. This proved encouraging, but owing to the sensitive skin overlying water-logged tissues an eczematous condition resulted. This settled down by suitable treatment. I next tried a flesh-coloured elastocrêpe bandage, which gave excellent results. This bandage was firmly applied from the metacarpo-phalangeal joints to the top of the arm, overlapping each turn of the bandage by about half its width. The arm soon became almost normal in size and the patient much relieved. The swelling of the arm could be controlled after a while if the bandage was kept on for the best part of the day and removed at night-time. An attempt was made to maintain the arm in normal dimensions by the use of a flesh-coloured elastic armlet, which I had had made by a local firm. The patient did not persevere with this, although I believe it will be found of use in other cases. I shall be interested to hear if this method has been used by others, and if found satisfactory in this particular case.

### Open Suprapubic Wound

Mr. G. PERCIVAL MILLS (Birmingham) writes in reply to "Inquirer" (January 19th, p. 137): Heat an ordinary probe in a Bunsen burner and stroke it along a stick of silver nitrate so that the fused caustic adheres to the probe for a length of two inches. Then insert the probe into the sinus as deeply as possible. Put on a rubber strapping dressing and tie in a catheter for a week. After such a long period closure is unlikely without some such active treatment.

### Colostomy

Dr. JOHN LIVINGSTON (Barrow-in-Furness) writes in answer to the inquiry by "M." (January 26th, p. 187): A patient of mine on whom I did an excision of the rectum two years ago gets along quite comfortably with a piece of cotton-wool held over the colostomy opening by means of a 6-inch-wide binder of stout elastic webbing, which she fixes with two safety-pins.

### Income Tax

#### Dispositions in Favour of Children

"A. M." refers to the method of saving income tax by forming trusts for the benefit of one's children, and asks for advice, as the scheme seems too easy and simple to be safe.

\*\* Broadly, the idea behind such schemes is to put a child in beneficial ownership of income and then claim exemption, on the ground that the child has an income which is under the exemption limit of £100 or entitled to "personal allowances." If the income exceeds £50 the effect is to cancel the "child allowance," which the parent would otherwise have had. Dispositions in favour of children of the person disposing of the legal title to the income are specially dealt with in Section 20 of the Finance Act of 1922, which sets up various restrictions on their application to income tax. Probably it would be unwise for anyone not having an expert knowledge of those provisions to attempt to draft a suitable deed transferring legal rights in income to a minor, otherwise it might prove that, although a legal right had been conferred, the deed was "caught" by the section and was inoperative for income tax purposes. The income transferred may, of course, be of any nature, including earnings.