

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD ANNUAL MEETING
of the
British Medical Association
MELBOURNE, 1935

THE British Medical Association will hold its 103rd Annual Meeting in Melbourne, Australia, during the week beginning September 9th, 1935, under the presidency of Sir Richard Stawell, K.B.E., M.D., consulting physician to the Melbourne Hospital. The Sectional sessions for scientific and clinical work will be held on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, September 11th, 12th, and 13th. The Annual Representative Meeting for the transaction of medico-political business will take place in London at the Association's House on Friday, July 19th, and following days.

Members travelling to Australia through the United States will sail for New York from Southampton on Saturday, July 27th; if travelling by the Canadian route to San Francisco, they will sail for Montreal from Liverpool on July 26th, or from Glasgow on July 27th. Particulars of the two routes were given in our *Supplement* of March 10th, 1934, and a series of descriptive notes on the tour to Melbourne and back has been appearing in these columns at intervals of a fortnight since February 9th, 1935. All arrangements for the journey are in the hands of the Financial Secretary and Business Manager, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1, to whom *early application* should be made for reservation of places on steamers and trains and at hotels. Members who cannot afford to be away for the whole time of the "round-the-world" tour may leave London on August 8th, travelling overland to Toulon and embarking there on a P. & O. liner which arrives at Fremantle on September 3rd. The journey on to Melbourne takes three days by rail, so that those who follow this route will reach their destination three days before the meeting opens.

The honorary local general secretary for this year's Annual Meeting is Dr. J. P. Major, Medical Society Hall, East Melbourne, Victoria. The names of the officers of the fourteen Scientific Sections were given in the *Supplement* of December 8th, 1934; and further information, with provisional programmes, etc., will appear in subsequent issues. We publish below the fourth of a series of articles on the city of Melbourne and its medical institutions; the first appeared on October 20th (p. 730), the second on December 8th (p. 1050), and the third on January 19th (p. 110).

JOHN BATMAN'S VILLAGE

LY

R. H. CROLL

AUTHOR OF "THE OPEN ROAD IN VICTORIA" AND
"ALONG THE TRACK"

"Could Batman have dreamt this City when
He wrote the words 'a village'?"

Eighteen hundred and thirty-five, and one of the first settlers gazing at an untouched wilderness and noting his diary: "This will be the place for a village"; nineteen hundred and thirty-four and the "village" that rose on that site preparing to celebrate fittingly the jubilee of its foundation.

That "village" has now a million inhabitants. The State of which it is the capital was named Victoria in honour of the young queen then ruling Great Britain, while her Prime Minister's memory is perpetuated in the title given to the tiny township—Melbourne. The infant colony (it did not become a State until Australia matured into a Commonwealth) formed part of New South Wales for a good many years. Melbournians are supposed to believe that Sydney is envious of the progress of the southern city, but that is more legendary than real, and no one in Melbourne but knows the debt the city owes to the mother colony. Sydney sprawls in the most slipshod, albeit the most charming, manner about her harbour front, her streets winding here, twisting there, sometimes wide but more often narrow, as crooked, in short, as "the way of a man with a horse." From that experience Melbourne was to benefit. The Sydney surveyors who came to lay out the new township made a good job of it.

That original layout fashioned Melbourne as modern for all time, if wide, airy streets, now perfectly drained, perfectly paved; and well tended represent modernity.

The city proper is a mile square, but suburbs have spread its boundaries until the sea frontages are covered with villas, and "the Bush" has been pushed well back on the landward side. Through it runs the River Yarra, properly the Yarra Yarra or Yarrow Yarrow, native words commonly (but probably erroneously) thought to mean "ever-flowing." Originally it was the source of the youthful township's drinking supply, but the water needed for to-day's great collection of dwellings comes from hill sources kept free of possible pollution by strict reservation. The river rises in mountains sufficiently high to know snow in winter, and so well clothed in vegetation that the sources of the streams are protected from the drying suns of summer. Down picturesque gorges it tumbles, a typical mountain torrent, till it sobers with age and breadth, and bears great ships upon an ample bosom. Several fine bridges span it in the city itself. Most notable is Princes Bridge, the southern gateway, flanked by the towers of the principal railway station and the three lofty spires of the great Anglican cathedral.

Two Especially Beautiful Features

Of two things above all others the Melbourne citizen thinks with pride: the tree-lined thoroughfare, known as St. Kilda Road, which leads to Princes Bridge; and the Botanic Gardens, tucked in so snugly between hill and river. "Victorians do not boast," wrote a distinguished Englishman many years ago; but they could justly do so in these two cases. They could quote the sayings of many a travelled visitor who has declared that no avenue in the world surpasses St. Kilda Road in beauty. As I write the spring has brought young leaf to the deciduous trees, and the triple roadway they so beautifully divide is dappled with a pattern of light and shade. Later, when the sun returns in strength, the pedestrian paths will be long tunnels of shady coolness, for the branches meet overhead.

Latrobe, Victoria's first Governor, chose the site for the Botanic Gardens, and the Government House domain links them with St. Kilda Road. Government House, on an eminence which dominates the whole city, stands between the two. A little lake, which acts as mirror to the plants in the Gardens and provides nesting-places for the black swans and other native birds, was once a loop of the Yarra. The river course was straightened, and now the Alexandra Avenue, divided like St. Kilda Road into three tracks, occupies the south bank and gives delightful access to the Gardens. Long rows of planes, elms, and poplars add their ordered charm to the wilder beauty of the native gums; flowering shrubs scent the air, and from the bed of rushes at the water's edge comes the cheerful "brek-kek-kek-kek" of small frogs, and that compelling singer the reed warbler. One name (at least) of world fame is associated with the Gardens. Baron Ferdinand von Mueller, botanist and explorer, was very early in charge of them; he enriched the reserve with an amazing variety of plants. A notable landscape gardener in Guilfoyle followed, and gave it its final shape and distinction. Well have these Botanic Gardens been acclaimed as among the three finest in the world.

Parks and Gardens

Melbourne is fortunate, too, in her parklands—"lungs of the city," as such places have been aptly termed. Some are open spaces on which games are played, others have been planted decoratively; all have trees somewhere about them. In the immense Royal Park, from which the ill-fated Burke and Wills expedition set out long ago to cross the continent, is the enclosure of the Zoological Gardens, with its special section devoted entirely to Australian animals. There may be seen many of the unique creatures for which this isolated continent is famous—for example, the echidna, shaking its quills and looking for ants; or the platypus, that mass of contradictions which possesses a duck's bill but has four legs and a body covered with fur and lays eggs but suckles its young.

A nearer reserve is the Flagstaff Gardens, from the elevation of which a flag signalled to the citizens in primitive times that a ship had arrived in the Bay—truly a great event in days when Australia was at least six months distant from Great Britain! One can imagine the excitement and the impatience for the news "from home." Governor Latrobe would come to the Gardens in those

"high and far-off times," walking sedately of an afternoon among the society of the day. One more reserve only, out of many, shall be mentioned here; that is the Fitzroy Gardens, a place of special trees and shaded walks, of lawns where never a notice warns you from the grass, of unexpected vistas, and sylvan surprises. Here the growths meet as in Shelley's song:

"From the ends of the earth,
From the ends of the earth
Where the night has its grave
And the morning its birth,"

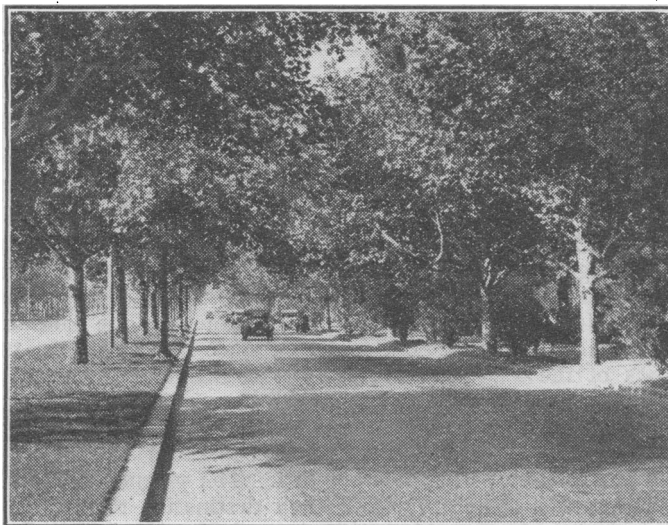
for a grove of deodars from the Himalayas keeps company with a row of Canadian maples, and a smooth-boled kauri from Queensland aspires to overtop some lordly sequoias, the parents of which have ruled in California for a thousand years. Trickling down a ferny bed is a little creek, now artificially fed, but once a natural watercourse, which eventually reached the Yarra. Within the memory of living citizens that tiny watercourse was used by the wives and mothers of

the settlement as a trough in which to do the weekly washing. So young is Melbourne, yet so advanced.

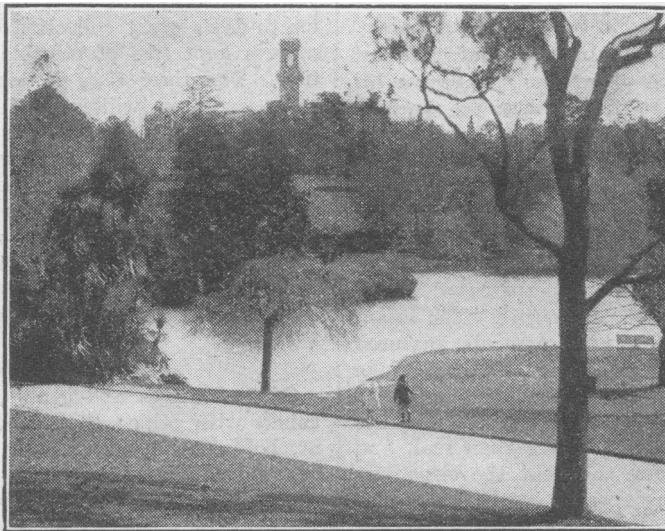
Melbourne's "Harley Street"

Proof of that advancement may be seen in every thoroughfare. The greatest tide of traffic pours along Swanston Street, past the substantial town hall and the long-established public library and art gallery. Bourke Street, at the head of which stands Parliament House, contains most of the great shops. Each thoroughfare has its special feature. Collins Street must be singled out for several reasons, not the least being that here the medical practitioners congregate. Their nameplates shine on every door, while plane trees shade the footpaths, and, cresting the rise just beyond, the Old Treasury, one of the city's finest architectural efforts, closes the eastern view. From the Treasury steps one looks west to where, a measured mile away, once stood a pleasant eminence known as Batman's Hill. On it the founder of Melbourne had a home; to-day there is no trace of either home or hill, for many years ago the hill was removed to make the level on which Spencer Street railway station now stands.

Many striking buildings grace this impressive street. Midway, and dominating all, towers the Gothic spire of Scots Church, which occupies a commanding site, with the principal Congregational place of worship as its near neighbour. If romance can associate herself with money, then this is her street; £2,000 a foot has been paid for frontages here. At Melbourne's first land sale, just



ST. KILDA ROAD, MELBOURNE.



BOTANICAL GARDENS, MELBOURNE, WITH GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

ninety-seven years ago, the average price paid per half-acre was £35. One purchaser forfeited his two-guinea deposit on the half-acre he had selected; mature reflection made him consider it a hopeless speculation!

The National Art Gallery has been mentioned. It may some day be a Mecca for art-lovers the world over; a cultured and benevolent citizen endowed it so richly that it is steadily acquiring great masterpieces from over-seas, as well as gathering together much of the best of Australian work. The powers of this bequest are suggested in the fact that it has already supplied £435,000 for the purchase of objects of art. Australians need no longer cross the ocean to see a Rembrandt, a Van Eyck, a Tintoretto, a Van Dyck—to name just a few of the masters now represented in the Gallery.

Surely few places can claim to have given practical demonstration of a desire for learning and culture as early in their history as did Victoria. Just nineteen years after the first rude hut had been erected on the banks of the Yarra, the foundation stone of the Melbourne

University was laid, and on the same afternoon (July 3rd, 1854) a similar ceremony was performed for a public library. That library now contains over half a million books, some of great rarity; the University numbers its students by thousands.

Originally a pastoral township, cut off by months of voyaging from the Old World, and known there as vaguely as most men know the stars, a remote, nebulous place, literally at the other end of the earth, Melbourne came suddenly to fame. Gold was discovered, the ships of every country anchored in Port Phillip Bay, and the quiet hamlet woke to find itself a bustling city. Victoria proved an El Dorado indeed, enriching many. But she gained more herself in a population of brave, adventurous people: their descendants endeavour, with what success they may, to uphold the traditions inherited from their intrepid parents.

The photographs reproduced are by the Australian National Travel Association (St. Kilda Road, Melbourne) and by the *Herald*, Melbourne (Botanical Gardens, Melbourne, with Government House).

OSTEOPATHS BILL: SELECT COMMITTEE

SECOND SITTING

The second sitting of the House of Lords Select Committee on the Registration and Regulation of Osteopaths Bill was held on March 8th, Lord Amulree presiding. At the outset of the proceedings Mr. Fitzgerald, counsel for the Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics, stated that in view of the amendments put forward on behalf of the osteopaths at the first sitting (set out in the *British Medical Journal* of last week, p. 489), the committee would be relieved of the necessity of hearing his arguments and witnesses. The withdrawal of his opposition did not mean approval of the provisions of the Bill, but the wider aspects of the case would be brought forward by the different medical bodies.

The Chairman remarked that the committee itself had not expressed any opinion on the suggested amendments, and it was open to it to pass the Bill as originally deposited. Viscount Elibank, the sponsor of the Bill in the House of Lords, said that while he could not commit the committee to anything, he was perfectly prepared to accept the amendments and to put them forward in the House if the committee decided that that was the right thing to do.

Mr. Streeter's Evidence Continued

Mr. W. A. Streeter, the osteopath, whose evidence-in-chief had been given on the last occasion, again occupied the witness-chair. Lord Elibank asked a question with regard to the length of curriculum undertaken by the students of osteopathy. The second schedule of the Bill provided for four years, and Mr. Streeter had said that he saw no objection to the extension of the term to five, but Lord Elibank understood that the osteopathic institutions generally were not in favour of such extension. Mr. Streeter replied that he was personally in favour of the extension, and he felt reasonably sure that his colleagues on the Osteopathic Legislation Committee would have no objection. Lord Elibank also asked whether he would object to two medical practitioners instead of one being appointed to the proposed Board under the Bill. Mr. Streeter said that he would welcome that suggestion also.

Cross-examination by Sir William Jowitt

Sir William Jowitt, K.C., who appeared for the British Medical Association, then cross-examined Mr. Streeter on his evidence. He began with some questions directed to making clear the English law in regard to healers as contrasted with the American law. Subject to certain exceptions, anyone in England could practise the healing arts, the exceptions

being midwifery, the treatment of venereal disease, and the use of dangerous drugs. This was subject to the qualification that under the Medical Acts a person must not hold himself out to be qualified if he was not. There was nothing in the laws of this country, for example, to prevent anyone from giving anaesthetics. The witness had mentioned difficulty with regard to anaesthetics. Did he not know that he could get a fellow osteopath to administer them? Mr. Streeter said that that had occurred to him, but he thought such administration was the prerogative of a registered medical practitioner, and had wished to avoid anything contrary to the law. Sir William Jowitt further said that after a medical man had obtained his qualification he was allowed to practise the healing art in any way he thought proper; their forefathers had laid it down that there must be no heresy-hunting. Mr. Streeter interjected, "It was not so in the case of Dr. Axham."

In the United States, Sir William Jowitt continued, the law approached the matter from a different angle. In no State was a man allowed to practise the healing art at all unless he was in some form licensed to do so. All Christian Science healers had to be licensed, also all chiropractors, of whom there were 16,000—twice as many as the osteopaths—and the herbalists, and all sorts of people.

Viscount Elibank at this point asked what these questions had to do with the Bill. Sir William Jowitt said that it was claimed that a licence to practise in America should entitle to practise in this country, and therefore he thought he was right in pointing out that such licences would be in the hands of chiropractors and others. He suggested that there was being grafted on to the British system, as a result of this Bill, the American system which licensed particular schools of thought.

Mr. Streeter, in reply to a question, said that there were perhaps 3,000 practising osteopaths in this country, but only 175 properly qualified.

Sir William Jowitt: If your Bill passes, the 175 will be for the first time limited by the laws of the land as to what they must do. You to-day are perfectly free, subject to the exceptions I have mentioned, to perform any major operation. But if this Bill becomes law there will be for the first time a class of persons who are prevented from practising to the full extent the healing art, but the much larger number of "unqualified" osteopaths will not be prevented.—Mr. Streeter: That is not our business if we voluntarily wish to submit these restrictions.

Their lordships' House does not pass Bills in the interests of a particular section, but in the public interest.—I think it is in the public interest that those who are qualified should be on a register.

Do you think the others should not be allowed to practise?—Anybody who undertakes the diagnosis and treatment of disease ought to be qualified according to one system or another.

The claim you are making for the osteopaths is that they shall have, so far as general practice is concerned, complete

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

An election by the general medical electorate of two members of the Board of the Faculty of Medicine, vice Mr. H. S. Souttar and Professor O. L. V. S. de Wesselow, both of whom are re-eligible, will be held on June 7th. The members elected will come into office on the first day of Michaelmas Term, and will hold office for two years. The general medical electorate consists of all Oxford graduates in medicine who are members of convocation. The Board of the Faculty of Medicine includes four members elected by the general medical electorate who must be members of that body and of whom three at least must be persons engaged in teaching one or more of the clinical subjects of the Faculty. Nominations of duly qualified candidates for election will be received by the Secretary of Faculties at the University Registry, Oxford, up to 10 a.m. on May 17th. Each nomination must be signed by six members of the general medical electorate, and no candidate will be eligible whose nomination has not been received before that date.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The following have been examined and approved for the degree of M.CHIR.: J. J. V. Battle, F. W. Holdsworth, J. K. Monro.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

The following have been recognized as teachers of the University in the subjects indicated in parentheses:

St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College: Mr. Frank Coleman, M.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., and Mr. George T. Hankey, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Dental Surgery); Dr. J. Porter Phillips, F.R.C.P. (Mental Diseases).

Westminster Hospital Medical School: Dr. J. L. Franklin, M.R.C.P. (Dermatology).

The subject of the essay or dissertation for the Rogers Prize for 1936 will be "The Natural History of Peptic Ulcers."

Professor M. E. Delafield has been appointed representative of the University at the seventh Imperial Social Hygiene Congress, to be held at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine from July 8th to 12th, and Professor Charles Singer representative of the University at the tenth International Congress of the History of Medicine, to be held at Madrid in September.

Lectures

A course of lectures for medical practitioners on mental deficiency, including conditions allied to it, and problems connected with retarded and difficult children, supplemented by a course of clinical instruction, has been arranged by the University Extension and Tutorial Classes Council in co-operation with the Central Association for Mental Welfare, during May. It will be divided into two parts: I, Mental deficiency (May 13th to 18th); II, Retarded and difficult children (May 20th to 25th). The whole course may be taken, or Part I may be taken separately; Part II may be taken separately by medical practitioners who have attended Part I in previous years, or who have specialized experience approved for the purpose of this course. The course will be based on the requirements for the University of London diploma in psychological medicine, and is intended for qualified medical practitioners, more especially for those who are engaged as school medical officers, certifying officers to local authorities under the Mental Deficiency Acts, or as medical officers of institutions, or who are otherwise definitely concerned with the care of subnormal or abnormal persons. The University will grant certificates of attendance to those who have attended regularly either part or both parts of the course, taking both theoretical and practical work. These certificates will be sent to students by registered post, about four weeks after the termination of the course. All communications should be addressed to Miss Evelyn Fox, c/o University Extension Department, University of London, Imperial Institute Road, South Kensington, S.W.7.

UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

At a meeting of the University Council, held on March 8th, Professor J. B. Leathes, F.R.S., was reappointed representative of the University on the General Medical Council for a further term of three years.

Medical News

The annual dinner-dance of the City Division of the British Medical Association will be held at Park Lane Hotel on Thursday, April 4th. Applications for tickets (17s. 6d., six for £5) should be addressed to the honorary secretary of the Division, Dr. W. E. A. Worley (43, De Beauvoir Road, N.1).

A dinner meeting of the Hunterian Society will be held at Simpson's Restaurant, 2 and 3, Bird-in-Hand Court, 76, Cheapside, E.C., on Monday, March 18th, at 7.15 p.m. At 8.30 p.m. a discussion on "Itching" will be opened by Dr. Thomson Brown, Dr. G. Bellingham Smith, and Mr. Ernest Miles.

An address, entitled "Can Present Human Motives Work a Planned Society?" will be given by Sir Josiah Stamp before the British Institute of Philosophy, on Tuesday, March 19th, at 8.15 p.m., at University College, Gower Street, W.C. Application for tickets should be made to the Director of Studies at University Hall, 14, Gordon Square, W.C.1.

Mr. H. Morriston Davies will read a paper before the North-Western Tuberculosis Society on "Indications and Results of Phrenic Nerve Operations," at the Tuberculosis Clinic, 352, Oxford Road, Manchester, on Thursday, March 21st, at 3.30 p.m. All medical practitioners interested in the subject, whether members or not, are invited.

Dr. Hugh Gainsborough will open a discussion on "The Role of Cholesterol in Health and Disease," at a meeting at the Section of Medicine of the Royal Society of Medicine, on Tuesday, March 26th, at 5 p.m. Dr. R. D. Lawrence and Dr. C. E. Newman will also speak.

A series of debates, arranged by the National Council for Mental Hygiene, will be held at 26, Portland Place, W., on Wednesdays, March 20th and 27th and April 3rd and 10th, at 8.30 p.m. At the first debate Dr. C. P. Blacker will propose "That Voluntary Sterilization should be Legalized," and Dr. Halliday Sutherland will oppose the motion. On March 27th the motion "That Theft is Frequently a Symptom of Disease" will be proposed by Dr. Edward Glover and opposed by Mr. J. Platts-Mills. At the third debate the motion "That Competition is a Help to Mental Health" (proposer's name not yet announced) will be opposed by Dr. H. Crichton-Miller. On April 10th Dr. William Brown will propose "That Psychological Factors Play an Important Part in the Causation of War." Major C. H. Douglas will oppose the motion. A discussion will follow each debate. Tickets may be obtained from the secretary, National Council for Mental Hygiene, 78, Chandos House, Palmer Street, S.W.1, or at the doors. The prices of tickets are 3s. for each debate or 10s. for the course; for members only (if obtained in advance), full members, 2s. for each debate or 7s. 6d. for the course; associate members, 2s. 6d. for each debate or 9s. for the course.

The annual meeting of the Cremation Society will be held at 23, Nottingham Place, W., on Wednesday, March 20th, at 3.30 p.m. Tea will be served at the conclusion of the meeting. Members are invited to bring a friend.

A provincial meeting of the Tuberculosis Association will be held in the Dunn Laboratories at Oxford on April 11th, 12th, and 13th. The main subject for the first afternoon is a review of the surgical treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis, followed by a paper by Dr. Jacobaeus of Stockholm on broncho-spirometry. In the evening the president (Dr. L. S. T. Burrell) will hold a reception before the annual dinner in the hall of Exeter College. On the morning of April 12th papers will be read on tuberculous effusions and empyemata, and on dyspnoea and its significance in the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis. A visit to the Morris motor works will be made in the afternoon. On the morning of April 13th a discussion on pulmonary tuberculosis will be opened by Dr. R. A. Young, and Dr. W. M. MacPhail will show a cinematograph film of Burrow Hill Sanatorium Colony.

A sessional meeting of the Royal Sanitary Institute will be held at Cannon's Restaurant, Chelmsford, on Friday, March 22nd, in conjunction with the Home Counties Branch of the Society of Medical Officers of Health. Discussions will take place on "Scarlet Fever," to be opened by Dr. J. C. Sleight, and on "The Milk Supply," to be opened by Mr. F. W. Medlock, M.R.C.V.S.

At the next meeting of the Chelsea Clinical Society, to be held at the Hotel Rembrandt, Thurloe Place, S.W., on Tuesday, March 19th, at 8.30 p.m., Dr. R. D. Gillespie and Dr. C. P. Blacker will open a discussion on "Sterilization of the Unfit and the Race." The meeting will be preceded by dinner at 7.30.

A meeting of the Royal Microscopical Society will be held at B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, W.C., on Wednesday, March 20th, at 5.30 p.m., when papers will be read by Dr. J. A. Murray, F.R.S., and Mr. H. Wrighton. Mr. C. Beck will exhibit and describe some new types of microscopes.

The German Society for Research on the Circulation will hold its eighth meeting this year, on March 24th and 25th, in Wiesbaden. The subject for discussion will be the circulation and respiration. Further information can be obtained from Professor Dr. Eb. Koch, Bad Nauheim.

The Fellowship of Medicine (1, Wimpole Street, W.) announces the following courses: chest diseases, at Brompton Hospital, on March 23rd and 24th; general medicine and surgery, at Southend-on-Sea General Hospital, March 30th and 31st; infants' diseases, at the Infants Hospital, April 1st to 13th; ophthalmology, at Royal Eye Hospital, April 1st to 13th; proctology, at St. Mark's Hospital, April 8th to 13th; psychological medicine, at Maudsley Hospital, April 23rd to May 31st; dermatology, at St. John's Hospital, April 29th to June 1st; and medicine, surgery, and gynaecology, at Royal Waterloo Hospital, April 29th to May 11th. Copies of syllabuses, giving full details, are issued a few weeks before the courses are due to begin, and will be sent on application. A panel of teachers provides individual clinics in various branches of medicine and surgery. Courses, clinics, etc., arranged by the Fellowship are open only to members and associates, with the exception of the dermatology course.

The Fifteenth International Physiological Congress will be held in Leningrad and Moscow from August 9th to 17th, under the presidency of Professor I. P. Pavlov. Plenary and sectional meetings will be held in the first-named city from August 9th to 16th, and in Moscow on the 17th. After the congress has concluded its scientific and administrative work there will be excursions of varying length to such parts of the country as the Ukraine, the Crimea, the Caucasus, and the Volga. The final date for stating intention to submit a paper to the congress is April 1st; the title and a short summary should be sent to the Committee of the Congress, Leningrad, Main P.O. Box 13. The committee will provide board and lodging for members of the congress and their relatives; inquiries as to the cost of the two varieties of accommodation and the various tours should be addressed to Intourist Ltd., Bush House, Aldwych, W.C.2, or to Thomas Cook and Son Ltd., Berkeley Street, W.1. The membership fee is 10 roubles, assessed as the equivalent of 131.34 gold francs. Cheques, drawn in any currency according to the prevailing exchange rate, should be sent to the State Bank of the U.S.S.R., Moscow, and be made payable to the current account (No. 7005) of the congress committee. It is proposed to issue a detailed programme of the congress and of the excursions in the near future.

The total number of cases to date in the outbreak of scarlet fever at Denham, near Uxbridge, is fifty-nine, with one death. The infection is a mild one, and the main outbreak, the medical officer of health states, is now over, although there will probably be a few cases from contact. The death, that of a boy aged 11, is believed to be from pneumonia, from which he was also suffering. The other fifty-eight patients, including six adults, are making good progress. The Ministry of Health is investigating the cause of the outbreak, and samples of milk, which is suspected, have been sent to the Ministry's laboratories for examination.

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

QUERIES AND ANSWERS

Chronic Nasal Discharge in Children

"G. P." (Surrey) writes: I should be much obliged for information with reference to the treatment of nasal catarrh in infants and children. When these young children get a cold their noses discharge for weeks or months in spite of the treatments recommended. One cannot but notice, too, how unhealthy they look as compared with those with dry noses. Certain children are very susceptible to nasal catarrh; if this could be cut short they might be saved from something worse.

Hospital Administration

"ASSISTANT M.O." asks for the names of books dealing with hospital administration, etc., more especially from the point of view of a medical superintendent. He is seeking books which would be helpful for an assistant medical officer in a large public assistance hospital to study with a view to possible promotion.

* * The following brief list may be useful to our correspondent:

Dean, Frank, and Spence, C. H.: *Hospital Accounting and Secretarial Practice*, 1933.

Stone, J. E.: *Hospital Organization and Management* (including planning and construction), 1932.

Chapman, F. E.: *Hospital Organization and Operation*, 1924.

Stone, J. E.: *Hospital Accounts and Financial Control*, 1924.

Weber, J. J.: *First Steps in Organizing a Hospital*. An exposition of ideals and principles incident to the inception and organization of a hospital, 1924.

Oedema of One Arm: Cause?

Dr. MICHAEL MALK (Johannesburg) writes: In reply to Dr. Ratcliffe-Densham's inquiry (January 19th, p. 137) I recall a similar case of a young woman, aged between 20 and 30, under the care of Sir Thomas (now Lord) Horder. All the necessary investigations were carried out, with negative results. It was only the vigilant eye of the ward sister who detected the cause—namely, a tooth-brush, very cleverly concealed, and manipulated near the axilla, so as to cause venous obstruction. May I suggest some such factor as a possible cause for the oedema in Dr. Ratcliffe-Densham's case?

Narcolepsy?

"M. E. M. C." writes in answer to the query by "W. M. D. D." (March 2nd, p. 455): I would advise him to put his patient on tablet ephedrine hydrochlor. by mouth, as I have found it most effective in a similar case.

Income Tax

Car Expenses of Assistant

"R. F." is an assistant with a fixed salary; his agreement does not provide for a car allowance, though the inclusive salary was apparently agreed on the basis that the car