

had never given him a bottle containing cocaine solution, but one day he left a bottle of percaïne at his house. He maintained emphatically that in the six weeks concerned he had given Mr. Rhodes a spray only on six occasions and had filled his atomizer only twice. Dr. Bedford Russell gave evidence that the general line of treatment by Dr. Rowbotham was perfectly sound; in his opinion a 10 per cent. solution was not dangerous or improper. Dr. R. D. Gillespie testified that he would not have thought it possible for plaintiff to become a cocaine addict having had cocaine administered in that way during a period of six weeks.

JUDGEMENT FOR DEFENDANT

Mr. Justice Hilbery said that even accepting the plaintiff's evidence fully, he would have thought it difficult for him to absorb in the course of a few weeks, using the atomizer given in evidence, enough cocaine from the trickle of some of the solution down the back of his throat to have created addiction. He had come unhesitatingly to the conclusion that Mr. Rhodes did not become a drug addict. He was shattered by severe asthma attacks and naturally clamoured for more of the one thing which would certainly give him relief. The judge was also satisfied that no patient could say with certainty whether he was being sprayed with cocaine or percaïne solution, and the plaintiff had failed to satisfy him that he had cocaine solution sprayed on every occasion by Dr. Rowbotham. He was satisfied with Dr. Rowbotham's account of the treatment, backed as it was by his clinical notes. He accepted the other doctors' evidence that the treatment was perfectly sound and up to date. As to the bottle containing cocaine solution, it seemed strange, if the plaintiff's story were true, that Dr. Rowbotham should give away cocaine solution instead of prescribing it in the ordinary way, as he might have done.

His lordship gave judgement for Dr. Rowbotham on the claim and counter-claim, with costs.

ADULTERATED IODINE OINTMENT

On March 8th an appeal was heard at the County of London Sessions, by Messrs. F. W. Woolworth and Co., Ltd., against a conviction and fine of £15 under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act for selling to a sampling officer of the Hammersmith Borough Council iodine ointment which was not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded. The earlier proceedings, in the Kensington Petty Sessional Court, were briefly reported in the *British Medical Journal* of January 19th (p. 136).

Mr. H. Glyn-Jones appeared for the respondents and Mr. Gilbert Beyfus, K.C., and Mr. E. Rider Richardson for the appellants. For the appellants it was maintained that as the formula for iodine ointment had been omitted from the current edition of the *British Pharmacopoeia* there was now no fixed standard for the ointment. They further relied on the statutory defence under Section 29 of the Act that the ointment was purchased with a written warranty as to its nature, substance, and quality.

Evidence was given by Mr. F. E. Edwards, F.I.C., the public analyst, that the "iodine ointment" in question contained only 0.06 per cent. iodine and 0.4 per cent. combined iodine, whereas the *British Pharmacopoeia 1914* and the *British Pharmaceutical Codex 1923* required such ointment to contain 4 per cent. iodine and 4 per cent. potassium iodide. The sample was therefore 100 per cent. deficient in potassium iodide and in free iodine to the extent of 98.5 per cent. Dr. J. B. Howell, the medical officer of health for the borough of Hammersmith, stated that ointment having the composition of the sample would have little medicinal value. Many people bought this ointment in the belief that it had antiseptic properties and was of use in the treatment of casual cuts, etc. Tests which he had carried out showed that as an antiseptic the ointment was practically worthless. Dr. Philip Hamill stated that ointment of the composition of the sample could not properly be described as iodine ointment. Although iodine ointment has been omitted from the current edition of the *British Pharmacopoeia*, the formulae contained in previous editions must still be regarded as the standard.

After lengthy legal argument on the question of "warranty" the bench dismissed the appeal, and Messrs. Woolworth were ordered to pay fifty guineas costs. Mr. Beyfus asked for a case to be stated for the decision of the High Court, and to this the bench agreed.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The Faculty Board of Medicine has co-opted Dr. H. Morley Fletcher and Professor F. R. Fraser to serve as members until December 31st, 1935.

At a congregation held on March 15th the following medical degrees were conferred:

M.CHIR.—J. K. Menro.
M.B., B.CHIR.—G. N. Bailey, G. A. Emmerson, G. H. Jennings, R. H. Bailey, J. L. Lovibond.
B.CHIR.—*C. R. McLaughlin, *B. Rothery, *H. H. Bayley, K. L. Buxton, K. Lumsden.

* By proxy.

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN

TRINITY COLLEGE

At the spring commencements, held on March 13th, the following degrees were conferred:

M.B., B.CH., B.A.O.—C. M. T. Adamson, D. J. Bradley, T. A. Cunningham, A. F. J. Delany, H. M. Glover, Charlotte F. Pike, D. S. Quill, R. I. Shier, J. Sorett.

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

LECTURES AND DEMONSTRATIONS

A course of five William Withering Memorial Lectures will be given in the large theatre of the Medical Faculty Buildings, Edmund Street, on Thursdays, May 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th, at 4 p.m. The first three lectures will be given by Professor E. Hindle, Sc.D., on "The General Properties of Viruses and Virus Infections in General," and the last two lectures by Dr. E. Weston Hurst, on "Neurotropic Virus Infections." Members of the medical profession are invited to attend.

The Ingleby Lectures, 1935, on "Acute Rheumatism and Its Results," will be given on Thursdays, June 13th and 20th, at 4 p.m., in the medical lecture theatre, by Professor K. Douglas Wilkinson.

A course of post-graduate demonstrations has been arranged by the University Clinical Board at the General Hospital, the Queen's Hospital, and the Children's Hospital, Birmingham, on Tuesdays and Fridays, from 3.30 to 5 p.m., beginning on March 26th and ending on July 9th. The course will be given by members of the medical and surgical staffs of the hospitals, and will include demonstrations on cases. The fee is £2 2s.

The Faculty of Medicine has arranged for four introductory lectures, on "Preventive Medicine in Industry," to be given by Dr. Howard E. Collier, reader in the department of industrial hygiene and medicine, in the anatomy theatre of the University, on Wednesdays, May 1st to 22nd, at 3.30 p.m. The first lecture will deal with dust and fume diseases; the second with metallic poisonings; the third with industrial dermatitis; and the fourth with industrial organic toxins.

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

Dr. Adam Davidson Macdonald has been appointed Leech Professor of Pharmacology, Materia Medica, and Therapeutics from September 29th next. Since 1928 he has been Reader in these subjects in the University.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

A meeting of the Council was held on March 14th, with Mr. Wilfred Trotter, vice-president, in the chair.

It was decided that an Address of Congratulation should be sent to Their Majesties on the completion of the twenty-fifth year of the King's reign.

It was reported that the President, Sir Holburt Waring, had opened the new building of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in Melbourne on March 4th.

A special lecture will be given in the theatre of the College on May 1st by Dr. William B. Coley, consulting surgeon to the Memorial Hospital, New York.

A Diploma of Fellowship was granted to William Henry Graham Jessop, and a Diploma of Membership to Arthur Jacob Helfet.

Diplomas in Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery were granted, jointly with the Royal College of Physicians, to the following fifteen candidates:

H. L. Anand, E. J. Baldwin, G. D. J. Ball, A. H. Briggs, R. U. Hingorani, V. V. H. Hoakai, Alice B. Laker, T. B. Law, L. A. Lewis, F. M. Lyons, A. Mellick, J. D. Saggat, L. R. Sarin, Captain P. Shannon, I.M.S., E. Wolstein.

he was closely connected with the Scottish Youth Hostel movement, for which he acted as national secretary from its inception until the spring of 1934, and more recently he took an active and enthusiastic part in the organization of the Public Medical Service in Edinburgh. He had indeed a "passion for getting things done," and this was evident in his work for the many causes with which he identified himself. His strong personal interest in the welfare of his patients endeared him to them all, and many of them feel that they have lost not only a doctor but a friend.

Dr. SAMUEL EDWARDS-JONES, who died on March 8th at the age of 65, had been one of the most prominent men in Denbighshire for many years. He received his medical education in Glasgow at Anderson and St. Mungo's Colleges, and obtained the diplomas L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.Ed., L.R.F.P.S.Glas., and L.M. in 1892. From the first he took an active interest in surgery, and he was a resident surgeon in the Glasgow Royal Infirmary. He was the author of an essay on antiseptics in relation to modern surgery, which was published in 1893, while in the following year he reported notes on the treatment of fractures, and recorded in the *British Medical Journal* an account of the successful ligature of the common carotid artery for secondary haemorrhage from the internal maxillary artery. In Wrexham he started as assistant medical officer to the Fever Hospital, and from that time became increasingly prominent in medical and municipal circles. Dr. Edwards-Jones was for some time chairman of the Health Committee of the Wrexham Town Council, and as chairman of the Denbighshire Public Health and Public Assistance Committee was largely concerned in the erection of the new hospital which has been built at a cost of £100,000. He was also medical referee of the Ministry of Pensions in Denbighshire, and an examiner for the Board of Education. He was mayor of Wrexham in 1910-11, and his great public services were recognized by the conferment upon him in 1931 of the honorary freemanship of the borough. He was a J.P. for the county, and in October, 1925, was elected a member of the county council. Dr. Edwards-Jones joined the British Medical Association in 1894. His last few years were clouded by illness, and he was compelled to retire last year from public life.

The death of Dr. J. W. RITCHIE, J.P., of Crumlin Road, Belfast, occurred on March 3rd, and has caused deep regret in a wide circle of friends and patients. He had been suffering from pneumonia, and was apparently progressing satisfactorily when he suddenly succumbed to a cardiac attack. James Whiteford Ritchie was a native of Belfast and was educated at the Methodist College and graduated M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. in the Royal University of Ireland in 1899 from the Queen's College, Belfast. After filling various resident posts he commenced general practice on the Crumlin Road, where his skill and personality soon attracted a large number of patients. He remained the lifelong friend of them all and was ever a welcome visitor in sickness. For many years he was an active Freemason and took a deep interest in that Order. For the past ten years he was a member of the Belfast City and District Water Board and gave his services on many committees of the Trust, in addition to being vice-chairman for a period. Some time ago he was appointed to the magistracy of the City and fulfilled the duties of this office with the grace and acceptance which endeared him to so many. To his widow and children, as well as his cousin Dr. H. J. Ritchie, sincere sympathy is tendered in their bereavement.

The following well-known foreign medical men have recently died: Hofrat Professor NORBERT VON ORTNER, formerly head of the Second University Clinic at Vienna, aged 70; Professor LEONHARD JORES, emeritus director of the Kiel Pathological Institute; Dr. W. MURK JANSEN of Leyden, the eminent orthopaedic surgeon, aged 67; and Dr. H. HORNE, who was recently appointed professor of racial science at Halle.

Medical Notes in Parliament

[FROM OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT]

The Matrimonial Causes (Amended Procedure) Bill was read a third time and passed in the House of Lords on March 15th.

The House of Commons, during the past week, has discussed the Navy, Army, and Air Force Estimates.

In the House of Lords the Criminal Lunatics (Scotland) Bill, which makes provision for the establishment of a criminal lunatic asylum in Scotland, was read a second time on March 19th, on the motion of Lord Strathcona.

Also in the House of Lords, on March 19th, the Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Bill and the Post Office (Amendment) Bill were read a second time.

B.M.A. Committee on Alcohol and Road Accidents

On March 18th Mr. HORE-BELISHA, replying to Mr. Rhys Davies, said that he had asked the British Medical Association whether it could give him any information on the question of the connexion between the consumption of alcoholic liquor and road accidents. The Association had informed him that it had appointed a committee, consisting of fifteen members, to examine the question. He hoped that Mr. Davies would agree that all matters in connexion with this inquiry might safely be left in its responsible discretion.

Medical Men in the Army

In the House of Commons, on March 18th, the Army Estimates were presented by Mr. HACKING. He said that this year they were higher by about £4,000,000. Under Vote 3 the House was asked to provide £950,000 net for the cost of the medical services. No one would dispute the necessity for the provision of medical attention to the troops. Few realized that the Royal Army Medical Corps had its special problems in peace no less than in war. The distribution of troops in oversea garrisons, under widely varying geographic and climatic conditions, must call for specialized medical knowledge, which might not be attainable in the United Kingdom. Behind the ordinary day-to-day medical attention proceeded careful research into medical problems peculiar to the Army. Often this research was of immense value to the civil population, as, for example, in the case of Malta fever, which for centuries was an endemic disease in Malta. The discovery of the cause of this disease and the means of preventing its occurrence, which had been completely successful in the Army, was entirely due to the work of the Army Medical Corps. Important research was proceeding now into anti-typhoid inoculation. For some years there had been a disconcerting lack of candidates for commissions in the R.A.M.C. This, no doubt, was partly due to financial considerations, and these had been receiving attention. Conditions of service had already been materially improved; promotion had been hastened; and the period of service necessary to qualify for a gratuity on retirement had been reduced. It was now possible for an officer to take a short-service commission for five years and be awarded £1,000 gratuity at the end of that period if he was not then appointed to a permanent commission. The service should be attractive to young men who had qualified. The life was interesting, and there was plenty of opportunity for specialization for those who were keen and desirous of pursuing their medical studies and research. He was confident that if the work of this corps were much better known there would be a much wider field of selection.

Sir A. WILSON drew attention to the deplorable state of many barracks abroad, and said that the question of the water supply at home should be dealt with. There was also great need of further maternal and child welfare among the soldiers' wives and children. Dental care, particularly in foreign places, lagged behind that available in civil life. There had been practically no antimalarial work done in certain stations, owing to financial stringency, with the result that all the good work in recent years was of no avail. In India we were spending about 11½d. a head on antimalarial work compared

Medical News

The ninety-third half-yearly dinner of the Aberdeen University Club, London, will be held at the Café Royal, on Thursday, April 11th, at 7.30 p.m., followed by dancing. Principal Sir George Adam Smith will preside. Honorary secretary's address, 16, Tregunter Road, S.W.10.

Lord Reading will open the Bernhard Baron Out-patient Department of the Poplar Hospital for Accidents on Friday, March 29th, at 2.15 p.m.

The annual meeting of the Mental After-Care Association will be held at the Incorporated Accountants Hall, Victoria Embankment, S.W., to-day (Friday), March 22nd, at 3.15 p.m., with Lord Wakefield in the chair. The speakers will include Sir Hubert Bond, Sir Walter Langdon-Brown, Dr. W. G. Masefield, Dr. Reginald Worth, and Dr. H. Yellowlees.

A meeting of the medical section of the British Psychological Society will be held at the House of the Medical Society of London, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W.1, on Wednesday, March 27th, at 8.30 p.m., when a paper entitled "Sex Regulation and Culture" will be read by Mr. J. D. Unwin, Ph.D.

A meeting of the Medico-Legal Society will be held at 11, Chandos Street, W., on Thursday, March 28th, at 8.30 p.m., when a paper will be read by Mr. Albert Crew on "The Reformation of the Old Bailey." A discussion will follow.

The Fellowship of Medicine (1, Wimpole Street, W.) announces that a week-end course in medicine and surgery will be given at Southend General Hospital on March 30th and 31st. Other courses include: infants' diseases, at the Infants Hospital, from April 1st to 13th (afternoons); ophthalmology, at the Royal Eye Hospital, during same period; proctology, at St. Mark's Hospital, from April 8th to 13th; psychological medicine, at Maudsley Hospital, from April 23rd to May 31st; dermatology, at St. John's Hospital, April 29th to June 1st; medicine, surgery, and gynaecology, at Royal Waterloo Hospital, from April 29th to May 11th. A demonstration, suitable for M.R.C.P. candidates, on the fundus oculi will be given at West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases (in-patient department) on April 2nd at 8.30 p.m. Detailed syllabuses of all courses will be sent on application.

In order to allow members of the Congress of Oto-neuro-ophthalmology, which is to be held at Nice from April 15th to 18th, to visit Morocco, a cruiser will leave Marseilles on April 20th. The tour is also open to members of the Congress of Tuberculosis, which will be held at Marseilles at the same date. Further information can be obtained from the Office Central des Congrès, 8, Avenue de l'Opéra, Paris.

On March 15th Mr. Lewis Silkin, chairman of the Housing and Public Health Committee of the London County Council, opened the new isolation block which has recently been erected by the Council as an extension of its Western Hospital (for infectious diseases), Fulham. The new block is two stories high and has accommodation for seventy-seven cases.

Two Sir Milsom Rees scholarships for sons of medical practitioners of £100 each to Port Regis Preparatory School, Broadstairs, have been awarded to C. Wigram, son of Mr. N. G. Wigram, F.R.C.S., and to A. K. Hendry, son of Dr. J. A. Hendry.

The March issue of *The Practitioner* consists for the most part of a symposium on the anaemias.

Owing to financial difficulties the British Hospital at Constantinople had to close on December 31st, 1934.

Postage stamps have recently been issued in Spain bearing the likeness of the late Professor Ramon y Cajal.

A corps of aviation nurses has been founded in France under the direction of Mme Marie Marvintot by the co-operation of the French military authorities with the public health service.

The Lancashire Mental Hospitals Board has approved a scheme for providing a new institution for 2,000 mental defectives and a new hospital for 1,000 mental patients.

There has recently been an outbreak of bubonic plague in the northern part of the Orange Free State. Thirty deaths have occurred, four of which were among Europeans. Rats are being attacked with poison gas.

Dr. Emile Sergent has been elected President of the Société Médicale des Hôpitaux de Paris.

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

Hypertrichosis

"BEARDED" (London, W.1) requests suggestions for routine treatment of profuse hair on a woman patient's chin. The patient, aged, refuses any treatment likely to cause pain, cannot afford radical treatment by electricity, but is very worried by the disfigurement.

*. Why not use a safety razor?

Hyperidrosis

"INQUIRER" asks for suggestions in treating a patient who has profuse sweatings on the least exertion—for example, when merely walking about the house. She has had the advice of two consultants, and the usual remedies for the control of perspiration have been tried in vain.

Diphtheria Carriers

Mr. JOHN R. SCOTT, Ph.C. (London, S.W.11), writes: In your issue of February 9th (p. 288) "P. G. D." asks for a treatment for a diphtheria carrier. He may be interested in the treatment given in *Presse Médicale* (March 7th, 1934), which appeared in abstract in *L'Union Pharmaceutique* (July, 1934, p. 200). It is, briefly, as follows. Every carrier should give meticulous care to the hygiene of the mouth, and a gargle containing hydrogen peroxide should be used several times a day. Once or twice daily a small quantity of the following ointment should be introduced into the nostrils: ichthyol; hydrarg. ammon., ana 2 grams; zinci oxid., 10 grams; paraff. molle, q.s. ad 100 grams. When this ointment is used no iodine or iodides should be given. The treatment should not terminate until half a dozen swabs, each taken at an interval of four or five days, are negative. In refractory cases, if, after three or four negative swabs, there should be a positive one, the following should be used: soziodol-sodium, 10; soft paraffin, 100. A small quantity to be inserted into the nostrils, and paint the throat with an application consisting of soziodol-sodium, 10, glycerin, 100. There is a statement to the effect that in carriers the organism is found, not in the throat, but often in the nasal cavities, and the author suggested a bacteriological examination of smears