

Obituary

RICHARD TIMMIS TURNER, M.D.

Past Chairman, Crewe Division, British Medical Association

On Saturday, June 6th (writes Dr. LIONEL PICTON), the great church of Nantwich was packed to overflowing. Dr. Turner was dead. The concourse at the funeral gave some measure of what his life has meant in that South Cheshire country. How many in the building had he brought into the world? How many operated on? How many treated? He was a general practitioner in the old and full sense, and his range of service had brought him into touch with every soul there. As surgeon, as soldier, as sanitarian, as Poor Law doctor, as magistrate, and, above all, as a G.P. he had exercised for forty years an influence upon every section of the life of the community to which he belonged. For he belonged to his place. His family were settled at Wybunbury, four miles from Nantwich, and there he was born sixty-five years ago, the third son of Mr. N. C. Turner. He went to the Nantwich and Acton Grammar School. The "Head" was the Rev. S. Hirst; and as Turner, in his later busy years would read Virgil "because it was restful when he was tired" of an evening, his school Latin must indeed have been thorough. For six months also he was at school in Germany, and he spoke German easily ever after. His university was Manchester, and he qualified there as a doctor at the age of 21. House-surgeon at Manchester Royal Infirmary, a house appointment at Crumpsall Fever Hospital, and house-surgeon at Chester Royal Infirmary were his three junior posts, and they endowed him with the clinical wisdom of a very practical tradition.

When he returned to Nantwich he was still a very young man. The practice he bought was at Wybunbury. That he should propose to work the practice from Nantwich astounded the vendor, but work it he did, to some purpose, and as he took over the post of medical officer of health of the great rural district of Nantwich (earlier held by Dr. Fox and Dr. Vacher, the first Cheshire County M.O.H.) he had his hands full. From that time to his death he sustained this double duty. He was a skilful operator, and the Nantwich Cottage Hospital, the inception of which owes much to him, was the scene of his later labours. He was a combatant officer in the Volunteers and in the 7th Cheshire Territorials, and was a captain when the war began. After some time he was transferred to the R.A.M.C. (T.). From Gallipoli he was invalided, and on home service became M.O. i/c Stockport Division of the 2nd Western General Hospital. Later he was in command of the Prisoners of War Hospital at Oswestry, and at the end of the war was lieutenant-colonel. He was a Freemason: Past-Master, King's Friend Lodge, Nantwich, and had passed through the chair of the Grosvenor Preceptory of Knights of the Temple, Chester, and the Stanhope Chapter of Rose Croix, Chester, and the Chapter of Faith, Crewe. He was founder-president of the Nantwich Rotary Club, and a trustee of the old and interesting Nantwich charities, the Wood-Garnett Charity and Sir Edmund Wright's Charity.

The great events in the lives of such men are not notable. They are innumerable, but pass unnoted. They happen in obscure places: at a confinement, perhaps in mid winter under the thatch of a country cottage, or at an emergency operation in a farmhouse kitchen. But one or two stand out: a day at Eaton Hall, when, as the junior subaltern of a Cheshire Territorial battalion, Turner received a colour at the hands of King Edward VII; another—military, too, but how different—was that day at Gallipoli when he landed with his battalion at Suvla Bay. The last belongs to another category, and the

audience numbered only fifteen. He was presiding about a week before his death at a meeting of the Cheshire Maternal Mortality Committee. In the old black-and-white house where it met, a few doors from his own beautiful home, he sat at the head of the great refectory table, a contentious matter under keen debate. The issue lay between "careful discretion" and "brave adventure," and the voting was eight to eight. Without a second's hesitation he gave his casting vote for "adventure," and his frank and instant statement of his reasons disarmed the losing side and enlisted them on his. This directness and simplicity, so characteristic of him, was combined with a rare appreciation of the remoter results of action. He took long views: his mind was a beam of light penetrating the shadows.

As vice-chairman of the Cheshire Panel Committee—in late years, on account of the chairman's age and infirmity, the conduct of affairs fell to him—Turner has held a steadying influence in medical affairs, always genially exercised. "Now we come to the swellings of Jordan," he would say at the Drug Committee when the great list of emergency treatment claims had to be assessed; and such phrases betokened two things: the thorough grounding he had had in the Bible and that his tenacious mind forgot nothing it had once mastered. A great general practitioner has passed away.

L. J. P.

The following well-known foreign medical men have recently died: Dr. LEGRY, honorary physician to the Paris hospitals and member of the Académie de Médecine; Professor J. P. KARPLUS, an eminent neurologist of Vienna, aged 70; Dr. PANAGINO LIVIERATO, professor of medical pathology at Geneva, aged 76; Dr. FRIEDRICH MOLTENIUS, a Berlin otologist, aged 43; Grand Officer Professor G. SORGE, an eminent surgeon of Naples, aged 76; Geh. Med. Rat Professor FRIEDRICH KRAUS, director of the second university medical clinic in Berlin, aged 78, author of books on the constitution and personality; Dr. GEORGES KÜSS, an eminent French phthisiologist; and Dr. WILLIAM LAWRENCE CLARK, formerly president of the American Academy of Physiotherapy, aged 59.

The Services

DEATHS IN THE SERVICES

Colonel Bhola Nauth, C.I.E., Madras Medical Service (ret.), died on January 31st, aged 70. He was born at Lahore on January 23rd, 1866, and was educated at the Lahore Medical College, where he graduated L.M.S. of Punjab University, after which he came to England, entered St. Thomas's Hospital, and took the L.S.A. in 1890. He entered the I.M.S. as surgeon lieutenant on July 29th, 1893, rose to the rank of colonel on January 11th, 1919, and retired on April 14th, 1924. He took the M.R.C.S. in 1908 and the D.P.H. of the London Colleges in 1910. He served during the war of 1914-18, was mentioned in dispatches in the *London Gazette* of August 15th, 1917, and was given the C.I.E. on August 25th, 1917. He was also appointed Honorary Physician to the King, on February 14th, 1922.

Lieut.-Colonel Samuel Richard Wills, R.A.M.C. (ret.), died on March 15th, aged 75. He was born on September 14th, 1860, was educated at the Carmichael School, Dublin, and took the L.R.C.S.I. in 1882 and the L.R.C.P.I. in 1884. He entered the Army as surgeon on May 30th, 1885, became lieutenant-colonel after twenty years' service, and retired on August 30th, 1911. He served on the North-West Frontier of India in the Hazara campaign of 1891 (medal with clasp), and in the Tirah campaign of 1897-8 (medal with two clasps); and in the South African War from 1899 to 1902, when he took part in the actions of Vaal Krantz, Tugela Heights, and Spion Kop, and in the relief of Ladysmith, and later in operations in the Transvaal (Queen's medal with four clasps, King's medal with two clasps). After retirement he rejoined, on August 6th, 1914, for service in the war of 1914-18.

Colonel John Powell, D.S.O., late R.A.M.C., died at Iffley, Oxford, on June 8th, aged 59. He was born at Dublin on June 30th, 1876, the son of John Clarke Powell, and was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he graduated M.B., B.Ch., and B.A.O. in 1899. Entering the R.A.M.C. as lieutenant on April 25th, 1900, he became lieutenant-colonel on December 26th, 1917, received a brevet as colonel on June 3rd, 1919, and retired, with the rank of Colonel, on December 4th, 1928. From September, 1909, to March, 1916, he was seconded for service with the Egyptian Army. After retirement he was employed at Oxford. He served in the South African War from 1900 to 1902, when he took part in operations in the Transvaal, and received the Queen's medal, with three clasps, and the King's medal, with two clasps, and throughout the war of 1914-18, when he was mentioned in dispatches in the *London Gazette* of May 25th, 1918, and December 30th, 1918, and received the D.S.O. in 1918, and also a bar to the D.S.O. He also held two Egyptian Orders—the 3rd Class of the Nile and the 4th Class of the Osmanieh. In 1913 he married Elsie Kate, eldest daughter of Matthew Barrass, Esq., of Killingworth, Northumberland, and had one son and one daughter.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

At a congregation held on June 12th the following medical degrees were conferred:

M.D.—Charles Hill.
M.B., B.CHIR.—H. F. Anderson, D. N. Matthews, J. D. M. Jones.
M.B.—C. A. Dowding.
B.CHIR.—E. M. Darmady.

UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

At the meeting of the University Council held on June 12th Dr. A. E. Barnes was appointed to the Chair of Medicine in succession to Professor A. E. Nash.

The council received a notification from the Dental Board of the United Kingdom of grants of £4,000 towards the adaptation and extension of "Broom Bank" for the purposes of a dental hospital and school, and £1,000 towards the cost of equipment.

UNIVERSITY OF WALES

TUBERCULOUS DISEASES DIPLOMA

The following candidates have satisfied the examiners in the examination indicated: S. N. Ahmed, P. Arunachalam, S. M. Basu, L. R. Dongrey, E. F. Drum, J. Duffy, J. K. Feeney, M. A. Hai, D. V. G. Muthu, B. R. Patel, A. K. Shariff, M. P. Sinha.

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN

Dr. T. Henry Wilson has resigned the King's Professorship of Midwifery in the School of Physic of Trinity College. He will be succeeded in the chair by Dr. O'Donel Thornley Dodwell Browne, assistant gynaecologist to Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

A meeting of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England was held on June 11th, when the President, Sir Cuthbert Wallace, was in the chair.

Professor Einar Key of Stockholm was admitted an Honorary Fellow of the College, and the Honorary College Medal was presented to Dr. J. A. Murray.

The Council approved an address of congratulation to be presented at the forthcoming centenary celebrations of the University of London.

Examiners

The following examiners were elected for the ensuing year:

Fellowship.—Anatomy: P. N. Blake Odgers, H. H. Woollard, R. B. Green. *Physiology*: D. H. de Souza, Hamilton Hartridge, Samson Wright, John Mellanby.

Under the Conjoint Examining Board.—Elementary Biology: A. J. Grove, W. A. Cunningham, A. E. Ellis, S. R. B. Pask. *Anatomy*: E. P. Stibbe, Lambert C. Rogers, A. J. E. Cave. *Physiology*: A. St. G. J. McC. Huggett, Samson Wright.

Midwifery: A. C. Palmer, Malcolm Donaldson, V. F. Lack, Trevor B. Davies. *Pathology*: James McIntosh, R. Davies-Colley, W. G. Barnard, B. W. Williams. *Diploma in Public Health*: Part I, C. C. Okell; Part II, James Fenton. *Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*: Pathology and Tropical Hygiene, W. P. MacArthur; Tropical Medicine and Surgery, N. Hamilton Fairley. *Diploma in Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery*: Part I, D. L. Davies, R. Affleck Greeves; Part II, R. Foster Moore. *Diploma in Psychological Medicine*, F. L. Golla. *Diploma in Laryngology and Otology*: Part I, E. M. Woodman, S. R. Scott; Part II, T. B. Layton. *Diploma in Medical Radiology*: Part I, J. M. Woodburn Morison; Part II, J. H. Douglas Webster. *Diploma in Anaesthetics*: H. E. G. Boyle. *Diploma in Child Health*: A. G. Maitland-Jones.

Dental Surgery (Surgical Section).—C. E. Shattock, C. P. G. Wakeley, P. H. Mitchiner, E. G. Slesinger, R. M. Vick, J. B. Hume. *In Medicine for the Licence in Dental Surgery*: R. A. Rowlands, A. H. Douthwaite, R. A. Hickling, E. Bulmer.

Awards and Appointments

It was reported that Sir Gilbert Blane Medals had been awarded to Surgeon Captain D. H. C. Given and Surgeon Commander M. B. Macleod.

The Hallett Prize was awarded to Kenneth William Starr, M.B.Syd., F.R.C.S., of the University of Sydney.

Mr. R. M. Vick was re-elected to the Court of Examiners.

Mr. W. Sampson Handley was reappointed as the representative of the College on the Court of Governors of the University of Sheffield.

It was reported that Dr. John Beattie had been appointed as the representative of the College on the British National Human Heredity Committee.

Diplomas

Diplomas of Fellowship were granted to the following candidates:

A. S. Wesson, D. C. Price, Jean M. Dollar, G. S. Seed, N. S. I. Narasimhan, A. G. Williams, E. R. G. Passe, R. H. Young, C. F. Evans, K. H. C. Hester, L. W. Lauste, A. L. Kenyon, O. J. Vaughan-Jackson, J. R. Blackburne, G. H. C. Owens, W. M. Capper, A. Bowen-Davies, A. G. Cross, B. Schulenburg, R. Shackman, S. A. Mian, E. L. Benison, A. E. De Sa, J. D. Fergusson, F. I. Evans, S. Y. Fegetter, G. N. Sen, S. M. Thompson, J. G. Bonnin, T. M. J. D'Offay, F. G. Fenton, R. W. S. Fox, C. H. W. Lawes, Ruby G. Sharp, J. Sherne, W. H. M. Smith, K. W. Starr, J. C. Stewart, R. R. S. Strang, G. Townsley.

Diplomas of Membership were granted to Gordon Williams and Walter L. Isaac of St. Mary's Hospital.

Diplomas in Anaesthetics were granted, jointly with the Royal College of Physicians of London, to the following candidates:

R. A. Beaver, D. Blatchley, H. Canwarden, J. A. Carman, B. Coden, Phyllis F. L. Daplyn, C. J. M. Dawkins, M. M. Deane, Margaret L. A. Galbraith, H. Grant-Whyte, V. A. Goldman, G. G. Havers, M. W. P. Hudson, I. C. James, I. D. Jones, R. N. Jones, Agnes W. O'D. Kennedy, F. B. Mallinson, Ruth E. Mansfield, P. J. Nagle, P. M. Overton, C. B. Picken, R. A. C. Rice, A. D. Woolf, Tamsin Mary Wynter.

Medical Notes in Parliament

[FROM OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT]

The House of Commons was in committee this week on the Finance Bill. Proposals affecting income tax were discussed. Debate also arose on foreign affairs.

The Midwives Bill was reported with amendments from a Standing Committee.

In the House of Lords the Education Bill and the Surrey County Council Bill were read a second time.

Midwives Bill

The Standing Committee of the House of Commons resumed, on June 11th, its consideration of the Midwives Bill. On Clause 5, which provides for compensation for midwives who cease, or are required to cease, practice after the Bill comes into operation, Sir KINGSLEY WOOD moved several amendments. The first was put down to meet representations made by the Midwives Institute that the clause as drafted might be unfair to midwives who practised during 1935 but were prevented by illness or domestic difficulties from giving notice between January 1st, 1936, and March 18th, 1936, of their intention to practise during the latter year. He said the amendments extended the provision of

Health of Prison Population in Scotland

Sir GODFREY COLLINS, replying to Mr. Johnston on June 16th, said that the approximate wholesale cost of the ingredients of the items in the dietary rates per person per day in Scottish prisons in 1935 was as follows: rate I, 4½d.; rate II, 5d.; rate III, 5½d.; rate IV, 6½d.; rate V, 8½d. The costs would, of course, be higher if the ingredients had to be purchased at retail prices. In view of these figures he was unable to accept the suggestion made in the question—namely, that the law-abiding working classes should be at least as well fed as the inmates of prisons.

Mr. JOHNSTON asked if the right honourable gentleman had not been assured by his medical advisers in charge of these prisons that the prison population were better fed after a period in prison than they were when they entered prison.

Sir G. COLLINS said that not only was the dietary better, but the regular life they led and the work they did had some bearing on this point.

Driving Tests.—Mr. HORE-BELISHA stated, on June 10th, that up to and including May 30th 316,886 persons had been examined in the driving test, of whom 57,594 failed to satisfy the examiners. From May 6th, 1935, since when separate records for men and women had been kept, to May 30th, 1936, the figures are: men examined, 234,827—failed, 41,083 (17.4 per cent.); women examined, 55,248—failed, 14,094 (25.5 per cent.).

Local Authorities' Reports on Overcrowding.—Sir KINGSLEY WOOD stated, on June 11th, that up to June 10th reports had been received under the Housing Act, 1935, from 1,272 local authorities out of a total of 1,536. These reports showed that 7,893,399 houses were inspected and 296,738 were found to be overcrowded—an average of 3.8 per cent. The reports included seventy-four county boroughs, in which 2,588,020 houses were inspected and 99,581 were found to be unfit—an average of 3.8 per cent. They also included most of the large centres of population. Sir Kingsley thought the results were not likely to be substantially affected when outstanding reports which he had urged local authorities to submit forthwith were received.

Demonstrations on Anaesthetized Animals at a London Hospital.—Mr. GROVES, on June 12th, asserted that experiments had been recently performed without a licence on dogs at the Central London Throat, Nose, and Ear Hospital. Mr. GEOFFREY LLOYD said that the inspector under the Act had made inquiries and reported that the animals when under complete anaesthesia were employed for the purpose of instructing medical practitioners in the use of the bronchoscope and otoscope. This procedure was not calculated to cause pain, and did not come under the Cruelty to Animals Act, 1876. The Home Secretary did not propose to take action.

Report on Automatic Gas Detectors.—Captain CROOKSHANK, on June 16th, informed Mr. T. Williams that he had discussed automatic gas detectors with representatives of the Mining Association, and asked for a statement of the further action the mine owners were prepared to take in each district. The terms of this report would be settled at a meeting to be held on June 17th, and he hoped to have it in his hands at an early date thereafter.

Notes in Brief

Sir Kingsley Wood states that well over 200 non-county borough and district councils are maternity and child welfare authorities.

On June 16th Sir Godfrey Collins, replying to Mr. Guy, who asked what action he proposed to take on the report of the Committee on the Training of Nurses, said consultation with the General Nursing Council was proceeding. Representations from various interested bodies had also to be considered.

The Committee on Scottish Health Services will probably submit its report by the end of this month. Publication will follow immediately.

The Government proposes to introduce a Consolidating and Amending Factories Bill next session.

Medical News

The second annual exhibition of the Medical Art Society, of which Sir Leonard Hill, F.R.S., is president, will be held at the House of the Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, W., from July 2nd to 14th, except Saturdays, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Professor F. S. Kipping will deliver the Bakerian Lecture, on organic derivatives of silicon, before the Royal Society at Burlington House on Thursday, June 25th, at 4.30 p.m.

The ninety-fifth annual meeting of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association will be held at Lees Cliff Hall, Folkestone, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, July 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. On July 1st the in-coming president, Dr. Michael Abdy Collins, will deliver his presidential address on "The Law and the Present Position of Psychiatry," and at 7 for 7.30 p.m. the annual dinner of the association will be held at the Royal Pavilion Hotel. July 2nd will be devoted to various discussions, and in the evening there will be a reception and dance, at the invitation of the mayor and corporation. Further discussions will be held before lunch on July 3rd, and the meeting will close with social functions that afternoon and on the morning of Saturday, July 4th.

The annual general meeting of the Medico-Legal Society, to be held at 26, Portland Place, W., on Thursday, June 25th, at 8.15 p.m., will be followed by an ordinary meeting, at which Mr. J. B. Montagu will read a paper on "The Development in Criminal Law and Penology since 1910."

A meeting of the Medical Section of the British Psychological Society will be held at 11, Chandos Street, W., on Wednesday, June 24th, at 8.30 p.m., when Dr. Rowland Hill will read a paper on "Somnifaine Narcosis." A discussion will follow.

A joint meeting of the Home Counties Branch and the Fever Hospital Medical Services Group of the Society of Medical Officers of Health will be held at 1, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, W.C., on Friday, June 26th, at 4.30 p.m., when Dr. A. Forrest will open a discussion on "Some Aspects of Scarlet Fever and Current Methods of Control."

A course of three lectures on gynaecology and midwifery in the Tropics will be given by Mr. V. B. Green-Armytage in the department of obstetrics and gynaecology at the British Post-Graduate Medical School, Ducane Road, W., on July 9th, 13th, and 16th, at 3.30 p.m. The lectures are for regular students of the School, but a limited number of tickets are available, without fee, to other medical practitioners. Applications for these should be addressed to the dean of the School.

The council and staff of the London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women are giving a luncheon party on Thursday, July 2nd, to celebrate the centenary of the University of London. The guests of honour will be the Earl of Athlone, Chancellor of the University, the Right Hon. Oliver Stanley, M.P., President of the Board of Education, Sir Alan Anderson, M.P., and Lady Barrett, President of the Medical School.

The Fellowship of Medicine announces the following courses: General surgery at Prince of Wales's General Hospital, June 27th and 28th; children's diseases at Princess Elizabeth of York Hospital, July 4th and 5th; heart and lung diseases at Victoria Park Hospital, July 11th and 12th; proctology at St. Mark's Hospital, July 6th to July 11th; dermatology at Blackfriars Skin Hospital, July 13th to 25th; urology at All Saints' Hospital, July 13th to August 1st. On June 29th, at 4.45 p.m., at Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital, a demonstration of fundi of medical interest will be given, and at the same place on July 1st, at 5 p.m., there will be a lecture on some points in medical ophthalmology. On July 7th, at 8.30 p.m., at West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases, there will be a demonstration on fundus oculi.

An international post-graduate course on therapeutics will be held at Freiburg i. Br. from June 28th to July 18th. The fee for foreigners is RM. 50 and for Germans RM. 30. Further information can be obtained from Professor C. Noeggerath, Universitätskinderklinik, Freiburg i. Br.

Sir William Bragg, O.M., President of the Royal Society, will distribute the prizes at the London Hospital Medical College on Friday, June 26th, at 3 p.m.

The issue of *Paris Médical* for June 6th is devoted to infectious diseases.

The King has granted permission to Dr. Graham Aspland, physician to H.B.M. Embassy, Peking, to wear the Cross of the Legion of Honour conferred upon him by the President of France. Dr. Aspland in 1914 organized a hospital for the French wounded from the Argonne, in France, and has for many years acted as Surgeon to the French Hospital in Peking. During the great war he held the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the R.A.M.C.

The British Red Cross Society informs us that nearly 14,000 of its detachment members are now qualified in air raid precautions. This subject has been included in the regular training of all the Society's voluntary aid detachments.

On the occasion of the International Congress of Comparative Pathology recently held at Athens a statue of Hippocrates, the work of the sculptor Georges Dimitriadis, was unveiled in front of the medical faculty of Athens.

It is announced that there will be an international congress on hepatic insufficiency, under the presidency of Professor Loeper, at Vichy from September 16th to 18th, 1937. Two sections of discussions will be arranged, the one dealing with medicine and biology, the other with the therapeutic side and including medical, surgical, and hydrological methods. This congress is in succession to the Conference on Biliary Lithiasis in 1932, and is under the auspices of *La Presse Médicale Française*, 23 Rue du Cherche-Midi, Paris, 6e. It will be preceded by the International Congress on Gastro-enterology, which will be held in Paris on September 13th to 15th. To the second of these congresses Dr. Hamilton Fairley of London will make a contribution on the stages of hepatic insufficiency in malaria. The secretary of this congress is Dr. J. Aimard, Boulevard des Capucines 24, Paris IX.

The Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Minister of Health, and the Secretary of State for Scotland have appointed Dr. J. F. E. Prideaux as Assistant Director of Medical Services, Ministry of Pensions, to be a member of the Inter-Departmental Committee appointed in April, 1936, to inquire into the arrangements made in this country for the restoration of the working capacity of persons injured by accidents (see *British Medical Journal*, May 2nd, 1936, p. 894).

On the occasion of the recent celebration of the 350th anniversary of the Karl Franz University of Graz, Hofrat Dr. Anton Eiselsberg and Geheimerat Hans Horst Meyer were created doctors *honoris causa*.

The Berlin Society for the Study of Children's Disease was founded in November last at the Berlin University Children's Clinic of the Charité Hospital, under the presidency of Professor Bessau. At the inaugural meeting Professor Czerny was elected an honorary member.

The Imperial Academy of Medicine of Japan has presented its highest distinction (the Emperor's prize) to Drs. Sasaki and Yoshida for their researches in the experimental production of cancer of the liver by ingestion of ortho-amido-azotoluol.

The French Academy of Medicine has appointed a commission to investigate the conditions underlying the alleged decline in breast-feeding in France.

A large new hospital for infectious diseases has recently been opened in Rome.

The physicians, surgeons, radiologists, and biologists of Marseilles have formed a new society, devoted to gastro-enterology, under the presidency of Professor Monges.

Letters, Notes, and Answers

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

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QUERIES AND ANSWERS

Palliative for Hay Fever

"M.B., CH.B." writes: Will someone kindly recommend a palliative for severe hay fever? I was too sensitive to grass pollen to take even five units of pollaccine. The usual palliatives have been tried—ephedrine by mouth, endrine locally, etc.—but with no relief. The most troublesome symptoms are rhinorrhoea and itching of the conjunctiva.

Painful Elbow

"S. S. G." writes: I shall be glad of advice in the following case. X, aged 54, has had a painful elbow, pain particularly between the coronoid and olecranon over the ulnar nerve. There is no swelling or evidence of rheumatism, and no history of injury. The patient can carry out normal movements, but cannot play golf or use the arm in any strenuous manner. Heat appears to suit and soothe best, but any form of massage or electricity irritates and causes pain at once. I have heard of several similar cases which have been equally resistant to treatment.

Urticaria after Aspiration of Pleural Effusion

"T. K." writes: The report by Dr. Fergus Paterson in your issue of May 16th, dealing with a case of giant urticaria following upon aspiration of a pleural effusion, is apt to suggest the possibility of a pulmonary hydatid, and I would be very interested to know the results of radiological and serological investigation, together with those of examination of a centrifugized deposit of the fluid (unstained) and guinea-pig inoculation. Any further notes upon the case would be of great interest.

The Sympathetic Ring

Dr. E. MARCUS LIDDLE (Crewe) writes: With reference to Dr. J. P. Jones's query (May 23rd) regarding the "sympathetic ring," a similar case came under my notice this week. In this woman's case the 22-carat gold wedding ring has turned the colour of platinum on four separate occasions in the past twelve months, but recovers its normal colour while still on the patient's hand, usually within three or four hours. This woman also suffers from nervous headaches, and dates the first change of colour from a severe thunderstorm, during which she was very frightened. There is no evidence of contamination with chemicals of any kind.

** One effect of publishing Dr. Jones's note has been an addition to the weight of our post-basket during recent weeks. His inquiry about the wedding rings that changed colour was quoted in the *News of the World*, with the result that readers of that newspaper from all parts of the country, and most of them in humble walks of life, wrote to match their own experience with that of Dr. Jones's patient. About seventy of these artless letters have been forwarded to us. Most of the writers are married women,