

*M.B.E. (Civil)*

Miss HARRIETT BIFFIN, M.B., M.S. For charitable and social welfare services in the State of New South Wales.

THOMAS BERTRAM BUTCHER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Honorary Surgeon Superintendent, Cottage Hospital, Mussoorie, United Provinces.

Major FRANCIS JOSEPH D'ROSE, Indian Medical Department, Civil Surgeon, and Superintendent of the Central Jail at Myaungmya, Burma.

BIRENDRA NATH GHOSH, L.M.S., F.R.F.P.S., Medical Practitioner, Bengal.

BARJOR FRAMJI KHAMBATTA, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., Port Health Officer, Karachi, Sind.

Major JOHN MICHAEL PEREIRA, Indian Medical Department (retired), Superintendent, Patna Medical College Hospital, Bihar.

PERCY WILLIAM BARNDEN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. For social services in Nigeria.

ATUL CHANDRA DUTTA, L.M.S. Lately Medical Officer, Malacca, Straits Settlements.

*Kaisar-i-Hind Medal (First Class)*

JEHANGIR ARDESHIR ANKLESARIA, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.T.M., Port Health Officer, Rangoon, Burma.

**ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE****Jubilee Celebrations**

The St. John Ambulance Brigade will celebrate its jubilee this year immediately after the Coronation, beginning with a reception at St. John's Gate, London, on May 14. The Brigade was formed in 1887 in order to give members of the St. John Ambulance Association greater opportunities for putting their knowledge of first aid and nursing to practical test, and by its connexion with the Order of St. John of Jerusalem is part of the oldest order of chivalry in the world, having its origin in the eleventh century. The Brigade has now grown to a strength of 101,917 men, women, and cadets in this country and over-seas, from where many will be making long journeys to attend both the jubilee celebrations and the Coronation. Representatives will come from many parts of the British Empire. The Queen, who is Commandant-in-Chief of the Nursing Corps and Divisions, will take part in the jubilee celebrations by reviewing the Brigade in Hyde Park on May 22.

The arrangements, in addition to the reception and the great review, include: May 18, garden party at St. James's Palace, given by the Grand Prior, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught; May 21, jubilee first-aid competitions at the Great Central Hotel, prizes distributed by H.R.H. Princess Alice; May 23, service at St. Paul's, attended by H.R.H. the Duke of Kent; May 25, investiture at Buckingham Palace by H.M. the King; May 29 to 30, intensive air raid precautions course for over-seas members at Great Central Hotel.

**Surgeons-in-Chief**

The first Surgeon-in-Chief was Sir William MacCormac, Bt., P.R.C.S., who was appointed to that post in 1896, though he had been in the St. John movement from the time when the association (which teaches, examines, and certifies lay persons) was born, and joined the Brigade at its origin. Then followed Edmund Owen, F.R.C.S., of St. Mary's Hospital, who was Chairman of Council of the British Medical Association, 1905-10; next Sir William Bennett, F.R.C.S., for fifteen years; then Colonel C. I. Ellis, A.M.S.T. (1931-6). The present Surgeon-in-Chief is Dr. N. Corbet Fletcher of Hampstead, a general practitioner who on his promotion last year had already had twenty years' service with the Brigade, and is credited with several authoritative manuals on first aid and home nursing.

An Argentine Society of the History of Medicine has recently been formed in Buenos Aires under the presidency of Dr. Ramon Pardal, its special purpose being the study of medicine in America.

**Local News****ENGLAND AND WALES****Centenary of Liverpool Medical Institution**

The programme has now been issued for the centenary celebrations of the Liverpool Medical Institution on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, May 30, 31, and June 1. At the cathedral service on Sunday at 3.30 p.m. the preacher will be the Bishop of Glasgow and Galloway, and at 3.45 p.m. members of the Guild of SS. Luke, Cosmas, and Damian will meet at the Catholic Cathedral site for benediction, after which they will join the others for tea at the Medical Institution. At the centenary meeting on Monday at 3.30 p.m. honorary membership is to be conferred upon Sir Cuthbert Wallace, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, Sir Norman Walker, President of the General Medical Council, Sir E. Farquhar Buzzard, President of the British Medical Association, Sir Ewen Maclean, President of the British College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Professor W. Fletcher Shaw, President of the Manchester Medical Society, Sir James Barr, Mr. C. Thurstan Holland, and Mr. Frank T. Paul. The new honorary members will be introduced by Professor John Hay, and congratulations will be offered to Dr. Hugh A. Clarke on the attainment of his jubilee of membership. Professor R. E. Kelly will then give his presidential address, entitled "Surgery 100 Years Ago." The centenary dinner will be held at 7.30 at the Adelphi Hotel. On Tuesday at 3.30 p.m. the opening of the Hugh Owen Thomas and Robert Jones Memorial Library of Orthopaedic Surgery will be followed by the Hugh Owen Thomas Memorial Lecture by Mr. W. Rowley Bristow, President of the British Orthopaedic Association. At 9 p.m. the Lord Mayor of Liverpool will give an At Home in the Town Hall, with dancing till midnight.

**University of London Medical Graduates**

The annual dinner of the University of London Medical Graduates Society was held on May 6 in the new University buildings in Bloomsbury, Dr. Dorothy Hare presiding over a large number of members and guests. The health of the society and its president was proposed by Mr. H. Lightfoot Eason. In a characteristically witty speech he welcomed Sir StClair Thomson as the "well-known gynaecologist" who had been present at the birth of the society in his house in 1927. Sir StClair, he said, was known not only in England but all over the world, and it was a pleasure to them that he would be present in the Abbey at the Coronation as a representative of the Royal College of Physicians. The University of London Medical Graduates Society had been created for purely social reasons to promote the interests of the faculty of medicine in London. In coupling the name of their president with the toast of "The Society" Mr. Eason said that Dr. Hare was a worthy representative of the society and all that it stood for. Thanking Mr. Eason for the way in which he had proposed the toast, Dr. Hare said that this was a red-letter day in its short history, for they were holding their dinner in the new hall of the University. She would like to thank Colonel Brook and his staff for the efficient way in which the entertainment had been conducted. The society, she continued, owed a great debt to the outgoing secretary, Dr. Louise Livingstone, and to Mr. John Hosford, who would continue in office. She would also like to express their indebtedness to the treasurer, Mr. Philip Mitchiner, and to extend a welcome to Sir Charlton Briscoe, who would shortly be the new president. She was glad to be able to record that this year the society had received official

recognition from the University of London. The society stood for adhesion to the University and cohesion among its members, of whom there were now over 700, including many over-seas. The health of the guests was proposed in a short speech by Sir Charlton Briscoe, and Mr. W. Girling Ball replied.

#### New Antitoxin Establishment for London

It is proposed to set up at Queen Mary's Hospital, Carshalton, at a cost of £116,000, a new antitoxin establishment designed and equipped on modern lines. The London County Council has hitherto depended on the laboratories at Belmont, Sutton, which were built thirty years ago, to deal with the preparation of diphtheria antitoxin and of materials used in the diagnosis of diphtheria for the hospitals controlled by the former Metropolitan Asylums Board. Since the Council assumed control the work carried out at Belmont has been extended to the preparation of other products, with the result that although there have been some extensions of the building the accommodation is inadequate. It is expected that the provision of the establishment at Carshalton will assure the County Council of a constant and ample supply of the products now being prepared at Belmont, as well as of others that are being purchased, with the important additional advantages resulting from research which will become possible in new forms of specific and preventive treatment. The space required for the preparation of the products at present issued and those required to meet the anticipated increase in the demands for them is estimated at twice that of the existing laboratory. The Belmont laboratories will be retained for work which can conveniently be carried out there.

## SCOTLAND

#### Lectureship in Psychopathology at Aberdeen

Aberdeen University Court, at a special meeting recently, accepted a gift of a capital sum from an anonymous donor for the foundation of a part-time lectureship in psychopathology. It was a condition of the gift that the lecturer should not be an alienist, and that his clinical work be done in the Royal Infirmary. Among other benefactions intimated was a gift of £500 from Lord Glanely to permit research in rheumatism.

#### Deaconess Hospital, Edinburgh

At the annual meeting of the Church of Scotland Deaconess Hospital, Edinburgh, Sir John Fraser, professor of clinical surgery in the University, said that this hospital illustrated in its work the beauty of what he might call practical Christianity. Religion and medicine were very fitting partners in life's work, and this was the reason why many members of the medical profession were staunch admirers of the great work done in this hospital. There was evidence now of a growing tendency to accept the principle that the State should make itself responsible for the care and maintenance of the sick. The present was not a time to discuss the ethics of that question. There was much to say in favour of it, but the very thought brought into prominence the privilege of giving voluntarily. Therefore, while there was still time, they should share in the joy of voluntarily supporting hospitals, and aiding in hospital activities by all means in their power. Mr. J. A. S. Millar, chairman of the Hospital Board, recalled that the reopening of the Deaconess Hospital after reconstruction last December had been the last public function performed by the King and Queen as Duke and Duchess of York. The scheme of reconstruction would cost about £42,000, and towards that sum £36,000 had been received.

## Correspondence

#### The Oxford University Appeal

SIR,—At a meeting of members of the Oxford Medical Graduates' Club recently held in London to consider how they might best assist the Oxford University Appeal, the opinion was expressed that many medical graduates would like to be associated together in any contribution which they might make towards the appeal. It has therefore been arranged that a special fund will be opened to include the contributions from all medical graduates who may so desire it, the names of individuals being of course retained. It is felt that, in this way, the medical graduates of Oxford will be able more adequately to express their gratitude to their University and their desire to come to her assistance.—We are, etc.,

E. FARQUHAR BUZZARD,  
President.

R. C. JEWESBURY,  
Hon. Secretary.

May 3.

#### Blood Transfusion in Obstetrics

SIR,—I have read Dr. Malcolm D. Black's communication on blood transfusion in obstetrics in the *Journal* for May 1 (p. 903) with some interest, the more so because active efforts, in the shape of the provision of "flying squads" and transfusion services, are being made to deal with serious cases of haemorrhage among women delivered in their own homes. With such efforts directed towards saving women who have had severe haemorrhage at childbirth I am in natural sympathy. Common sense alone would appear to dictate blood transfusion along the lines suggested and in the type of case cited by Dr. Black; but are we doing all we can to avoid the haemorrhages which call for such treatment?

When I was appointed to the Dudley Road Hospital, Birmingham, in 1932, I dealt with eighteen cases of severe post-partum haemorrhage, with collapse, in my first half-year. None of the patients died and none was transfused; all were delivered in the hospital. During the four and a half years since then there have been three cases only among the same class of patient, again without a death. Twenty cases were sent to the hospital following delivery at home during the same period; there were two deaths and one of the patients had a ruptured uterus. The hospital deals with from 1,200 to 1,500 confinements and 600 to 700 abortions a year.

On investigating the eighteen cases that occurred in the first half-year, I found that the whole trouble could be attributed to faulty management of the third stage of labour, which culminated in the loss of the retroplacental haematoma from one edge of the placenta too early, leaving the remainder of the placenta attached. In other words, when the haematoma has been conserved until the whole of the placenta has been hydraulically lifted off, all is well.

Dr. Black advocates transfusion before any attempt is made to deal with the placenta or the products of conception in abortion cases. I have stated (*Journal*, 1935, 1, 78) that separated placental tissue is, of itself, shock-producing. Mangled or dying tissue anywhere in the body will lower the blood pressure steeply until it is removed. When that is done the patient's pulse shows a constant and welcome recovery in twenty minutes or less, and rectal salines and absolute quiet are then all that

Lloyd—brilliant, original, swift in making his diagnosis and swift in operating; Bennett May—not what one would call original or brilliant, but extraordinarily thorough, painstaking, and careful. These two men by such different paths attained the same object—namely, results in their work, the excellence of which in that day could not be surpassed.

To strike a more personal note, May was a man much beloved by all those who knew him well. He was kind and generous; he had no malice; he spared no pains to help the young man who had surgical ambitions. He had many foibles and peculiarities: absolutely clean and careful in his surgery, yet he never would admit that sepsis was due to organisms. He decried the usefulness of all such aids as the microscope and clinical chemistry, but the results which May obtained would stand investigation in any epoch. They showed what a man of character and ability could do without extraneous help. The force of May's language when he was expressing his opinions on people or on surgery often made his hearers smile, but never lessened their affection and respect for a very remarkable man.

The later years of Bennett May's life were clouded by illness, and his colleagues saw little of him. He was, in a way, a man of the past, but his death reminds us of the work of one who advanced surgery and who set an example in his efforts to attain excellence in his work that has been an inspiring force to all of us who were privileged to watch his surgical practice.

L. G.

The death of Dr. JAMES CARRUTHERS occurred unexpectedly on April 29, at his residence, Hawthornlea, Uddingston. Born at Newarthill over 65 years ago, and educated at St. John's School, Hamilton, he entered Glasgow University in the late 'eighties, and after graduating M.A. and M.B., Ch.B. embarked on a career in general practice. After a voyage as a ship surgeon to Rangoon he became assistant at Kilsyth, and later for five years at Bothwell, where he gained an extensive experience of general practice under the late Dr. William Grant Macpherson. In 1904 he entered into partnership with Dr. Thomson of Uddingston, and his life's work has been associated with that district. Dr. Carruthers was for many years public assistance medical officer, and was a justice of the peace for the county of Lanark. His extensive practice did not permit him to take a large share in public affairs. He was deeply interested in general literature, and was the proud possessor of many first editions. He was very conscientious and painstaking in his work, and was deservedly held in high regard by the community which he had faithfully served for almost forty years. The interment took place on May 1, and was attended by a large and representative company. He is survived by his widow and two daughters.

The death occurred at a nursing home on May 4 of WALTER LEIGH MACKINNON GOLDIE, O.B.E., F.R.C.S., medical officer of health for Leamington Spa. Goldie was born at Simla on June 6, 1879, was educated at Charterhouse and intended, like his brother, for the Army; he passed for Sandhurst, but defective eyesight prevented his following that profession. He then proceeded to the University of Edinburgh, and afterwards to St. Mary's Hospital. He qualified M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. in 1903, obtaining the F.R.C.S.Eng. in 1906 and the D.P.H. in 1910. After various clinical appointments in London, at St. Mary's Hospital, Great Ormond Street Hospital, and Mount Vernon, Goldie joined the Colonial Service, and was in East Africa for three years. Severe malaria prevented his return for a further period of duty, and he applied for and was appointed assistant medical officer of health and tuberculosis officer for the city of Norwich. On the outbreak of war he joined the Navy, and

continued in the Service till 1919. Practically all this time was spent at sea, and he received the O.B.E. (military). My first meeting with Goldie (writes H. G. W.) was on his appointment as medical officer of health and school medical officer for Leamington Spa in 1920, and the friendship formed then has, I am glad to say, continued and increased during the years which have since elapsed. Professionally Goldie was a man of wide experience and ripe judgement, and his powers of observation were the envy of many of us. His long experience in the diagnosis of infectious disease was always at the disposal of colleagues, and his conclusions were expressed with a decisiveness, not to say forcefulness, which was characteristic of him. Beneath a somewhat reserved manner he had a great liking and understanding of young people, and children especially seemed to discover this at once. To see his manner of dealing with them at his hospital or infant welfare centre was a revelation of kindness and understanding. In the untimely death of Goldie Leamington Spa has lost a devoted servant, medicine a worthy exponent, and his friends one whom it will be impossible to replace.

## Universities and Colleges

### UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

The Board of the Faculty of Medicine has elected the Hon. Mrs. M. A. Jennings, M.A., B.M., of Lady Margaret Hall to the Schorstein Research Fellowship.

### UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The Board of Research Studies has approved C. C. Okell, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., for the degree of Doctor of Science.

The title of the degree of M.B. was conferred during the month of April upon G. M. Brown, C. J. Ormerod, and E. L. Willis of Girton College.

### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

At a meeting of the University Court held on May 5, with the chairman (Lord Macmillan) presiding, two generous gifts to incorporated colleges were gratefully accepted—namely, two thousand £1 preference shares in the firm of Messrs. H. K. Lewis and Co., given to University College by Mr. H. L. Jackson, governing director of the firm; and valuable scientific equipment for research presented to King's College by the Halley Stewart Trust.

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON

Dr. Edwin Bramwell will deliver the Croonian Lectures on "Clinical Reflections upon Muscles, Movements, and the Motor Path," at the College, Pall Mall East, S.W., at 5 p.m. on May 25 and 27, and June 1.

At the meeting of the College held on April 29 licences to practise were granted to the following candidates:

E. W. O. Adkins, W. C. Aman, M. S. Ambrose, E. F. Aubert, W. C. Baird, T. M. Banham, R. O. Barber, P. F. Barwood, J. G. Berry, W. D. Benyon, S. L. Biswas, R. G. Blackledge, J. Bleakley, G. Bourne, Agnes Y. Bowie, I. G. Braddon, R. H. F. Brain, J. H. Briscoe-Smith, A. E. W. Brooker, K. C. Brown, R. S. Bunney, P. J. Burke, J. H. Burkinshaw, C. S. Cane, C. A. G. Cato, H. W. Chadfield, A. Chambers, L. R. Chaperon, Norah H. C. Clarke, O. W. W. Clarke, May D. C. Clifford, N. F. Coghill, A. Cohen, S. M. Cohen, J. C. A. L. Colenbrander, D. G. Cracknell, F. M. Crawshaw, N. C. Creighton, J. A. Currie, J. B. Cuthbert, Mary D. Daley, A. J. Dalzell-Ward, J. B. Dancer, S. B. Darbishire, A. R. Darlow, C. M. Dickens, Cecile R. Doniger, V. Drosso, Katherine W. Dunn-Pattison, A. E. H. Eades, J. D. Ebsworth, Violet E. Ellam, M. El-Said M. El-Shanawany, G. E. Ennis, P. G. L. Essex-Lopresti, Kathleen J. Evers, G. A. Fairlie-Clarke, Rachel D. Fidler, R. D. Flintan, G. A. Fowler, Audrey U. Fraser, R. T. R. Freshwater, H. W. C. Fuller, E. Garland-Collins, S. Garnjana-Goonchorn, R. G. Gibson, D. S. Gideon, J. C. Gilson, Dorothy M. Gladwell, M. Glick, E. G. Godwin, B. H. Goodrich, C. W. C. Gough, G. W. V. Grieg, A. C. Grey, A. Griffiths, G. L. Gryspeerdt, J. A. Guest, D. V. Hague, H. Haigh, S. G. Hamilton, H. E. W. Hardenbergh, D. W. T. Harris, R. W. H.-G. Harris, G. F. C. Hawkins, M. J. McK. Heap, S. H. Heard, J. A. Herd, A. J. Heriot, J. Herman, P. S. A. Heyworth, A. P. Hick, K. R. Hill, G. B. Hollings, J. N. Horne, N. C. Horne, J. G. Humble, Sybil M. Humphreys, K. K. Hussain, D. L. Isaac, D. N.

Jackman, G. James, N. E. James, D. Jefferiss, S. T. H. Jenkins, W. H. R. Jeremy, J. G. Jesson, A. W. Johnson, G. M. Johnson, J. S. Joly, D. W. G. Jones, J. D. Jones, R. A. Jones, O. Jordan, P. T. Joseph, N. Jungalwalla, L. C. Kalra, B. K. Kapur, J. Kastelian, J. H. H. Keall, Gladys E. Keith, P. M. Kelly, G. M. Kerr, P. Kidd, J. R. Kilpatrick, E. J. Lace, H. B. Lal, E. V. Lambert, L. P. Lassman, N. G. Latey, J. M. Lea, A. R. Leask, A. R. Lee, I. Libman, A. E. Loden, Christia F. Lucas, G. L. St. A. McClosky, T. O. McKane, M. E. Mankin, A. J. Martin, D. Matthews, Maung E. R. McK. Miller, D. Moss, S. N. Mukherjee, Winifred F. G. Murray, B. Mushin, R. H. Neeve, Elizabeth A. Nettell, C. P. Nicholas, M. P. Nightingale, A. J. Nimmo, W. A. Owen, L. B. Paling, E. A. Pask, R. W. J. Patterson, Constance E. Peaker, C. C. S. Pike, C. S. Pitt, G. E. J. Porter, H. L. Porter, H. C. Price, S. H. Raza, J. A. Rhind, G. R. Richards, I. D. Riley, R. Roaf, G. M. Robertshaw, Annie I. B. Ross, Mary C. Rowe, K. C. Royes, N. Sacks, A. R. Samuel, F. H. Scadding, C. G. Scorer, C. W. Seward, Constance M. B. Shaw, G. Shneerson, R. J. Simms, D. A. Slade, J. M. Small, A. W. Stewart, J. F. Stokes, H. Stoll, W. G. Sutcliffe, S. Tarlovskis, W. Taylor, I. E. J. Thomas, J. N. Thomas, L. C. Thomson, R. W. Thomson, G. G. Thynne, J. D. Torrens, R. L. Townsend, I. S. Varma, E. Vernon, F. H. Vollam, G. M. Ward, S. Ward, R. W. Watts, G. V. Webster, T. Weiner, R. A. White, E. H. L. Wigram, O. G. R. H. Williams, S. I. Williams, A. D. Willis, I. N. Winer, F. A. J. Woodland, E. Woolf, A. S. Woolstone, R. O. Yerbury.

The following diplomas were granted, jointly with the Royal College of Surgeons of England, to the following candidates:

**DIPLOMA IN TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE.**—H. Akhtar, S. Amarasinghe, R. H. Barrett, A. H. Booth, J. W. Bowden, J. C. Busby, K. L. Buxton, Dorothy G. Cowie, G. H. Fisk, A. B. Gilroy, S. A. Hasib, A. D. Hodges, W. H. Jeffrey, A. Mizrahi, P. P. Murphy, V. T. Pasupati, M. G. Pearson, C. Ponnambalam, J. D. Prasad, J. T. Robinson, M. Roushdy, C. A. Rumball, A. G. Rutter, S. Shrikhande, L. M. de Silva, M. Singh, D. W. Soman, A. S. Syed, A. L. F. Thomson, G. I. Watson, J. G. Webb.

Diplomas in Child Health were granted, jointly with the Royal College of Surgeons of England, to the twenty successful candidates whose names were printed in the report of the meeting of the Royal College of Surgeons of England published in the *Journal* of April 17 (p. 840).

#### ROYAL FACULTY OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

At a meeting of the Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, held on May 3, with the president, Professor Archibald Young, in the chair, the following were admitted Fellows of Faculty: Joseph Alexander Bell, M.B., Ch.B., Hatimbai Shaikh Abduljally Malik, M.B., B.S., George Broughton Smart, M.B., D.P.H.

#### SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON

The following candidates have passed in the subjects indicated:

**SURGERY.**—A. A. Beazeley, N. Bickford, P. H. Denton, S. M. M. Niall, W. G. Tillmann.

**MEDICINE.**—P. H. Denton, G. Howell, L. W. La Chard, J. F. Mason, A. P. Motley, F. L. Skinner.

**FORENSIC MEDICINE.**—P. H. Denton, G. Howell, L. W. La Chard, J. F. Mason, A. P. Motley, F. L. Skinner.

**MIDWIFERY.**—D. R. Daniel, J. B. Good, J. F. Mason, F. D. Pitt Palmer.

The diploma of the Society has been granted to N. Bickford, P. H. Denton, L. W. La Chard, S. M. M. Niall, and F. L. Skinner.

#### ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH

At a quarterly meeting of the College, held on May 4, with the President, Dr. W. T. Ritchie, in the chair, Dr. Douglas James Campbell (Grimsby) was introduced and took his seat as a Fellow of the College, and Dr. George Abeyasingha Weera Wickramasuriya (Ceylon) was elected a Fellow of the College. The Freeland Barbour Fellowship was awarded to Mr. Walter Tebrich, B.Sc.

## The Services

#### DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL SERVICES IN INDIA

The War Office announces that, with the approval of the Government of India, Major-General G. C. Tabuteau, D.S.O., late R.A.M.C., Deputy Director of Medical Services, Northern Command, York, has been selected to succeed Major-General E. A. Walker, C.B., I.M.S., as Director of Medical Services in India, as from August 10, when the latter vacates the appointment.

## Medical Notes in Parliament

The House of Lords on May 5 received the Livestock Industry Bill from the House of Commons and read it a first time. A first reading was also given to the South-East Essex Joint Hospital District Bill. On the same day further amendments were made in the Children and Young Persons (Scotland) Bill, and the Maternity Services (Scotland) Bill was read a third time. The latter, with the Special Areas Amendment Act, the Earsdon Joint Hospital District Act, and the South Nottinghamshire Joint Hospital District Act, received the Royal Assent on May 6.

The House of Commons is due to reassemble on May 24, and will that day discuss the Civil List. The text of the Finance Bill is expected to be issued about that date. There will be no change in the Cabinet during the recess.

On May 4 the Livestock Industry Bill and the Diseases of Fish Bill were each read a third time; the latter had also passed the House of Lords. The Widows', Orphans', and Old Age Contributory Pensions (Voluntary Contributors) Bill passed through the report stage in the House on May 6, and was read a third time.

Sir Francis Fremantle presided on May 5 at a meeting of the Conservative Health and Housing Committee, when Dr. C. F. McCleary spoke on the menace of depopulation in the British Empire. He showed that it had been established by Kuckynski's method of computation that if present conditions continued the death rate in the United Kingdom would exceed the birth rate within the next five years. The same danger existed in Australia and New Zealand. Dr. McCleary urged that the public should be warned on this subject before the economic and social consequences became serious.

#### Factories Bill in Committee

Clause 77 (Power to suspend certain provisions of Part VI—employment of women and young persons—in emergency) was discussed when the Standing Committee of the House of Commons resumed consideration of the Factories Bill on May 4. The clause was approved with the additional provision, moved by Sir JOHN SIMON, to ensure that the exemption should not conflict with an international convention restricting the employment of women or young persons in factories. On Clause 78 (Exceptions as to male young persons employed in shifts) Sir JOHN SIMON said the subject-matter of the clause was difficult and was directed to industries which required to be carried on day and night. He had come to the conclusion that it would not be right to make any exceptions at all as regards young persons under 16, although the Committee might have to do it in the case of youths between 16 and 18. He would amend the clause so that it should apply to young persons who had attained the age of 16. He had also put down other amendments. Sir Ernest Graham-Little had proposed an amendment to ensure that where young persons were to be worked in shifts in exceptional circumstances or in late hours they should only so work when it was ascertained that they were physically fit for it; his proposal was that there should be a preliminary medical examination. Sir John Simon doubted whether it was good to put a young man who believed himself to be perfectly fit through that kind of trial beforehand. He would prefer to insert in the clause a provision similar to one in Clause 92 enacting that the young person who had attained the age of 16 and was working at night should not remain in that employment after the expiration of such period as might be prescribed unless he had been examined by the examining surgeon and certified to be fit for that employment. He would also add a provision by which there was to be a periodic examination; it was not enough to be sure that the youth was fit at the beginning only. Mr.