

to time, but they made up less than 5 per cent. of all mental patients.

DR. R. D. GILLESPIE said that the Bill had filled medical men with a considerable amount of anxiety. Mental hospitals were already unpopular enough with the public, and he was surprised that medical superintendents had not stressed the possible effects of the Bill when it was passing through Parliament. Perhaps it was an aftermath of this realization that made medical superintendents reluctant to give information about a patient's condition. They were deterred by a natural loyalty to their patients, apart from any desire to protect themselves. If a medical man were carrying out the law, he might state the facts without being accused of breach of confidence, just as he did when he was called in to grant a certificate without the patient's knowledge. Patients occasionally recovered after very long periods of insanity, but an extreme conservative attitude to this possibility might stultify the intentions of the Act. "Curable" and "recoverable" were not identical terms.

The PRESIDENT, in closing the discussion, said that the court would have to decide whether the respondent, who must have been of unsound mind for a substantial period, had been shown by the evidence to be so unlikely ever to be cured as to be for practical purposes incurable. All that any doctor could be expected to do was to say that, taking all the known facts into consideration, he had formed the opinion that the patient could not recover. Incurability would be judged with regard to the necessities of married life. Perfection in prophesying the future was not to be expected, and the court would have to do its best.

### THYROTOXICOSIS

At a meeting of the Manchester Medical Society on April 6 Mr. F. H. BENTLEY read a paper on an inquiry into thyrotoxicosis.

Mr. Bentley described the late results of partial thyroidectomy for thyrotoxicosis, and discussed the relationship between thyrotoxicosis and gastric acidity. General clinical examinations, estimations of the basal metabolic rate, blood counts, and fractional gastric analyses (with histamine) were carried out on eighty-four patients—twelve males and seventy-two females—more than six years after partial thyroidectomy had been performed for thyrotoxicosis. The average lapse of time since the operation was eight years. The clinical results showed 40 per cent. of the patients completely well with no symptoms of any kind, 23 per cent. completely well except for some palpitation on exertion, 30 per cent. improved and working but still with some complaint such as nervousness, tiredness, dyspnoea, or irritability, and the results in 7 per cent. were unsatisfactory. One-third of the cases had at the present time a basal metabolic rate of plus 20 per cent. or more, and a quarter of the cases had palpable thyroid tissue in the neck; while a few of these belonged to the "completely well" group, the majority belonged to the less satisfactory groups. It was suggested that there was some evidence in this series that the sympathetic hyperactivity continued in many cases after thyroidectomy, and that the sympathetic hyperactive state preceded the thyrotoxic one, being an agent in stimulating the thyroid into the increased activity of thyrotoxicosis. The gastric acidity had been studied in ninety thyrotoxic cases pre-operatively—seven males and eighty-three females—as well as in the later post-operative series. In the pre-operative series there was an acidity in 22 per cent. after correction of the figure for the normal incidence of an acidity, and 81 per cent. of the cases had a maximal acid secretion of less than 40 units following the injection of histamine. The corresponding figures in the late post-operative series were 7 per cent. and 69 per cent. respectively. Thus the secretion of acid, which was depressed during thyrotoxicosis, showed

improvement after thyroidectomy, but acid secretion did not return to a normal level. While there was no relationship between depression of acidity and the duration of symptoms, a tendency for the depression to be more marked in the severe thyrotoxic cases was noted. Apparently two factors were involved in the depression of gastric acidity in thyrotoxicosis; one was removed by thyroidectomy, so permitting acid secretion partially to rise, and one continued to act, maintaining acid secretion at a sub-normal level. The former factor was probably thyrotoxic-sympathetic stimulation resulting from the thyroid toxæmia, and the latter sympathetic stimulation—a part of the sympathetic hyperactivity in which thyrotoxicosis originated and which continued after thyroidectomy.

## Local News

### ENGLAND AND WALES

#### International Red Cross Conference

The preliminary programme has now been issued from 14, Grosvenor Crescent, S.W.1, for the sixteenth International Red Cross Conference to be held in London next month (from Friday, June 17, to Saturday, June 25), under the auspices of the British Red Cross Society. After business meetings on June 17 and 18 the opening session, presided over by the Duke of Gloucester, will be held in St. James's Palace on June 20, followed by a plenary session and an evening reception by the Government at Lancaster House. On June 21, 22, and 23 there will be meetings of commissions at British Medical Association House, Tavistock Square, with a reception at the Guildhall on the evening of June 21. June 24 will be given up to a plenary session, the closing session of conference, and a meeting of the Board of Delegates. On the last day the Board of Governors of the League of Red Cross Societies will meet at 14, Grosvenor Crescent, and a thanksgiving service at St. Paul's Cathedral will follow at 3.30 p.m. Delegates from over sixty nations and National Red Cross Societies will attend the conference, which had originally been arranged to meet in Madrid. Prominent on the agenda is the consideration of the revision of the Geneva Convention. It is hoped that new principles dealing with war in the air will be proposed, and that the Geneva and Hague Conventions may be merged so that land, sea, and air warfare will be dealt with in a single code of laws. A plan for the creation of neutralized hospital zones in war areas, sponsored by the International Congress of Military Medicine, will also be discussed.

#### Extensions at Staffordshire General Infirmary

The extensions to the Staffordshire General Infirmary are to be opened by Lord Horder on Saturday, May 7. They consist of an "L"-shaped wing of three floors. The ground floor is occupied by a new x-ray, electrotherapeutic, and massage department, and other improvements to be housed here are an electrocardiograph and a larger clinical laboratory. On the second floor is a male surgical ward of twenty beds and a children's ward of sixteen beds, together with the usual sanitary annexes, kitchen, and duty rooms. The upper floor is an up-to-date private nursing home, a complete unit in itself, containing fourteen single-bedded rooms for paying patients, with bath-rooms, kitchen, visitors' waiting-room, duty room, and sterilizing room. Each room is fitted with a built-in wardrobe, wash-basin, connexion with the public telephone, and a luminous call system worked from the bedside. Special attention has been given to making the building soundproof, and the colour schemes throughout are light and pleasing. Each ward kitchen has a refrigerator. The walls and ceilings are sound- and heat-insulated, and the

heating is by a low-pressure hot-water system, capable of sustaining a minimum temperature of 65° F. when the outside temperature is at freezing-point. The Infirmary was founded in 1766, and is one of the oldest voluntary hospitals in the provinces. William Withering, one of the most famous figures in medicine and renowned for the discovery of the use of digitalis in certain forms of heart failure, spent some ten years of his career as physician on the staff of the hospital. Modern medicine has still no better drug to offer for the treatment of heart failure than this extract of the common foxglove, and Stafford should always be remembered as the place where Withering made his early pharmacological studies.

#### Presentation to Dr. Spurgin

The jubilee dinner of the Metropolitan Police Surgeons' Association was held on April 28 at the Holborn Restaurant with Dr. Percy B. Spurgin, the retiring president, in the chair. A large number of members and their friends were present, among the guests being the Commissioner, Sir Philip Game, Dr. P. B. Skeels, Sir William Willcox, Dr. Isaac Jones and other members of the headquarters medical staff, and Dr. G. C. Anderson. The evening was most successful, the main feature being the presentation of a silver salver to Dr. Spurgin by his colleagues as a mark of their appreciation of the work he has done for the Metropolitan Police Surgeons' Association for many years, both on the council and as treasurer.

## IRELAND

### The Public Health

Recent annual reports of the Department of Local Government and Public Health for the Irish Free State have noted a gradual decline in the incidence of infectious diseases. The report for 1936-7, however, states that the number of cases of the principal infectious diseases notified during 1936 increased from 7,478, the figure for 1935, to 8,924. This increase was due almost entirely to the epidemic of scarlet fever which was widespread throughout the country during the latter part of 1935 and the greater part of 1936. The incidence of diphtheria, however, continues to decrease; the total number of cases reported during the year was 2,569, as against 3,091 in 1935. The fall is attributed to the vigorous immunization campaign, which has now been carried generally into rural districts. On the subject of maternal mortality the report states that notwithstanding the attention this problem has received no substantial reduction in the death rate from pregnancy or child-bearing has taken place in recent years. The rate in 1936 was 4.7 per 1,000 births; the figures for the two preceding years were 4.67 and 4.68 respectively. It is considered that improvement could be gradually effected by extending maternity and child welfare schemes to all districts; developing existing schemes to provide ante-natal care for expectant mothers, and institutional accommodation for difficult cases or for women whose home conditions are unsuitable; encouraging closer co-operation between the mothers, health visitors, midwives, and medical practitioners; and making arrangements for adequate feeding of expectant mothers whose family circumstances are not sufficient to enable them to obtain the extra foods necessary during pregnancy. Infant deaths reached a total of 4,309, representing a mortality of 74.15 per 1,000 births, the highest rate recorded since 1926. This high figure was due largely to an increase in the rate in Dublin county borough, and Dr. Russell, the medical superintendent officer of health, stated in his annual report that deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis were mainly responsible, and that "cow's milk carelessly handled during transit from the cow to the infant is frequently the vehicle for these infections."

### Puerperal Sepsis in Dublin

In the *Journal* of April 30 there appeared at page 955 an annotation on the planning of maternity hospitals. This same subject, with special reference to the needs of Dublin, was discussed at a recent meeting of the Section of Obstetrics of the Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland. Dr. A. H. Davidson, Master of the Rotunda Hospital, thought that a special isolation hospital was necessary for cases of puerperal sepsis; it should be in the charge of an obstetrician who would have the assistance of a bacteriologist and a house surgeon. Dr. C. J. McSweeney suggested that such an isolation block should be in the charge of a physician with the assistance of a consultant obstetrician, and might well be part of the new Dublin fever hospital. He said the Queen Charlotte Septic Block, a unit of thirty beds, cost £7,753 exclusive of the bacteriological department, which was estimated to cost over £4,000; situated in a fever hospital such a unit would not cost half as much. Dr. J. F. Cunningham, Master of the National Maternity Hospital, believed that the problem would best be met by the establishment of a special department in connexion with one of the general hospitals. Dr. R. M. Corbet, Master of the Coombe Hospital, thought the arrangement of the Frith Auxiliary Hospital in Sheffield, three miles from the Jessop Hospital with which it was affiliated, ideal for the treatment of puerperal infection. Dr. Falkiner supported the suggestion that the cases should be nursed in an isolation block connected with the new fever hospital. He agreed that it would be necessary to accommodate some 200 cases a year and thought it would be advisable to make puerperal pyrexia notifiable in Eire. The discussion ended inconclusively, but there was general agreement on the need for special accommodation for cases of puerperal sepsis, though some difference of opinion as to how this could best be provided.

### Radiological Conference in Belfast

The programme has now been issued for the fourth annual general meeting of the British Association of Radiologists, to be held in Belfast on Friday, May 13, and Saturday, May 14, at the Whitla Medical Institute, College Square North. The proceedings will open with the installation of the president, Dr. R. M. Beath, who will give his address, followed by a paper on "Chronic Fluorine Poisoning as seen from a Radiological Standpoint" by Professor P. Flemming Møller of Copenhagen. The first part of Friday afternoon will be devoted to "Radio-diagnosis," the discussions being opened by Dr. T. Garrett Hardman of Dublin, Dr. J. F. Brailsford of Birmingham, and Dr. Peter Kerley of London. After tea at the Royal Victoria Hospital there will be an inspection of the Hospital Centre, and the annual dinner of the association at Thompson's Restaurant. On Saturday morning a symposium on "Radiotherapeutics" will be led by Dr. S. Cochrane Shanks of London, Drs. J. Ralston Paterson and Margaret Tod of Manchester, and Dr. R. McWhirter of Edinburgh. In the afternoon there will be golf at Newcastle and an excursion to Larne and Ballycastle. Full particulars can be had from the Secretary, British Association of Radiologists, 32, Welbeck Street, London, W.1.

An announcement regarding the award of Finney-Howell Research Foundation fellowships for cancer research was made in these columns on November 20, 1937 (p. 1037). The secretary of the Foundation, Dr. William A. Fisher (Medical and Chirurgical Faculty Building, 1211, Cathedral Street, Baltimore, Maryland), now supplies a list of ten fellowships awarded for one year at a recent meeting of the Board of Directors. One of these goes to Mrs. Margaret Esther Boyland, for work with Professor E. L. Kennaway at the Royal Cancer Hospital, London. Applications for next year should be in the hands of Dr. Fisher by January 1, 1939, the appointments being made in March, 1939.

## Universities and Colleges

### UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Convocation on April 26 agreed to confer on July 16 the honorary degree of Doctor of Science upon Dr. Harvey Cushing, Emeritus Professor of Surgery at Harvard University, and formerly Professor of Neurology at Yale.

At a Congregation held on April 28 the degree of B.M. was conferred on R. Roaf (*in absentia*).

### UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

At a Congregation on April 30 a Grace was approved for conferment of the degree of Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*, upon Francis Peyton Rous of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York.

The following medical degrees were conferred:

M. CHIR.—D. N. Matthews.

M.B., B.Chir.—\*S. T. Anning, A. W. Box, E. W. Dorrell, F. E. S. Hatfield, L. A. C. Wood.

M.B.—J. W. Parks, J. G. Chappel.

\*By proxy.

The following have been appointed University Demonstrators in Anatomy for three years: E. W. O. Adkins, B.A., and G. D. Channell, M.B., B.S.Lond., from April 1, 1938; F. Wemyss Smith, M.B., Ch.B.Manch., from October 1, 1938.

The Professor of Anatomy gives notice that applications for the Marmaduke Sheild Scholarship in Human Anatomy must be sent to the Registry on or before May 20. The award will be made towards the end of June. Those eligible are such undergraduates of not more than three years' standing from matriculation and such Bachelors of Arts of not more than four years' standing from matriculation as have passed Part II of the Second M.B. examination or done the equivalent of so passing and have also obtained honours in Part I of the Natural Sciences Tripos with Anatomy as one of their subjects. Women also are eligible. The scholarship is normally tenable for a year, but a scholar may be re-elected for a second year. The emolument is £100 a year.

### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

#### LONDON HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE

Dr. Robert Hutchison, President of the Royal College of Physicians of London, and consulting physician to the London Hospital, will present the prizes to the students of the hospital on Thursday, June 30.

#### LONDON (ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL) SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FOR WOMEN

The following postgraduate scholarships will be awarded for the session 1938-9:

- (a) A. M. Bird Scholarship. £200 for one year to enable a medical graduate to obtain general experience in pathology.
- (b) Mabel Webb and A. M. Bird Research Scholarship. £200 a year for assistance in carrying on research.

Further particulars and forms of application can be obtained from the Warden and Secretary of the Medical School. Applications must be received by May 22.

The following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE.—(*With Special Knowledge of Mental Diseases*): G. L. Ashford, Hilda M. S. Davidson, J. Gibson, W. S. L. Gilchrist, Augusta G. Harrison, S. H. Lubner. Part A: J. E. O'N. Gillespie, D. Gilmour, W. Telfer.

#### ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON

At a meeting of the Royal College of Physicians of London, held on April 28, with the President, Dr. Robert Hutchison, in the chair, Dr. H. L. Tidy was elected Registrar of the College.

The following Members were elected Fellows:

Arthur Wellesley Falconer, M.D.Aberd. (Cape Town); John Forbes Ward, M.D.Manch. (Manchester); Stanley Graham Ross, M.D.McGill (Montreal); John Vernon Cannadine Braithwaite, M.D.Lond. (Leicester); John Edwin Mackonochie Wigley, M.B. Melb.; Robert Coope, M.D.Liverp. (Liverpool); Frances Braid, M.D.St. And. (Birmingham); Cyril William Curtis Bain, M.D.Oxf. (Harrogate); Henry Henderson Moll, M.D.Rome (Leeds); Richard Sydney Allison, M.D.Belf. (Belfast); William Alexander Lister, M.D.Camb. (Plymouth); Cyril Lloyd Elgood, M.D.Oxf.; Henry

Brian Frost Dixon, M.D.Dubl., Lieutenant-Colonel R.A.M.C. (Gibraltar); Julia Bell; James Gordon Danson, M.D.Aberd., Surgeon Captain R.N. (Gosport); Robert James Pulvertaft, M.D. Camb.; Peter Henry Martin, M.B.Oxf.; Douglas Hamilton Macleod, M.B.Lond.; Sydney Watson Smith, M.D.Ed. (Bournemouth); Aubrey Julian Lewis, M.D.Adelaide; Denis Hubert Brinton, M.B.Oxf.; Hugh Alexander Dunlop, M.D.Lond.; Hugh Leslie Marriott, M.D.Lond.; George White Pickering, M.B.Camb.; Horace Evans, M.D.Lond.; Harold Percival Himsforth, M.D.Lond.; William George Barnard; John Clifford Hoyle, M.D.Lond.; Archibald Gilpin, M.D.Lond.; Ernest Thomas Conybeare, M.D.Lond.; Soliman Azmi Pasha, M.D.Cairo (Egypt); John Fleming Brock, M.D.Oxf. (Cape Town); William Drew Nicol, M.B.Lond. (Epsom); Russell John Reynolds, M.B.Lond.; and Ram Nath Chopra, M.D. Camb., Brevet Colonel I.M.S. (Calcutta).

The following were elected Fellows under By-law XXXVIII (b):

Sir Almroth Edward Wright, K.B.E., C.B., M.D., D.Sc., F.R.S.; Herbert Stanley Raper, C.B.E., D.Sc., M.B., F.R.S. (Manchester); James Bertram Collip, D.Sc., M.D., F.R.S. (Montreal); and George Richards Minot, M.D. (Cambridge, Mass.).

The following were appointed representatives of the College:

Viscount Dawson of Penn on the Governing Body of the British Postgraduate Medical School; Lord Horder at the Cremation Conference to be held at Oxford in July; Sir Reginald Bond on the Professional Classes Aid Council; Dr. Dawtrey Drevitt on the Committee of Management of the Chelsea Physic Garden; Dr. William Brown at the tenth international Medical Congress for Psychotherapy to be held at Oxford in July; Dr. Eric Pritchard at the National Conference on Maternity and Child Welfare at Bristol in July; and Dr. R. R. Trail at the annual conference of the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis in London, June 30, July 1 and 2.

The following candidates satisfied the Censors' Board, and were admitted Members of the College:

Simon Almond, M.B.Manch., Reginald Nevill Cudmore Bickford, M.B.Adelaide, Ronald Victor Christie, M.D.Ed., Richard Frederick Clarke, M.B.Lond., Edward George Huxley Cowen, M.D.Lond., Christopher Sydney Darke, M.B.Lond., David Howard Davies, M.B.Camb., Antony Clifford Dornhorst, M.B.Lond., Bernard Freedman, L.R.C.P., William Goldie, M.B.Aberd., Frederick William Gordon, M.D.Aberd., Ronald Douglas Green, M.D.Lond., John Charles Harland, M.B.Lond., Mohammed Radwan Kenawy, M.D. Cairo, David Kendall, M.B.Oxf., Edwin Howard Kitching, M.D. Leeds, Kenneth Arthur Latter, M.B.Lond., Richard Edward Kenny Levick, M.B.Camb., Valentine Darte Logue, L.R.C.P., Frank Rees Magarey, M.B.Adelaide, Frederick John William Miller, M.B. Durh., Mangalore Narisimha Pai, M.B.Madras, Seymour Cochrane Shanks, M.D.Glasg., André Nasri Tagher, M.B.Cairo, Edward Wing Twining, L.R.C.P., Dorothy Caroline Ranita Vethavanam, M.B.Madras, Henry John Wade, M.D.Manch., Solomon Simon Yudkin, M.B.Lond.

The Croonian Lectures on "The Clinical Aspects of the Transmission of the Effects of Nervous Impulses by Acetylcholine" will be delivered by Professor F. R. Fraser at the College on May 24, 26, and 31 at 5 p.m.

### BRITISH COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS

At the quarterly meeting of the Council, held in the College House on April 23, with the President, Sir Ewen Maclean, in the chair, the following were promoted to the Fellowship and formally admitted by the President:

K. V. Bailey, Manchester, \*W. A. G. Bauld, Canada, W. E. Barrie-Adshad, Birmingham, \*J. Black, South Africa, Margaret G. Bott, Nottingham, C. P. Brentnall, Manchester, R. C. Brown, London, \*R. I. Furber, Australia, \*J. S. Green, Australia, J. W. A. Hunter, Manchester, R. G. Maliphant, Cardiff, \*G. C. Melhado, Canada, H. J. Malkin, Nottingham, \*S. Mitra, India, \*C. F. Morkane, New Zealand, A. L. Walker, London, E. Williams, London, A. J. Wrigley, London, \*H. B. Van Wyck, Canada.

The following were admitted to the Membership:

Y. N. Ajinkya, India, \*Mary C. Albuquerque, India, J. J. Armitage, Salisbury, Elinor F. E. Black, Canada, Doris B. Brown, Harrogate, W. D. Brown, London, H. Canwarden, Guildford, \*W. D. Cunningham, Australia, Mary Evans, Manchester, M. B. Hallam, Manchester, \*O. S. Heyns, South Africa, \*R. A. Logan, India, J. C. Loxton, Australia, \*B. E. Meek, Canada, J. Miller, Greenock, \*E. A. Menon, India, \*E. B. Moore, Australia, R. W. Nichol, London, Susanne J. Paterson, Edinburgh, C. G. Roworth, Aberdeen, P. W. S. Riley, Australia, \*D. F. Standing, South Africa, L. M. Snaith, Manchester, Dorothy M. Stewart, New Zealand, R. K. Tampan, India, R. A. Tennent, Cambuslang, \*G. A. Thompson, Australia, W. H. Tod, Leeds, \*C. V. Ward, Canada, Alice Woodhead, London, J. C. Whyte, Canada.

\*In absentia.

The following were elected to the Membership: F. G. MacGuinness, Canada, G. J. Streat, Canada.

Thomas Norman Arthur Jeffcoate, M.D., F.R.C.S.Ed., M.C.O.G., and Richard Alan Brews, M.D., M.S., F.R.C.S.,

M.R.C.P., M.C.O.G., have been appointed the first Blair-Bell Memorial Lecturers.

At the annual general meeting of the College, held on April 23 in the College House, with the President, Sir Ewen Maclean, in the chair, the following were elected to the Council in place of those retiring by statutory rotation. *Representatives of the Fellows*: Mr. A. W. Bourne, Professor A. Leyland Robinson, Professor William Gough, Professor James Hendry. *Representatives of the Members*: Mr. E. A. Gerrard, Mr. W. C. Armstrong.

#### SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON

The following candidates have passed in the subjects indicated:

**SURGERY.**—G. E. N. Bird, J. C. Gregory, M. W. Hemans, G. E. King-Turner, F. P. S. Malone-Barrett, F. D. P. Palmer, H. A. N. Passmore.

**MEDICINE.**—A. Backman, P. Baker, M. Becker, W. D. Brinton, N. D. Cousins, A. Dunkerley, J. Frankenthal, C. C. B. Guest, J. S. Lancaster, C. L. Summersfield, P. A. Walshaw.

**FORENSIC MEDICINE.**—P. Baker, M. Becker, W. D. Brinton, N. D. Cousins, A. Dunkerley, J. Frankenthal, C. C. B. Guest, G. E. King-Turner, J. S. Lancaster, C. L. Summersfield, P. A. Walshaw.

**MIDWIFERY.**—S. K. Das, H. J. Dismorr, T. C. Hallinan, F. H. Holder, R. P. Parkinson, J. A. V. Shone.

The diploma of the Society has been granted to G. E. N. Bird, W. D. Brinton, N. D. Cousins, C. C. B. Guest, T. C. Hallinan, M. W. Hemans, J. S. Lancaster, H. A. N. Passmore, and P. A. Walshaw.

## Medical News

Dr. Herbert Birkett (Montreal), Dr. Brown Kelly (Glasgow), Dr. D. R. Paterson (Cardiff), and Sir StClair Thomson have been elected Honorary Members of the Gesellschaft Deutscher Hals-, Nasen- und Ohrenärzte.

The annual meeting and luncheon of the Tavistock Clinic (Malet Place, W.C.) will be held at the Café Royal, Regent Street, W., on Monday, May 9, at 1 p.m. The speakers will be the Earl of Faversham, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mrs. I. M. Sieff, and Dr. J. R. Rees, medical director of the Clinic.

The following meetings of the Tuberculosis Association will be held at 26, Portland Place, W., on Friday, May 20: 4 p.m., council meeting; 5.15 p.m., general meeting: papers on "Trauma and Tuberculosis" by Dr. J. Browning Alexander, Dr. G. J. Johnstone, and Mr. C. A. Collingwood; 8.15 p.m., papers on "Anaesthetics in Thoracic Surgery" by Dr. J. T. Hunter and Mr. J. B. Hunter.

The next clinical meeting of the Society of Radiotherapists will be held at 11, Chandos Street, W., on Friday, May 20, at 5 p.m., when the subject for discussion will be "Radiotherapy of Brain Tumours." The opening speakers will be Professor Hugh Cairns, Mrs. E. L. M. Hilton, and Mr. R. McWhirter.

The annual general meeting of the British Institute of Radiology (incorporated with the Röntgen Society) will be held in the Reid-Knox Hall, 32, Welbeck Street, W., on Thursday, May 19, at 6.30 p.m.

H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent will open the new maternity wing of the Livingstone Hospital, Dartford, on the afternoon of Wednesday, May 18.

The twenty-fourth Annual Conference of the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis will be held in the Great Hall of the British Medical Association House, Tavistock Square, W.C., on June 30 and July 1 and 2, and will be preceded by the annual meeting of the care committees in the morning of June 29. Invitations and further particulars will be issued in due course.

The eleventh Congress of the Society of Oto-neuro-ophthalmology will be held at Bordeaux from June 3 to 5 under the presidency of Professor Portmann, when the subject for discussion will be hallucinations in oto-neuro-ophthalmology. Further information can be obtained from the general secretary, M. Auguste Tournay, 58, Rue de Vaugirard, Paris VIe.

In our advertisement columns this week the British Empire Cancer Campaign invites applications from male British subjects for the post of Medical Secretary and Registrar to the Clinical Cancer Research Committee. The appointment is a whole-time one and remuneration will be at the rate of £500 per annum. Applications should reach the general secretary of the Campaign at 11, Grosvenor Crescent, London, S.W.1, by June 30.

The first French Congress of "Good Bread" will be held at Nice on May 14 and 15. Further information can be obtained from the general secretary, M. Robert Septembre, 16, Rue de l'Hôtel des Postes, Nice.

The seventeenth International Neurological Reunion will be held in Paris on May 31 and June 1, at La Salpêtrière, 47, Boulevard de l'Hôpital. The subject for discussion will be the pupil in neurology. During the conference a demonstration will be given of the work of Dejerine, Babinski, and Charcot. Inquiries should be addressed to Dr. Crouzon, 70 bis, Avenue d'Iéna, Paris XVIe. The programme will be sent to those who notify their intention to attend.

The sixty-first international postgraduate course of the Vienna Medical Faculty will be held from May 16 to 28, the subjects being diseases of the digestive system and disorders of the endocrine glands. The fee is RM.25. There will be radiographic demonstrations illustrating the lectures and clinical work. Further information may be obtained from the offices of the International Postgraduate Courses, The University, Vienna. The demonstrations and lectures will take place in various hospitals and clinics.

In our advertisement columns this week the Middlesex County Council invites applications for the post of pathologist to the Central Middlesex County Hospital, Acton Lane, Willesden, N.W., at a salary of £1,100 per annum, rising by annual increments of £50 to £1,300 per annum.

Dr. William Brown, who was recently chosen prospective Liberal candidate for Oxford City, has now resigned this position. He has found that it is not possible to combine activity in party politics with his work as a medical psychologist in London and as Director of the Institute of Experimental Psychology in Oxford University.

The March issue of the *Bulletin de l'Office International d'Hygiène Publique*, in addition to a sympathetic obituary notice of Sir Thomas Stanton, who was the delegate for the British Colonies on the permanent committee of the Office, contains papers on quarantine measures against yellow fever in the United States, sanitary conditions of aerial navigation in the French Colonies, "disinsectization" of airships at Khartum, prevention of rabies in Italy, destruction of locusts, thallium intoxication in Poland, avitaminosis in Czechoslovakia, recent developments in the purification of water-courses in the United States, and new legislation on the prophylaxis of venereal diseases in the Argentine Republic.

The March issue of the *Scottish Geographical Magazine* opens with an interesting article entitled "Australian Impressions" by Dr. Douglas Guthrie of Edinburgh.

A third edition has now been issued of *Air Raid Precautions Handbook* No. 2, which deals with first-aid and nursing for gas casualties. It is published for the Home Office by H.M. Stationery Office at 4d.

To commemorate the centenary of John Shaw Billings the New York Academy of Medicine and the New York Public Library recently held exhibitions of his writings testifying to his versatility, to which reference was made in this *Journal* on April 9 (p. 796).

The well-known paediatrist, Geh. Rat Professor Adalbert Czerny of Berlin, was awarded the shield of nobility of the German Reich on the occasion of his seventy-fifth birthday.

There has recently been a small epidemic of psittacosis in Vienna, chiefly affecting actors' families.

A Chinese Dermatological Society has recently been founded, with Professor F. K. Chen as president.