

Local News

ENGLAND AND WALES

Medical Aid in Childbirth

The Minister of Health has communicated with local supervising authorities (Circular 1705) on the methods they might suitably adopt in order to secure that the best obstetric skill is available to expectant mothers on occasions when midwives have to call in a doctor. The suggestions made follow consultation with the various local government bodies interested, as well as the British Medical Association. The recommendations are:

(1) That a panel of doctors who will be available for this service should be drawn up for the area of each local supervising authority.

(2) That a small advisory committee of general practitioners and obstetric specialists should be set up in each area under the chairmanship of the medical officer of health to advise the authority in regard to the operation of the arrangements and on any alterations which may be found necessary in order to secure and maintain a high standard of obstetric practice.

Such arrangements are facilitated by the fact that under the Midwives Act of 1936 midwives attending patients in their own homes are in the main, and increasingly, the employees of the local authority. They will be supplied with a copy of the list of doctors and will ask their patients, at an early stage, to select a doctor, to be sent for in case of need, from the panel. It is hoped that the adoption of arrangements on these lines by local authorities will help in reducing the maternal mortality rate still further.

Ready Reference to L.C.C. Hospitals

For the two pence which the Good Samaritan tendered to the innkeeper his successor in modern London may provide himself with a booklet issued by the London County Council giving every necessary particular of its general and special hospital services and ambulance service so that the sick and injured may be sent to their appropriate destination with the minimum of delay.¹ The orange-covered booklet takes up next to no room in the doctor's pocket or on his desk, and it contains just those details the busy and harassed practitioner wants to have at hand—not a laudation of the largest municipal hospital service in the world, with facts and figures which are merely interesting, but such things as essential telephone numbers, the exact whereabouts of the different hospitals and clinics, the bed accommodation, the name of the medical superintendent, the availability of ambulances, the charges for out-patient treatment, the hours during which clinics are open, the fees for the attendance of midwives, and so forth. The Council administers thirty-seven general hospitals and a rather smaller number of special hospitals, but many of the general hospitals are themselves special in the sense that they provide particular services not common to them all. For example, the treatment of cancer by means of high-voltage x-ray apparatus and radium is available at Lambeth and Hammersmith Hospitals; certain special and expensive technical appliances such as the electrocardiograph are at present located only at certain hospitals. Eight hospitals have psychiatric out-patient clinics. Even the infectious diseases hospitals are differentiated. Thus at various hospitals there are units for puerperal fever cases, for diphtheria carriers, and for acute poliomyelitis. Maternity units are provided at twenty-two general hospitals. It is mentioned that extensive arrangements are made to co-operate with the metropolitan borough councils, which are respon-

sible under the Public Health (London) Act for maternity and child welfare. Whether the expectant mother elects to attend an L.C.C. clinic or a borough clinic the reciprocal arrangements obtain, so that she receives the expert supervision necessary during pregnancy.

The British Association Meeting

This year the annual meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science will be held at Cambridge from August 17 to 24 under the presidency of Lord Rayleigh. There will be twelve sections; the president of the Section of Anthropology is Professor Gordon Childe; of Psychology, Dr. R. H. Thouless; of Botany, Professor W. Stiles; and of Chemistry, Professor C. S. Gibson, O.B.E. The preliminary programme has been issued and may be obtained from the office of the British Association, Burlington House, London, W.1. Among the subjects to be dealt with by the presidents of sections and in discussions are the chemistry of gold; problems of the Australian aborigine; repercussions of synthetic organic chemistry on biology and medicine; the effect of the cinema and wireless on the life of the school child; magnetic alloys and x-ray methods; the eye and brain as factors in visual perception; problems of road and air transport; and scientific investigation in relation to the community generally. Various receptions and entertainments are being organized by the Senate of the University and by Colleges. Owing to the coincidence of the International Physiological Congress, which this year is to be held at Zurich from August 14 to 19, the Section of Physiology will not hold separate meetings at Cambridge. The annual meeting of the British Association in 1939 will be held in Dundee.

King Edward VII Sanatorium, Midhurst

The report of King Edward VII Sanatorium, Midhurst, for the year July, 1936, to June, 1937, shows that 262 patients were admitted during the twelve months, of whom fifty-seven had previously been in the institution. The number of patients discharged, excluding nineteen who remained less than nine weeks and thirty-eight who were readmitted, was 189. Of these no fewer than 154 were classified on admission in group I or II, which according to the classification used at Midhurst, means that in none did the disease, if of "slight severity," affect more than the whole of one lobe, or, if "severe," more than half of one lobe. The degree of severity is based on physical signs: by "disease of slight severity" is understood "disseminated foci characterized by slight dullness, indefinite rough or weak vesicular or broncho-vesicular breathing, and fine medium crepitations"; by "severe disease" is understood "massive infiltration, recognized by definite dullness, broncho-vesicular or bronchial breathing, with or without crepitations." This classification, although admittedly unsatisfactory, does show that a high proportion of the patients admitted at Midhurst are *relatively* early cases. The average duration of disease was one year eleven months, but as the extreme limits were four weeks and twenty years the "average" figure really gives no useful information. Of the 154 patients in groups I and II ninety-one were discharged as "arrested" (corresponding to "quiescent" in the Ministry of Health classification). Of the twenty-seven patients in group III one only was discharged as "arrested"; in the remaining eight discharged patients no evidence of pulmonary tuberculosis was found. Sixty-two of the 189 patients still had positive sputum on discharge, and the medical superintendent suggests some factors that account for this. The most important appears to be the short average length of stay—just under six months—and the reason given for this is pressure on the available beds in the sanatorium. If this explanation is correct (almost all authorities are agreed that six months in an institution is quite inadequate for the satisfactory treatment of the majority of cases of phthisis) the question of the accom-

¹ L.C.C. *General and Special Hospitals Services, 1938*. Westminster: P. S. King and Son, Limited. Price 2d., post free 2½d.

modation at this sanatorium deserves the earnest attention of the council of management and the sympathy of the public, since the Midhurst sanatorium is one of the very few institutions in this country that cater for tuberculous patients of the middle class.

Seaside Convalescent Home for Women

The new convalescent home for women which the London County Council has provided at Margate was open for inspection last week. The site of the home was previously occupied by Princess Mary's Hospital for Children, a hospital transferred to the Council from the Metropolitan Asylums Board under the Local Government Act, 1929, and formerly used for the treatment of children suffering from surgical tuberculosis. In February, 1935, however, the Council decided to transfer children suffering from this disease to its Heatherwood Hospital at Ascot, Berkshire. In the following June it decided to reconstruct Princess Mary's Hospital in order to make it suitable for the reception of convalescent women. The patients will be sent to the home on the recommendation of the medical superintendents of the Council's London hospitals, and while at Princess Mary's Convalescent Home their treatment will be continued and completed in ideal surroundings. The home is equipped to give massage and electrical treatment. It stands in about four acres of ground and has accommodation for 223 women and fourteen babies. The first batch of patients was admitted on June 10. The work of reconstruction, which has cost over £76,000, has involved the remodelling of some of the existing buildings and the erection of a new dormitory block on a site previously occupied by four single-story blocks. Everything possible has been done for the comfort of the women during their stay. Great improvements have also been made to the grounds of the home. New gardens have been made and the existing gardens remodelled.

Joint Tuberculosis Council

A meeting of the Joint Tuberculosis Council was held in London on May 21, with Dr. S. Vere Pearson in the chair. Dr. N. Lloyd Rusby and Dr. R. L. Midgley were welcomed as new members, representing the Tuberculosis Association and the Tuberculosis Group of the Society of Medical Officers of Health respectively. Information concerning a proposed visit to this country of French tuberculosis physicians was discussed briefly, and the Council agreed to co-operate in every way with arrangements which the National Association and the Tuberculosis Association might make for the visitors. The resignation of Dr. F. G. C. Blackmore from the Council was accepted with regret and the secretary was instructed to convey to Dr. Blackmore the thanks of the Council for his work. Dr. W. Brand, who has done so much for postgraduate study in this country, was elected a co-opted member of the Council. No additional committees were set up, but it was decided that the Artificial Pneumothorax (Dr. Trail, convener), Employment (Dr. J. B. McDougall, convener), Radiology (Dr. G. Jessel, convener), Nursing (Dr. Carling, convener), and the Finance and Publicity Committees should remain in office. The committee dealing with work in the Colonies is now to become the "Overseas" Committee, with Dr. F. Heaf as convener. By the requisite two-thirds majority two alterations were made in the constitution which will allow of wider representation on the Council. An important discussion was initiated by Dr. G. Lissant Cox, who moved that the Ministry of Health be asked to resume publication of the summary of returns of work rendered to the Ministry under Memorandum 37/T. He did not suggest that they should necessarily be published monthly, but they should be available at two- or three-monthly intervals. Support for the motion was given by Drs. Jessel, Tattersall, and Sutherland, and the Chairman pointed out that one of the great advantages in the

returns was that they tended to stimulate the more backward local authorities. It was resolved that a deputation comprising Drs. Lissant Cox (Lancashire), Sutherland (Manchester), Tattersall (Leeds), and Professor Jameson (London) should meet the Ministry to discuss the matter more fully and report back.

Harveian Society Banquet

The Curators of Patronage of the University of Edinburgh of London was held at the Merchant Taylors' Hall on June 14 with the President of the Society, Sir Alfred Webb-Johnson, in the chair. "The Society" was proposed by Major the Hon. J. J. Astor, M.P. Major Astor sketched briefly the life of William Harvey and referred particularly to Harvey's dissection of the toad believed to be the familiar of a witch at Newmarket, and to the part that Harvey played in the trial of the Lancashire witches. He said that one of the most striking things about Harvey was the fact that he had been demonstrating the circulation of the blood for nearly twelve years before "rushing into print." This seemed to suggest a lack of news sense to those who were accustomed to seeing important medical discoveries announced in glowing, though perhaps premature, terms to-day. In replying, Sir Alfred Webb-Johnson referred to the generosity of Sir Buckston Browne, and in connexion with Sir Arthur Hurst's Harveian lecture recounted the tale of an ostrich that swallowed the book of common prayer and was able to digest everything except the Thirty-nine Articles. The Society hoped some day to have a home of its own where all the Harveian relics that it possessed might be placed. He pointed out that the annual prize of £100 would be given this year for the best essay on the value of periodic medical examinations in the prevention of serious disease. Dr. John Taylor then proposed "The Visitors," a toast to which Captain H. F. C. Crookshank, M.P., the Rev. Patrick McCormick, and the Hon. Mr. Justice Humphreys responded on behalf of the many distinguished guests.

SCOTLAND

Edinburgh Chair of Medicine

The Curators of Patronage of the University of Edinburgh on June 14 appointed Professor L. S. P. Davidson to the chair of medicine in the University in succession to Professor W. T. Ritchie, who retires at the end of the present session. Professor Davidson, who at present holds the post of regius professor of medicine in the University of Aberdeen, began a medical course at Edinburgh in 1911. This was interrupted by the war, during which he served for three years as a captain in the Gordon Highlanders, but when he was invalided out of the Army he resumed his medical studies, graduating M.B., Ch.B. with first-class honours in 1919. In 1925 he secured his M.D. with a thesis for which he was awarded a gold medal, and in the same year was elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. After various resident appointments he became assistant to the professor of bacteriology in Edinburgh, and, later, assistant to the professor of medicine; he was subsequently appointed an assistant physician to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh. During this time he did research work under a grant from the Medical Research Council, and published a number of papers. It was in 1930 that he was appointed professor of medicine in the University of Aberdeen, succeeding Sir Ashley Mackintosh. In the Aberdeen appointment he has been a popular and successful teacher who has gained a reputation for energy and scientific enthusiasm. It is understood that at Edinburgh Professor Davidson will act both as a physician to the Royal Infirmary and as director of the Medical Unit in the Western General Municipal Hospital.

University of Aberdeen

At a meeting of Aberdeen University Court on June 14 the resignations of Professor L. S. P. Davidson from the chair of medicine and of Emeritus Professor R. W. Reid from the post of honorary curator of the Anthropological Museum of the University were accepted. A gift of £5,000 from Imperial Chemical Industries, to be applied towards the cost of erecting a new chemistry department at the University, was intimated. The Court agreed to a general reconditioning of the buildings at Marischal College, at an estimated cost of £144,000, to provide up-to-date accommodation for the departments of physiology and anatomy with additional accommodation for several other departments, and for new examination halls and administrative buildings. This work is to be carried out at Marischal College when the clinical part of the medical school has been removed to the new buildings, which are almost completed, at Forresterhill in connexion with the new Royal Infirmary and Joint Hospitals Scheme. It is expected that these new medical buildings will be ready for formal opening in September. Plans were also approved for a new residence near the buildings of the Joint Hospitals Scheme to house final-year medical students in order to facilitate clinical training during the final year.

Proposed Maternity Centre for Moray, Nairn, and Banff

At a meeting of the Public Health Committee of Moray and Nairn Joint County Council, held at Elgin on June 6, a letter was read from the Department of Health in regard to the question of a joint maternity hospital for Moray, Nairn, and Banff. The question arose out of a proposal by the County Council of Banff to erect a small maternity annex to the Seafield Cottage Hospital at Buckie. The Department referred to the recommendation in the report on maternal mortality in Scotland, issued in 1935, which pointed out that the provision of small units did not secure the high standard of service and of specialist skill that were essential for maternity cases if the death and disability rates were to be sensibly reduced. The Department further expressed the view that centralization of institutional treatment for maternity cases must be carried out when it was at all possible, and that the situation of a hospital was not of so much importance as the adequacy of the treatment available. The problem in this case might be solved by the provision of an institution for, say, twenty-five beds by the combined local authorities of Moray, Nairn, and Banff. The chairman of the meeting stated that the present practice in these counties was to use Aberdeen, but this city was rather far away, and it would be of advantage to have a maternity hospital and specialist nearer at hand. The medical officer of health for the joint county had originally proposed to combine with Inverness, where, however, there was as yet no maternity accommodation, and now proposed that an attempt should be made to secure co-operation with Banffshire. It was agreed that the matter should be further investigated.

Astley-Ainslie Institution

The annual report of the Astley-Ainslie Institution, Edinburgh, shows that there have been several innovations during the year. A school conducted for the children undergoing treatment has been recognized as a hospital school under the Education (Scotland) Act, 1918. A training centre has been opened for occupational therapy in the institution, and a detailed scheme comprising a two and a half years' course of instruction has been inaugurated, five students being enrolled for the first term last October. A scheme of shorter hours of duty for nurses has been introduced; their working hours have been reduced to an average of ninety-six a fortnight. The total number of patients treated during the year was 1,186, and it has been noted that men tended to pass through the hospital rather more quickly than women.

Correspondence

Telephoned Prescriptions for Poisons: A Warning

SIR,—A number of instances of non-compliance with an important provision of the Poisons Rules has been brought to the notice of the Pharmaceutical Society by the inspectors under the Pharmacy Acts, and the Society, after consultation with the British Medical Association, finds it necessary to warn both practitioners and chemists that further breaches of the Rule may be followed by prosecutions.

The Rule referred to provides that the poisons listed in Schedule 4 of the Poisons Rules may be supplied to the public only on medical prescription. Those in common use are cinchophen, amidopyrine, and the numerous barbiturates. They may be supplied direct to medical practitioners in response to a telephone order, but not to patients on a telephoned prescription. Reports from the Society's inspectors show that many practitioners are ordering and chemists are supplying these drugs to the public by means of telephoned orders.

In these circumstances the Society, as the authority responsible for the administration of the Rule, can no longer acquiesce in non-compliance with its provisions and must shortly bring offenders before the courts. The Society is most reluctant to proceed to extreme measures and, before doing so, wishes to make this appeal to medical practitioners, to observe the legal obligations placed upon them. A similar appeal is being made to chemists.

Medical men will perhaps realize that the pharmacist is placed in a difficult position. To comply with the regulations it is his duty to refuse to supply these drugs on telephoned prescriptions, but he is naturally unwilling to offend a practitioner in his neighbourhood. The abolition of "telephoned prescriptions," though causing inconvenience, need not affect adversely the relationship between doctor and pharmacist, and I have little doubt that medical practitioners will appreciate the necessity for strict compliance with their legal obligations.—I am, etc.,

HUGH N. LINSTED,
Secretary, Pharmaceutical Society
of Great Britain.

London, W.C.1, June 17.

Matrimonial Causes Act

SIR,—The medical man immediately concerned with the Matrimonial Causes Act is the patient's regular attendant—either the medical superintendent or medical officer of the hospital in which the patient resides. He is confronted by a twofold problem when called upon by the prospective petitioner to assist in operating the Act. First, he has to satisfy himself whether the patient in question is incurable, and, secondly, he has to decide whether to pass his opinion on to the petitioner. It would be doing less than justice to medical officers in mental hospitals if the situation in which the Act places him were interpreted in a legalistic light; and this is what contributors to the discussion have been inclined to do. The medical officer is not nearly so much concerned with the possibility of being involved in litigation in consequence of his participation in the divorce proceedings—though such concern may arise later—as with the ethics of giving

simultaneous action of the bowels. Sometimes normal urinary control was established after one injection of doryl; in one case, after one success, doryl failed; in others the treatment has been repeated once or twice daily for as long as a week. No complications of note were observed. In three or four of the twelve cases there was no response to doryl.

I am grateful to Professor D. K. Henderson for permission to publish these observations, which were made on patients under his charge in the Royal Edinburgh Hospital for Mental and Nervous Disorders.

—I am, etc.,

Edinburgh 10, June 20.

HARRY STALKER.

Origin of Cancer

SIR,—The statement by Dr. J. V. Fiddian in the *Journal* of April 30 (p. 973) that "... conjugation occurs among the cells of malignant growths, and was described by Bashford, who observed it, as identical with the process of conjugation seen in many protozoa" requires correction. Dr. E. F. Bashford and Dr. J. A. Murray read a paper on the conjugation of resting nuclei in an epithelioma of the mouse, an account of which appeared in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society* (1904, **73**, 77). The observations described, however, were subsequently found to have been erroneous, and the original contentions of the observers were withdrawn the following year. The conjugation of cancer cells, in the words of Dr. W. E. Gye, the present Director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, to whose courtesy I am indebted for the above information, "is no longer believed in."—I am, etc.,

Egham, Surrey, June 10.

CHARLES M. BEADNELL,
Surgeon Rear-Admiral.

Assistance to Medical Students from Austria

SIR,—The letter of Professor John A. Ryle (June 11, p. 1286) raises questions of more than sentiment—a matter of principle is involved. While sympathizing with human suffering in any form, I yet do not see that the medical profession in England should be expected, or even asked, to bring to "lives deprived of hope" (according to Professor Ryle) the solace and comfort, not to mention pecuniary advantage, of a free home and a free medical education. I have known many a good man of our own race who has been more in need of such hope and comfort as a free medical education could provide, but who, because of poverty, has had to look to some other sphere of human activity than medicine to earn a living. The lot of our own medical students is, from a financial standpoint, not a bed of roses, and I have personal recollections of existence for over three years on a diet of cocoa and dry bread, with an occasional kipper for variety, in order to save enough money to pay my hospital fees. Strange to say I do not remember any hospital dean, or anyone else, growing moist-eyed at my harrowing recital of inability to pay hospital fees!

This matter of refugees from certain Continental countries is fast becoming a political ramp, but I do not see why the medical profession of England should have to suffer for it—or are the men of the law equally troubled? If the deans of our large teaching hospitals feel it incumbent on them to offer Austrian or other refugees free medical education, then I say that for every alien thus admitted let that hospital admit one of our own countrymen. If we must be generous to aliens in this

matter, then let us extend the same noble feeling to our own kith and kin. I have no doubt the London Hospital could find many suitable candidates for its generosity.—I am, etc.,

Bournemouth, June 12.

VINCENT NORMAN.

The Psychiatric Service

SIR,—In view of the recent letters concerning the L.C.C. mental hospitals and higher qualifications the following points may be of interest.

1. A married man receives a commencing salary of £470 per annum.

2. From this is deducted £23 10s. for superannuation, and approximately £2 10s. a month for meals whilst on duty. These are compulsory.

3. To gain promotion to the higher grades the D.P.M. and M.R.C.P. are essential. The cost of the former is £12 12s. and the latter £42, presuming that the candidate is successful on the first occasion of entry. It is not unreasonable to suggest that to gain the M.R.C.P. diploma the candidate should attend a clinical course at a teaching hospital, and belong either to a library or some learned society in order to have use of recent books and periodicals. Taking into account journeys to and from his course at a hospital an outlay of about £100 is necessary.

4. Residence near the hospital is compulsory. This means living in Greater London, where rents are high.

5. He is expected to be on the telephone, but this is omitted from the standing orders, so that income-tax relief cannot be claimed.

6. Should he require a garage for his car at the hospital he will be charged £10 annually.

These points ignore the fact that an M.D. degree is also expected, which, in the case of London graduates, costs £21. It is surprising therefore that the L.C.C. continues to expect men of exceptional ability and attainments to enter a service paid at a lower level than an assistant in general practice.—I am, etc.,

June 12.

ANOTHER A.M.O.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

In Convocation on June 14 it was agreed to confer the honorary degree of D.Sc. on Charles Gustave Jung, M.D., LL.D., professor of psychology in the University of Zürich. The degree will be conferred on July 30 during the International Congress for Psychotherapy, which will be held at Oxford from July 29 to August 2 under the presidency of Professor Jung.

The Vice-Chancellor recently unveiled a window in the Museum of the History of Science to commemorate gifts from the Mercers', Grocers', and Merchant Taylors' Companies, the Royal College of Physicians of London, and Friends of the Old Ashmolean. He referred to the link between the University of Oxford, the great City Companies, and the College of Physicians. Dr. R. T. Gunther, curator of the Museum, welcoming the representatives of the bodies whose coats of arms are incorporated in the window, said that it served as a reminder of what Oxford owed to London, whose Companies were helping them to continue the work that Ashmole contemplated but could not pay for, and of the University's alliance with the College of Physicians, whose new President, Dr. Robert Hutchison, they were glad to have with them on that occasion.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The following medical degrees were conferred on June 18:

M.B., B.CHIR.—G. W. N. Dunn, P. A. T. Phibbs.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL

D. P. Maguire of Beaumont College and R. C. Bradley of Westminster City School have been awarded Entrance Scholarships on the result of an Entrance Scholarship Examination held on May 26 and 27.

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

The following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

FINAL M.B., CH.B.—Section II: *Kathleen E. Byrt, K. J. V. Carlson, Margaret H. Davies, Eileen M. D. Knox, G. R. E. Maxted, Margaret E. Morgan, *R. H. Owen, Mabel W. N. Tribe, A. H. Wright. In Group I only: W. H. G. Elliott, J. S. Richardson.

* With distinction in Forensic Medicine and Toxicology.

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

Dr. H. K. Ashworth has been appointed Clinical Lecturer in Anaesthesia.

The University Council has appointed Alexander R. Todd, D.Sc., of the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine to succeed Dr. I. M. Heilbron as Sir Samuel Hall Professor of Chemistry and Director of the Chemical Laboratories. Dr. Todd graduated at Glasgow in 1928, and after holding various scholarship and research posts went to the Department of Chemistry in Relation to Medicine at the University of Edinburgh as assistant to Professor Barger, with a grant from the Medical Research Council and subsequently a Beit Memorial medical research fellowship. At Edinburgh he has worked on the chemistry of vitamin B₁ and related compounds and on anthelmintics.

UNIVERSITY OF WALES

WELSH NATIONAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The following candidates for the degrees of M.B., B.Ch. have satisfied the examiners in the subjects indicated:

MEDICINE.—D. W. Absé, O. D. Beresford, S. W. Beswick, D. C. Brown, D. G. Evans, W. G. Miles, A. H. Millard, Mary D. Owen, R. Tippet, Emily K. Williams (with distinction), Mary Williams.

PHARMACOLOGY.—D. I. Harries, A. B. J. Hill, Helen C. Hodges, R. T. Jenkins, G. A. Jones, J. V. Jones, H. L. Lloyd, J. E. Lloyd, Mary E. Lloyd, S. Love, Brenda M. Mead, J. W. Morgan, D. G. Morris, R. E. Packer, H. V. Roberts, D. C. Taylor, C. E. Thomas, T. Walker, K. M. Wheeler.

The following candidates have satisfied the examiners in the examination indicated:

TUBERCULOUS DISEASES DIPLOMA.—H. L. Ackerman, A. Azmy, V. N. Krishna Iyer, H. S. Lohgarh, S. Sen, A. A. R. Soliman, W. D. Sulakhe, J. H. Vanarase, R. Viswanathan.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

The Senatus has resolved to confer the honorary degree of LL.D. upon the Right Hon. Walter Elliot, D.Sc., M.B., F.R.S., Minister of Health. It will be conferred on July 20 on the occasion of the installation of Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor-General of Canada, as Chancellor of the University.

The Curators of Patronage have appointed Leybourne Stanley Patrick Davidson, M.D., F.R.C.P.Ed., Regius Professor of Medicine in the University of Aberdeen, to the Chair of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh in succession to Professor W. T. Ritchie.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

A meeting of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England was held on June 9, when the President, Sir Cuthbert Wallace, Bt., was in the chair.

Examiners

Mr. Harry Stobie (Royal Dental Hospital) was re-elected a member of the Board of Examiners in Dental Surgery.

The following examiners were elected for the ensuing year: *Dental Surgery (Surgical Section)*.—C. P. G. Wakeley, C. E. Shattock, E. G. Slesinger, R. M. Vick, J. B. Hume, L. E. C. Norbury. In *Medicine for the Licence in Dental Surgery*.—R. A. Rowlands, A. H. Douthwaite, R. A. Hickling.

Fellowship—Anatomy: P. N. B. Odgers, H. H. Woollard, R. B. Green, E. P. Stibbe. *Physiology*: H. Hartridge, J. Mellanby, D. T. Harris, A. St. G. J. McC. Huggett.

Under the Conjoint Examining Board—Elementary Biology: W. A. Cunningham, A. E. Ellis, S. R. B. Pask, W. Rushton. *Anatomy*: A. J. E. Cave, W. J. Hamilton, A. B. Appleton. *Physiology*: S. Wright, D. T. Harris. *Midwifery*: A. C. Palmer, V. F. Lack, T. B. Davies, W. Shaw. *Pathology*: W. G. Barnard, B. W. Williams, D. H. Patey, W. D. Newcomb. *Diploma in*

Public Health: Part I, H. M. J. Perry; Part II, C. Porter. *Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*: Pathology and Tropical Hygiene, W. P. MacArthur; Tropical Medicine and Surgery, N. H. Fairley. *Diploma in Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery*: Part I, D. L. Davies, R. A. Greeves; Part II, A. Caddy. *Diploma in Psychological Medicine*: F. L. Golla. *Diploma in Laryngology and Otology*: Part I, E. Carew-Shaw, N. A. Jory; Part II, T. B. Layton. *Diploma in Medical Radiology*: Part I, H. T. Flint; Part II, H. W. Davies. *Diploma in Anaesthetics*: H. E. G. Boyle. *Diploma in Child Health*: A. G. Maitland-Jones.

The Council decided that the Smithdown Road Hospital, Liverpool, which is already recognized under paragraphs 21 and 23 of the Fellowship regulations in respect of the resident surgical officer, be now recognized in respect of the first house-surgeon (resident surgical officer) and second house-surgeon.

Diplomas

Diplomas of Fellowship were granted to the following candidates:

L. McK. Crooks, K. K. C. Nambiar, J. A. Currie, R. W. Knowlton, G. H. Pearce, C. D. P. Jones, H. Ackers, W. S. McKenzie, H. Goodwin, A. G. Leigh, H. W. Hall, B. J. Sanger, A. Innes, P. H. Newman, R. C. F. Catterall, F. R. R. Martin, J. Schorstein, S. G. Nardell, J. M. Brown, L. B. Joshi, A. C. Brewer, C. D. Donald, B. K. Rank, R. Cox, J. R. Armstrong, J. A. W. Bingham, A. M. Clarke, H. L. Davies, E. H. W. Gifford, J. C. Goligher, R. A. Hall, J. I. Hayward, J. Heselson, J. C. Hislop, M. J. Horgan, G. H. Kitchen, J. Lannon, E. W. McMechan, A. Rakoff, S. C. Raw, M. G. Talwalkar.

A diploma of Membership was granted to Sidney Locket.

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

H. N. Andrews, J. N. Cave, D. C. Clark, J. F. C. C. Cobley, J. D. Constantin, E. A. Danino, T. D. W. Fryer, J. S. Hawes, B. P. Hill, K. F. Hulbert, V. J. Keating, B. Lawson, T. J. C. MacDonald, Marguerite R. Marshall, J. G. Mitchell, J. G. Murdoch, H. H. Pinkerton, Frances E. Radcliffe, J. A. W. Robinson, S. G. Shippard, Major A. M. Simson, R.A.M.C., H. L. Thornton, O. S. M. Williams, A. H. R. Yousef.

Primary Fellowship Examination

The following have been successful at the First Professional Examination for the Diploma of Fellow:

H. Abd-El-Aziz, M.B., B.Ch., A. S. Aldis, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., A. C. Begg, M.B., Ch.B., B. R. Billimoria, M.R.C.S., A. C. Bingold, R. Blunden, M.B., Ch.B., F. Braithwaite, M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.S., M. L. Burman, M.B., B.S., M. Chaudhuri, M.B., B.S., Joan Cleland, J. C. Coates, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., A. J. Craig, M.D., H. J. Croot, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., C. H. Cullen, M.B., B.Ch., A. M. Desmond, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., F. P. Dewar, M.D., N. J. Dhondy, M.B., B.S., Aileen M. Dickens, E. P. H. Drake, M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.S., H. H. Eddey, M.B., B.S., G. M. Foote, M.B., Ch.B., R. G. Ginde, M.B., B.S., J. D. Gray, M.B., Ch.B., M. W. Hicks, M.D., J. M. J. Jens, M.B., B.S., J. H. A. Jewell, M.B., B.Ch., J. S. Joly, M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.S., R. A. King, R. L. Lamming, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L. R. Leask, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., O. Lloyd, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., D. A. Lowe, M.B., Ch.B., K. M. MacLeod, M.D., M.R.C.S., J. E. Malcolm, M.B., Ch.B., N. S. Martin, M.B., B.Ch., N. L. Mehta, M.B., B.S., Eleanor M. Mills, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., S. V. Modi, M.B., B.S., R. A. Moir, C. P. Nicholas, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., H. A. Oatley, M.B., B.S., R. Parkinson, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., D. S. Quill, M.B., Ch.B., D. Ranger, W. S. Rees, M.B., Ch.B., J. P. Reidy, M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.S., D. A. Richmond, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., P. W. S. Riley, M.B., Ch.B., P. A. Robinson, M.R.C.S., M. S. K. Rudd, M.D., C. A. R. Schulenburg, M.B., Ch.B., H. K. Sett, M.B., F. A. Simmonds, M.R.C.S., J. Singh, M.B., B.S., W. E. Spring, M.B., B.S., A. W. Stewart, M.R.C.S., J. Swinney, M.D., B.S., L. R. S. Taylor, W. Thompson, B. M. Truscott, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., A. K. Tulloch, M.B., Ch.B., Carolina M. van Dorp.

Professor P. B. Ascroft, F.R.C.S., will deliver a Hunterian Lecture on "The Surgical Treatment of Arterial Hypertension" in the theatre of the College, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C., on Friday, July 1, at 5 p.m.

A special lecture on "The Mechanism of Peptic Ulceration: A Review of the Results of Experimental Investigations" will be delivered by Professor Frank C. Mann, M.D., director of the Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research of the University of Minnesota, in the theatre of the College on Friday, July 15, at 5 p.m.

Fellows and Members of the College are invited to attend. Students and others, who are not Fellows or Members of the College, will be admitted on presenting their private visiting cards. Tea will be served before the lecture.

hospital in refusing to allow unsuitable patients to mix with the early and voluntary cases; the excellent results have fully justified his foresight. He was an eager supporter of all reforms, and was fortunate in having a most humanitarian committee to help him in his work. Many poor people in Norwich with mental trouble found in him a good friend. Dr. Hall was also medical adviser to the Mental Deficiency Treatment Committee. Norwich has indeed lost one of its best-loved medical men, and it is difficult to believe he has gone from us. That charming voice, that kindly smile, will long be remembered by those colleagues and patients who loved and trusted him.

Dr. GEORGE MALLACK BLUETT died on June 8 at Bath after a short illness at the age of 77. Although he had left Guildford for some years he was not forgotten by his colleagues and many friends there, who were sorry to hear of his death. His cheery personality and the good work he did for the British Medical Association endeared him to his medical friends. Educated at University College, London, and Paris, he took his M.R.C.S. in 1884, his L.R.C.P. in 1886, and L.S.A. in 1885. Dr. Bluett was assistant medical officer to the Brook Fever Hospital at Woolwich. Later he became honorary physician to the Lying-in Hospital, Lambeth, and contributed papers to the Obstetrical Society's *Transactions*. During the great war he served as captain in the R.A.M.C. After the war he went to practise in Guildford, where he devoted much time and energy to B.M.A. work. He had been a member of the Association since 1887, and was honorary secretary of the Division for several years, and finally was chairman in 1932-3. Failing health caused him to retire to Bath. Our sympathy goes out to his wife, who survives him.—T. B. J.

We regret to record the death in an aeroplane accident of Mr. CHARLES FRANCIS MASSY SWYNNERTON, director of tsetse research in Tanganyika Territory. During the past twenty years Mr. Swynnerton had studied the tsetse fly problem. In 1921 he published a paper which threw new light on the possibility of reducing this scourge of Tropical Africa by controlling the types of vegetation, and two years ago he published a monumental work, *The Tsetse Flies of East Africa*.

JOHN JACOB ABEL, famous for his work on the chemistry of the ductless glands, has died at Baltimore at the age of 81. It is little more than a fortnight since he was elected a Foreign Member of the Royal Society, and in 1929 he received the gold medal for pharmacology and therapeutics of the Society of Apothecaries of London. Dr. Abel, who had been for many years professor of pharmacology at the Johns Hopkins Medical School at Baltimore, was also a director of the laboratory for endocrine research there. His name will long be remembered for the researches which led to the production of adrenaline in a chemically pure state, and for the work which produced insulin in crystalline form. In 1932 he was president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. THOMAS LATHROP STEDMAN, editor of *A Practical Medical Dictionary*, universally known as *Stedman's Medical Dictionary*, died in New York City on May 26 at the age of 84.

Dr. VLADIMIR M. FORTUNATO, a prominent sculptor of medical models, left the Moscow Medical Museum in 1921 to take up a similar post at Johns Hopkins University. He was busily engaged preparing models for the New York World's Fair when he died of a heart attack on June 10 at the age of 53.

Dr. HENRY TURMAN BYFORD, one of Chicago's leading gynaecologists, who was honorary president of the International Congress of Gynaecology in 1896, died on June 5 at the age of 84.

The following well-known foreign medical men have recently died: Dr. EDUARD TRENDEL, an eminent orthopaedic surgeon of Stuttgart; Professor GAMPER, director of the psychiatric clinic of the German University at Prague, as the result of a motor accident, in which his wife was also killed; Dr. ANTONIO CESARIS DEMEL, emeritus professor of morbid anatomy at Pisa, aged 72; Professor AUGUSTO GIANELLI, an eminent psychiatrist of Rome, aged 73; and Professor ATTILIO BONANNI, director of the Institute of Pharmacology of the University of Rome, aged 68.

The Services

I.M.S. ANNUAL DINNER

The thirty-seventh annual dinner of the Indian Medical Service took place in London at the Trocadero Restaurant on June 14, with the Director-General, Major-General E. W. C. Bradfield, C.I.E., O.B.E., K.H.S., in the chair. The official guests at the high table were the Marquess of Zetland, Secretary of State for India, General Sir Sydney Muspratt, Major-General W. Brooke-Purdon, late R.A.M.C., Dr. N. Hamilton Fairly, Dr. N. G. Horner, Editor of the *British Medical Journal*, and Dr. T. S. Fox, Assistant Editor of the *Lancet*.

After the health of the King-Emperor had been honoured the chairman proposed the toast of "The Service" and expressed the gratification of all at the presence of Lord Zetland and General Muspratt. He welcomed the junior officers of the Service, remarking that they had chosen a good life and great opportunities. India owed a heavy debt to the Indian Medical Service in the past, but the I.M.S. officers of to-day were doing as good work as their predecessors, and Sir John Megaw was recruiting first-rate men to carry on the tradition. Major-General C. W. F. Melville, proposing the chairman's health, made a classification, with humorous asides, of the members dining that evening into retired officers, serving officers, and new entrants. He said that General Bradfield was in himself the epitome of the I.M.S., a man whom everyone wanted to serve under. Lord Zetland, recalling a promise from the secretaries that no speech would be demanded from him, told a good story and declined to say more.

The last formal incident of a successful reunion was when the company stood for a moment in memory of Colonel John Anderson and Colonel J. J. Pratt.

The officers present at the dinner were:

Major-Generals: Sir Robert McCarrison, I. M. Macrae, C. W. F. Melville, Sir John Megaw, Sir Frank Connor, H. R. Nutt, T. G. Paterson Fergus, Sir Cuthbert Sprawson, Sir Thomas Symons, Sir Leonard Rogers, and G. Tate.

Colonels: H. Ainsworth, Sir Charles Brierley, H. H. Broome, H. M. Cruddas, H. R. Dutton, A. B. Fry, J. Fuller-Good, T. A. Granger, C. R. M. Green, W. H. Leonard, R. G. Lynn, H. M. Mackenzie, F. P. Mackie, A. J. Macnab, A. A. McNeill, A. A. C. McNeill, Sir Richard Needham, C. H. Rheinhold, H. A. Stanger-Leathes, R. J. Taylor, R. G. Turner, J. Norman Walker, and C. N. C. Wimberley.

Lieutenant-Colonels: W. G. P. Alpin, F. J. Anderson, C. H. Barber, Norman Briggs, G. T. Burke, H. P. Cook, H. S. Cormack, D. G. Crawford, J. M. Crawford, H. J. M. Cursetjee, J. B. Dalzell-Hunter, I. Davenport-Jones, W. R. Dimond, F. F. Elwes, S. C. Evans, S. M. A. Faruki, J. K. S. Fleming, H. R. B. Gibson, E. S. Goss, V. B. Green-Armytage, F. Griffith, A. E. Grisewood, R. Hay, S. N. Hayes, W. L. Harnett, J. M. R. Hennessy, B. Higham, H. Hingston, J. M. Holmes, E. V. Hugo, M. L. C. Irvine, H. H. King, J. B. Lapsley, J. C. H. Leicester, J. G. M. McCann, D. McDonald, R. F. D. MacGregor, H. M. MacKenzie, G. R. McRobert, S. A. McSwiney, E. C. G. Maddock, S. N. Makand, G. E. Malcomson, W. A. Mearns, S. H. Middleton-West, T. R. Mulroney, Clive Newcomb, C. Newton-Davis, H. K. Rowntree, J. D. Sandes, J. A. Sinton, V.C., R. B. Seymour Sewell, A. L. Sheppard, H. B. Steen, R. Steen, Ashton Street, W. A. Sykes, R. Sweet, C. Thomson, E. Owen Thurston, P. Verdon, E. L. Ward, E. E. Waters, H. Williamson, and R. E. Wright.

Majors: H. C. Brown, J. A. Cruickshank, J. A. W. Ebdon, Sir Thomas Carey Evans, P. Heffernan, E. S. S. Lucas, V. B. Nesfield, C. G. Seymour, H. S. Waters, and R. A. Wesson.

Captains: A. H. Barzilay, G. F. Condon, K. Cunningham, C. H. Dhala, Dev. Dutt, G. K. Graham, R. J. Jarvie, B. N. Khan, M. E. Kirwan, W. A. N. Marrow, P. L. O'Neill, G. R. C. Palmer, R. I. Reid, M. Sendak, Man Singh, and G. E. S. Stewart.
Lieutenants: D. M. Black, J. H. Briscoe-Smith, J. G. Fife, A. C. Glendinning, G. A. Graham, N. D. Jekyll, G. C. Retz, and A. R. Woodford.

NORTH PERSIAN FORCES MEMORIAL MEDAL

Edgar Cochrane, M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer (Health), Gold Coast, has been awarded the North Persian Forces Memorial Medal for 1937 for his paper on "Tuberculosis in the Tropics," published in the *Tropical Diseases Bulletin*, 1937, vol. 34, Nos. 10 and 11. The medal is awarded annually for the best paper on tropical medicine or hygiene published in any journal during the preceding twelve months by a medical officer, of under twelve years' service, of the Royal Navy, Royal Army Medical Corps, Royal Air Force, Indian Medical Service, or of the Colonial Medical Service.

KITCHENER MEDICAL SERVICE AWARDS

The Lord Kitchener National Memorial Fund Council has made medical service awards for 1938 as follows:

R. Andrew (Epsom College), for Middlesex Hospital Medical School, Royal Army Medical Corps; H. F. Osmond (Haileybury College), for Guy's Hospital Medical School, Medical Branch of the Royal Navy; R. M. Phillips (Cheltenham College), for St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School, Medical Branch of the Royal Navy; J. F. Ward-McQuaid (Stonyhurst College), for St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, Royal Army Medical Corps; J. W. D. West (Cheltenham College), for Caius College, Cambridge, and St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College, Medical Branch of the Royal Air Force; and C. H. Holden (Wellington College), for Sheffield University Medical School, Medical Branch of the Royal Navy.

ALEXANDER MEMORIAL PRIZE

Major C. V. Macnamara, R.A.M.C., has been awarded the Alexander Memorial Prize for 1937, consisting of a gold medal and a sum of £40. The prize is awarded annually to an officer of the Royal Army Medical Corps for professional work of outstanding merit.

LEISHMAN MEMORIAL PRIZE

Lieutenant-Colonel E. V. Whitby, R.A.M.C., has been awarded the Leishman Memorial Prize for the year 1937, consisting of a silver medal and a sum of £30. This prize is awarded annually to an officer of the Royal Army Medical Corps or the Army Dental Corps for work of outstanding merit.

VOLUNTARY AID DETACHMENTS

The latest official returns of the progress made in the organization of Voluntary Aid Detachments show that 167 men's detachments and 1,138 women's detachments, comprising a total membership of 33,616, have received recognition by the War Office. Since November of last year there has been an increase of 11 men's detachments and 41 women's detachments, representing an increased membership of 1,395. Of the present membership, 1,110 men and 5,910 women have undertaken the "mobile" obligation.

The county areas in England which have a total membership of 500 and over are as follows: County of London, 2,019; East Lancashire, 1,812; Norfolk, 1,586; Hampshire, 1,323; Surrey, 1,263; West Riding, 1,234; Cheshire, 1,188; Sussex, 1,110; West Lancashire, 1,096; Devonshire, 1,066; Somerset, 1,034; Essex, 919; Kent, 917; North Riding, 792; Middlesex, 726; Gloucestershire, 600; Lincolnshire, 559; Nottinghamshire, 536; Berkshire, 507.

In Scotland there are 167 detachments with a total membership of 4,318, of whom 1,050 are "mobile" members. There are 79 detachments in Wales, the total membership being 1,852, of whom 354 are "mobile" members.

The present scheme for Voluntary Aid Detachments was inaugurated in 1923 and is designed to supplement the medical services of the Naval, Military, and Air Forces in time of war. "Mobile" members are required to give an undertaking that in the event of the embodiment of the Territorial Army they are prepared to serve the medical services either at home or abroad. "Immobile" members undertake to serve within reach of their own homes.

Medical Notes in Parliament

The House of Lords this week made progress with the Coal Bill and other measures.

The House of Commons discussed the Finance Bill, the Education Estimates, and foreign affairs.

The Parliamentary Medical Committee met on June 14, Sir Francis Fremantle in the chair, and appointed four representatives to attend the British Medical Association meeting at Plymouth. This will be the first formal representation of the Parliamentary Medical Committee at the Association's Annual Meeting. The committee also discussed on June 14 the desire expressed among panel practitioners for increases in remuneration to meet the increased complexity of their work. The committee decided to explore this subject with the British Medical Association. A communication was received and considered regarding the registration of medical qualifications in Grenada, West Indies. Attention was given to the Infanticide Bill, the Registration of Nursing Homes (Scotland) Bill, and the Milk Bill, which last is not now expected before the autumn. The committee will meet again on July 5.

Progress of Bills

In the House of Lords on June 20 Lord ALNESS introduced a Bill to amend the British Nationality and Status and Aliens Act, 1914 to 1933, and it was read a first time. The Mental Deficiency Bill was brought from the Commons and read a first time. On the same day in the House of Lords the Children and Young Persons Bill and the Baking Industry (Hours of Work) Bill passed through committee. The Food and Drugs Bill was agreed to on report and the Prevention of Blindness (Scotland) Bill was read the third time and passed.

In the House of Commons on June 20 Sir ROBERT GOWER introduced the Protection of Animals (No. 2) Bill to Amend the Protection of Animals Act, 1911, and make it illegal to have possession of animals trained, prepared, or intended for fighting or baiting. The Nursing Homes Registration (Scotland) Bill and the Infanticide Bill were read a third time without discussion in the House of Commons on June 20.

Social Services in the West Indies

On May 14 the House of Commons, in Committee of Supply, considered the vote for the Colonial Office services. Mr. MALCOLM MACDONALD said he would not deny that there was room in the West Indies generally for improvement in many directions. A long-term policy of reconstruction had to be devised, the first feature, of which should be a steady expansion of the social and other services which could raise the standard of living of the people. There ought to be surveys of housing, and more housing programmes. They must push ahead with the work already begun of improving the nutrition of the peoples, and carry forward the work already started to develop really effective medical services in those colonies. The Government had decided to advise His Majesty that a Royal Commission should be appointed to inquire into the social and economic conditions in Barbadoes, British Guiana, British Honduras, Jamaica, the Leeward Islands, Trinidad, and the Windward Islands. He hoped to give the terms of reference and the names of the members of the Royal Commission at an early date.

Nutrition and Dietary Surveys

On May 14 Mr. COLVILLE informed Mr. Henderson Stewart that the Advisory Committee on Nutrition was carrying out extensive dietary surveys in England and Scotland. In