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Reproductions of the official medal commemorating Pierre and Marie Curie which was struck on the occasion of the International Anti-Cancer Week last November may be obtained at the price of 60 French francs for the bronze replica and 160 francs for the silver one. An illustration of this medal appeared in the *British Medical Journal* of December 3, 1938, p. 1164. Applications for these reproductions should be addressed to the treasurer of the Union Internationale contre le Cancer, 18, Rue Soufflot, Paris Ve, and cheques or postal warrants be made payable to M. B. Pregel. The first number for 1939 of the *Acta* of this organization will contain a report of the communications delivered during the international week, comprising a section relating to the physics of radium and x rays, another to their biological applications, and a third to their technical application. There will also be a detailed and illustrated account of the simultaneous celebrations in various other countries. The commemorative issue of the *Acta* will run to about 300 pages, and its price will be 65 French francs; applications for it should be made similarly to the treasurer, M. B. Pregel, at the address given above.

Local News

ENGLAND AND WALES

Tuberculosis in Wales

In the report for the year ended March 31, 1938, of the King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial Association, which is responsible for the treatment and prevention of tuberculosis in the whole of Wales, Dr. D. A. Powell, principal medical officer to the association, emphasizes the benefits of collapse therapy, which, he points out, is of value also in the early stages of phthisis, "so much so that there may be no justification for submitting patients to ordinary sanatorium treatment for prolonged periods." Analysing the work of the dispensaries, Dr. Powell finds large increases since 1927 in the number of new cases examined for the first time, of attendances, and of consultations with general practitioners, etc., but the greatest increase is in the number of x-ray examinations—23,940 in 1937 as compared with 1,010 in 1927. He stresses the need for contact examination, which should include radiological investigation and tuberculin testing if it is not to prove futile in children. The report contains some comparative figures of the work done in the dispensaries in Wales and in England, the figures for England being those for 1936. In Wales many more new cases but fewer contacts per 100 deaths from tuberculosis were examined than in England, and there were more than twice as many x-ray but fewer sputum examinations. Home visits by nurses per 100 cases on the register were much fewer in Wales than in England. The results of treatment in institutions in Wales are far from satisfactory; there was quiescence in 34 per cent. of the sputum-negative cases, in 20 per cent. of the sputum-positive Group 1 cases, in 5 per cent. of the sputum-positive Group 2 cases, and in 0.1 per cent. of the sputum-positive Group 3 cases; and this in spite of the fact that in these four groups the following respective percentages of patients stayed over six months (notably larger percentages than in previous years): 31.5, 39.0, 46.3, and 43.1. The deaths from tuberculosis (all forms) show an increase of seventeen over the total for 1936, or an increased death rate of 20 per million. No less than 28 per cent. of all deaths occurred within six months of the patient's first examination by the tuberculosis officer.

Blind Masseurs

It is a quarter of a century since King George V opened the school of massage at the National Institute for the Blind, London, and the annual report ending March 31, 1938, records great achievement in this branch of therapeutic work by the blind. The blind masseur, it says, is to-day recognized by the medical profession and the general public as a fully qualified and dependable healer. During the past year there were thirty-one blind students in training at the Institute's school, and successful results were obtained in the examinations of the Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics. An increasing number of younger blind people are taking up this work, and among the students were ex-pupils of Worcester College and Chorleywood College, the National Institute's public schools for blind boys and girls respectively. There were also St. Dunstan men, ex-Service men sent by the Sir Beachcroft Towse Ex-Service Men's Fund, and others from various parts of the Empire. Clinical experience for the senior students is provided by the school's evening clinic, St. George's Hospital, and the Hampstead General Hospital. Treatments at the clinic are supervised by a sighted Sister and a blind chartered masseur, the patients being sent by hospitals and by doctors in panel practice. During the year 9,018 treatments were given. Settlement of newly qualified masseurs and masseuses is considered an important interest of the

National Institute's massage department. A number obtain hospital and clinical appointments, but others set up in private practice. Efforts are made to establish the latter in the districts chosen by them, and approach is made on their behalf to local doctors and the local authorities. Help is given also by the Association of Certificated Blind Masseurs under the presidency of Lord Dawson of Penn. The National Institute's school is now established at 204, Great Portland Street, in the same building that houses the Alfred Eichholz Memorial Clinic.

The Ophthalmological Society's Annual Congress

The annual congress of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom will be held at the Royal Society of Medicine, Wimpole Street, London, W., on April 20, 21, and 22, 1939. The subject for discussion is "The Problems of Refraction." The openers will be Mr. R. Affleck Greeves, Mr. Charles Goulden, and Mr. A. Harold Levy. Members who wish to take part in this discussion should notify Mr. Frank W. Law (36, Devonshire Place, W.1) before February 28. The Bowman Lecture will be delivered by Professor Weve, his subject being "Diathermy in Ophthalmic Practice." The International Organization against Trachoma and the International Association for the Prevention of Blindness will hold their annual meetings on Wednesday, April 19, at the same venue as that of the Ophthalmological Society. These meetings will be accessible to members of the Congress. The annual dinner of the Society will be held on April 20.

District Nursing

The report for 1937 of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing states that 71,328 midwifery cases (with no doctor engaged for the confinement) were attended during the year, an increase of 3,876 over the previous figure. Just over 25 per cent. of the patients were primiparae. The number of maternal deaths was 143. Of these, twenty-nine were due to sepsis, while eclampsia accounted for eleven and embolism for fifteen. In fifty-three of these fatal cases delivery was not accomplished by the midwife, as it was found necessary to summon medical aid before birth. With regard to district nursing, the number of cases nursed and the number of visits paid show a marked increase on the figures for the previous year. This is largely attributable to influenza, while cases of pneumonia also increased by 1,500. Association of pneumonia with influenza accounted to a great extent for the rise in mortality from this illness from 15.8 to 17 per cent. in England and Wales, the highest incidence in rural districts, the lowest in London. A marked decrease in the number of cases of measles is recorded. Tuberculosis also shows a diminution. The highest mortality from this disease was in Wales.

Centenary of King's College Hospital

The first meeting of the provisional committee to carry out the wish of the Council of King's College that a hospital should be attached to the Medical School was held in the College on May 13, 1839. The object was to secure the lease of a building in Portugal Street which had been occupied as a workhouse. The plans of the original committee took twelve months to carry into effect, so that the hospital was actually opened to patients in April, 1840. The Thanksgiving Service to commemorate the centenary of this event is to be held in St. Paul's Cathedral on Friday, May 12, 1939, at 5.30 p.m. The Duchess of Gloucester, as president of the hospital, has expressed her hope to be present. The date is the birthday of Florence Nightingale, so that the service will also be a thanksgiving for the great services of the nursing profession to the nation. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress will attend in state. The Archbishop of Canterbury has consented to give the address, and the Bishops of London, Southwark, Rochester, and Croydon will also take part in the service.

Information on the arrangements for the presentation of offerings and obtaining of seats by individuals as well as corporate bodies can be obtained from the House Governor, King's College Hospital, S.E.5.

Central Midwives Board

The Central Midwives Board for England and Wales at its December meeting granted an application from the Hull Municipal Maternity Hospital for approval for the purpose of providing instruction in the essentials of obstetric analgesia and in the use of a recognized apparatus. A reply from the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists to the Board's letter regarding condition (iii) of the latter's ruling on the administration of nitrous oxide and air by midwives was considered. The Board's letter stated that the ruling had been made in the light of the report of the College on analgesics suitable for use by midwives, and that the condition in question had been the subject of criticism, in consequence of which the Board desired the College to review the matter and to give its opinion on the suggestion that the condition should be rescinded. The reply of the College was as follows:

"The Council has considered the request contained in your letter of June 7 and . . . at the present time can only reaffirm its previous recommendation—namely, that when gas-and-air analgesia is administered, one other person, being a State-certified midwife, or a State-registered nurse, or a senior medical student, or a pupil-midwife, should be present at the time of administration in addition to the midwife in charge of the case."

In view of this reply the Board decided that condition (iii) of its ruling regarding the administration of nitrous oxide and air by midwives should not be amended.

Medical Society of London

The second half of the 166th session of the Medical Society of London opens on January 9 with a pathological meeting at 8 p.m. Discussions will be held at 11, Chandos Street, W., at 8.30 p.m., as follows: January 23, poliomyelitis, including artificial aids to respiration; February 13, use and abuse of purgatives; February 27, principles of modern treatment of fractures of the extremities; March 13, coronary thrombosis; March 27, the ocular manifestations of general disease. The Lettsomian Lectures, on "The Surgery of the Gall-bladder and Bile Ducts," will be delivered by Professor G. Grey Turner on February 20 and March 1 and 6, at 9 p.m. The annual general meeting will be held on May 8, at 8 p.m., and will be followed by the Annual Oration, on "Clinical Sense and Clinical Science," by Professor J. A. Ryle.

Neurasthenia Clinic for Public Assistance Cases

The London Public Assistance Committee has experienced difficulties in securing adequate reports in cases of neurasthenia. In long-standing cases particularly, expert medical opinion is desired as to whether return to independence can be assisted by extended use of the facilities available for treatment, by work-finding, or by any form of training. It is proposed to appoint for the purpose special consultants, who would be attached to St. John's Hospital, Battersea, and all persons certified by district medical officers to be suffering from neurasthenia who have been chargeable for more than a month are to be referred to such consultants for examination and special report. The new procedure was due to begin on January 1, and will be reviewed after a year's working. It is estimated that to examine and report upon the existing accumulation of neurasthenic cases in receipt of relief will require the services of consultant psychiatrists working a total of five sessions of two and a half hours each week for about twenty weeks. When such cases have been dealt with only two sessions weekly will be required in respect of new cases. The consultants will be paid on the usual scale for consultants and specialists generally. At the same hospital the establishment of a clinic for patients discharged from the mental observation wards at the hospital has been recently approved.

Central Emergency Committee for the Nursing Profession

The membership and terms of reference of the Committee appointed by the Minister of Health (as announced early in December) to compile a register of nurses and nursing auxiliaries available for service in a national emergency are as follows:

Sir Malcolm Delevingne, Chairman.
Miss E. M. Musson, General Nursing Council.
Sir Comyns Berkeley, M.D., Central Midwives Board.
Miss D. S. Coode, College of Nursing.
Dame Beryl Oliver, British Red Cross Society.
Lady Perrott, Order of St. John.
The Dowager Marchioness of Reading, Women's Voluntary Services for Civil Defence.
Dr. G. C. Anderson, British Medical Association.
Sir Frederick Menzies, M.D., London County Council.
Mr. E. W. Cemlyn-Jones, County Councils Association.
Alderman W. E. Wilford, Association of Municipal Corporations.
Dr. James Ferguson, Society of Medical Officers of Health.
Mr. W. H. Harper, British Hospitals Association.
Miss B. M. Martin, Admiralty.
Miss C. M. Roy, War Office.
Miss E. M. Blair, Air Ministry.
Colonel Moore, M.B., Ministry of Pensions.
Mr. H. N. de Villiers, Ministry of Labour.
Dr. N. W. Hammer, Home Office, Air Raid Precautions Department.
Miss Z. L. Puxley, Ministry of Health.
(Miss Puxley will also act as secretary to the committee.)

The functions of the committee will be: (a) to ascertain the nursing personnel available in England and Wales by collecting the numbers of nurses in the employment of voluntary and statutory organizations and by the compilation and maintenance of a register of all other nurses and nurse assistants who are prepared to offer their services in an emergency; and (b) to compile and maintain a register of nursing auxiliaries who are prepared to offer their services in an emergency.

SCOTLAND

Nursing Emergency Committee

The Secretary of State for Scotland will shortly set up a Scottish Nursing Central Emergency Committee, which will exercise in relation to nurses similar functions to those exercised in relation to medical practitioners by the Central Emergency Committee of the British Medical Association. The main task of the committee will be to direct the setting up of a register which will cover all the nurses and assistant nurses in Scotland and indicate the services which they will be prepared to render in an emergency. For the compilation of the register the committee will have the assistance of the College of Nursing. The committee will also compile, with the aid of the St. Andrew's Ambulance Association and the British Red Cross Society, a register of nursing auxiliaries who are prepared to offer their services in an emergency. Sir John Jeffrey will be chairman of the committee, and the members include:

Miss Husband, Matron of Glasgow Royal Infirmary (General Nursing Council for Scotland), Miss F. N. Udell (College of Nursing), Lady Ruth Balfour, M.B. (Women's Voluntary Services), Brigadier-General J. D. Crosbie (Association of County Councils in Scotland), Ex-Provost J. R. Rutherford (Convention of Royal Burghs), Dr. A. S. M. Macgregor (Association of Councils of Counties of Cities in Scotland), Dr. W. G. Clark (Society of Medical Officers of Health), Dr. J. D. Comrie (British Medical Association), Colonel D. J. Mackintosh (St. Andrew's Ambulance Association), Colonel G. H. Edington (British Red Cross Society), Dr. N. W. Hammer (Home Office, A.R.P. Department), Miss J. K. Gillanders (Admiralty), Miss Isabella C. Dewar (Central Midwives Board for Scotland), Dr. J. M. Mackintosh (Chief

Medical Officer, Department of Health for Scotland), Mr. W. S. Murrie (Department of Health for Scotland). The following associations and Government Departments have also been invited to nominate representatives: British Hospitals Association (Scottish Branch), Ministry of Pensions, War Office, Air Ministry.

Scottish Medical Graduations

At the December medical graduation ceremony in Aberdeen Principal W. Hamilton Fyfe conferred the degree of M.D. on five graduates and those of M.B., Ch.B. on twenty-two graduands. Addressing the graduands he said that whatever branch of the medical profession they ultimately chose they would find a challenge for the finest qualities of brain, character, and physical strength. The medical course had been mainly a mental one, and their memories had been stored with facts for future use, but they must conserve and increase their knowledge and also strengthen their character and keep themselves in vigorous bodily health. The heaviest demands were made on the doctor in practice, who had to win a victory over continual fatigue and also over irritation which might be produced by the stupidity of patients. He must understand the mind as well as the body of sick people, and he required the sympathy which could see what was ludicrous and tiresome in human beings without liking them the less. They should keep their sympathies alive by developing wide interests, in literature, in art, in music, and above all in people.

At a graduation ceremony in Edinburgh University on December 16 Principal Sir Thomas Holland conferred the degree of M.D. upon fourteen graduates, and those of M.B., Ch.B. upon thirty-eight graduands.

Lipton Trust and Glasgow Hospitals

A ceremony for distribution of the first instalment of payments under the will of the late Sir Thomas Lipton was held in the City Chambers, Glasgow, on December 15. Lord Provost Dollan, who presided, recalled that Sir Thomas Lipton was a Glasgow boy born under humble circumstances who made a great career for himself and amassed a considerable fortune. He had given £100,000 to help working-class mothers in the city of Glasgow, and this was administered by the Glasgow Society of Social Service. He had also bequeathed a large part of his estate in America to Glasgow local charities. The Lord Provost handed cheques, each for £32,000, to the chairmen of the Royal Infirmary, the Western Infirmary, the Victoria Infirmary, the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, and Glasgow Eye Infirmary. Sir James Macfarlane, in expressing the thanks of the infirmaries, said that he noticed that the present distribution was one of accumulated dividends, so that it was really a payment from revenue and not from capital. The capital would ultimately come to the charities of Glasgow, and at present remained untouched.

Scottish Art Exhibition in London

The Exhibition of Scottish Art, which opens to-day at the Royal Academy, Burlington House, W., enables the British public to realize for the first time the great achievements of Scottish artists throughout the last three centuries. It includes works from the earliest native painters down to artists who have died recently. A prominent feature of the exhibition consists of specially selected groups of silver, pewter, arms, embroidery, Jacobite relics, etc., all of which are of Scottish origin. Among the many famous pictures to be seen at the exhibition are those lent by the King. There are in all thirty-nine of Raeburn's finest works, the best collection of Raeburns ever seen together in one place; many of them have never been seen by the public before. The portraits by Allan Ramsay, the celebrated court painter, which aroused great admiration at the Glasgow Exhibition, include "Norman, 22nd Chief of Macleod," from Dunvegan Castle in the Isle of Skye. The exhibition has been

drawn from the most famous collections of England and Scotland, from every county between Tweed and Pentland Firth, and is a national display of Scotland's contribution to the arts. It is open on weekdays only, from 9.30 a.m. to 7 p.m. (Thursdays 10 p.m.); admission, 1s. 6d.

INDIA

Weil's Disease in Calcutta

The annual report for 1937 of the Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine and the Carmichael Hospital for Tropical Diseases includes an account of a special investigation concerning leptospiral jaundice (Weil's disease) in India. From observation of several cases occurring in Calcutta the disease does not appear to be confined to people engaged in any particular occupation, nor did any of the patients give a history of river bathing or other cause which might incriminate dirty water as the source of infection. All, however, had lived in rat-infested houses. The report states that evidence is accumulating that there exists more than one serological type of leptospira in Calcutta. Should this assumption be correct, seroreaction as a diagnostic method will not only be valueless but also misleading, so long as all the local strains have not been isolated. Curiously enough the incidence of leptospiral infection in rats in Calcutta appears to be very low. Of sixty-two animals examined in the course of six months, including two trapped in the house of one of the patients, all proved negative. Of between three and four hundred examined in previous years only two showed infection. It was presumed, however, that some of these rats, all of which were full grown, might have acquired immunity from an infection in early life. With a view to determining whether there was any degree of immunity in these rats, protection tests were carried out with the sera of some of them against the local human strain; results, however, were invariably negative. Further work is in progress concerning the rat as a possible carrier of the disease in Calcutta, and when sufficient data are available regarding the disease, which is now being studied from different points of view, it is hoped to publish a detailed account.

Rural Development of the United Provinces

The year 1936 was one of intense activity for members of the district health staff of the United Provinces, since they were called upon to co-operate actively in the Government's programme for rural development. In the report of the director of public health which relates to that year Dr. K. P. Mathur remarks that public health work in villages is generally looked upon with indifference unless it is combined with medical relief. The general plan of rural development work was reorganized to meet suggestions made by the Government of India. After a year's working 163 villages had been improved on sanitary lines, wells in them being made healthy, while soakage pit, manure pits, sanitary types of cowsheds, ventilators, and bathing enclosures for women were provided, and health propaganda and maternity work were intensified. Public health by-laws were framed in most districts, but are only called into action where all persuasion has failed, the level of the fines inflicted being kept low. The district health service was extended in 1936 to four districts; the number of village dispensaries increased in the United Provinces from 3,686 to 4,593. The village medicine chests, designed by the public health department and issued to villages under the rural development scheme in 1935, proved very popular, and were greatly appreciated by the local authorities. The soakage pits were generally welcomed, but it was found that their success depended on the nature of the soil and the availability of soakage material such as burnt bricks and ballast. The trench pattern latrines did not win favour,

and their abandonment has been ordered. Manure pits are more widely used. The formation of sanitary committees under the rural development scheme awakened local enthusiasm in public health matters; no model village was laid out during the year, but model houses were constructed in certain villages. In many other villages existing houses were improved by the provision of ventilators. As many as 1,326 new sanitary wells were dug during the year, but still there are no water supplies in 567 villages, and in over 1,100 villages the supply is situated very far away from the houses; applications are therefore to be made to the Board of Public Health for financial aid in obtaining a wholesome water supply in these cases. The health unit scheme in Partabgarh district is being continued with the aid of the Rockefeller Foundation, and the scheme of treatment with cinchona and plasmoquine was extended. This scheme secures the distribution of cinchona through local agencies in malarial districts where dispensaries are few and widely separated. In Lucknow, Hardoi, and Unao districts this method of treatment reduced materially the number of relapses. Serious efforts were made to train the indigenous native midwives throughout the Upper Provinces in connexion with the rural development scheme. A training centre is to be built in Lucknow as soon as a suitable plot of land can be obtained. There is no Red Cross maternity hospital in the United Provinces, but clinics are held at the maternity and child welfare centres, ante-natal and post-natal visits are paid, and local dais are being trained, while propaganda instruction has been intensified. The examination of school children brought to light a fairly high percentage of physical defects, but these are diminishing in places where health education and the home environment are being improved. The percentage of dental caries in rural areas was 10.7; pyorrhoea was found in 6.8 per cent. in urban areas, especially in the higher age groups, but only in 1.7 in rural areas. Gains in weight of school children were noticeable in places where free pasteurized milk was supplied.

Reports of Societies

VITAMIN C IN HEALTH AND DISEASE

At a meeting of the Manchester Pathological Society on December 14, Dr. B. PORTNOY gave an address on vitamin C in health and disease.

Dr. Portnoy outlined the properties of synthetic ascorbic acid, and pointed out that such preparations might be of value in cases in which large doses of vitamin C had to be administered, or in the case of infants allergic or intolerant to fruit juices. The vitamin had a very general distribution in the body, and was present in every cell. It was responsible for the control of the production of intracellular cement substances of mesodermal origin, such as collagen, vascular endothelium, cartilage, and the matrices of bone; and, secondly, it was related to cellular respiration. The high concentration of vitamin C in glandular tissues, the structure of its molecule, and the ease with which it was reversibly oxidized suggested that it acted as a respiratory catalyst, aiding cellular respiration by acting as a hydrogen transport. Bearing these functions in mind, the pathology of scorbutic states became more comprehensible.

Whether the vitamin had a definite causal relationship to any pathological process other than scurvy was as yet uncertain. An ample supply was necessary for the diet of pregnant or nursing women, and as the vitamin was necessary for the production of healthy granulation tissue its use was indicated pre- and post-operatively in all cases in which a history of low vitamin C intake was obtained. This aspect of the problem was especially emphasized in connexion with the healing of wounds, and experimental evidence was put forward in support of

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The following have satisfied the examiners in the third examination for medical and surgical degrees:

Part II (Principles and Practice of Physic, Pathology, and Pharmacology): H. St. C. C. Addis, J. Arnott, G. Bourne, B. R. Bray, E. B. Brennan, J. Clutton-Brock, P. C. Conran, C. H. C. Dent, E. S. Dismorr, A. R. P. Ellis, G. H. Evans, R. G. D. Forward, G. A. Fowler, E. K. Gardner, W. R. Gavin, C. W. C. Gough, M. H. Harmer, C. H. Hoskyn, T. B. Hutton, J. D. H. Iles, R. D. S. Jack, H. M. James, E. P. Jowett, A. Leese, B. E. Miles, M. E. Moore, G. F. Panton, H. G. Percy, J. S. Phillpotts, G. C. Pritchard, D. L. Ridout, G. S. Robinson, C. J. Rooke, D. Russell-Davis, E. W. Somerville, R. C. Southern, D. C. Sturdy, P. Unwin, J. D. Wade, D. O. Walker, J. Watson, J. M. Wilkin, R. H. Winfield, R. L. Witney, B. M. Wright. *Women:* E. F. Graham-Kerr, J. M. E. Hannaford, I. T. Hinde, M. Lloyd, V. L. Lutwyche.

The names of successful candidates in Part I (Surgery, Midwifery and Gynaecology) were printed last week at page 1397.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

The following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

M.S.—*Branch I (Surgery):* E. W. Bintcliffe, J. A. Currie, A. J. C. Latchmore. *Branch III (Ophthalmology):* H. W. Applin.

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE

The following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

ACADEMIC POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC HEALTH.—*Part I:* T. K. Abbott, Lily Bennett, Margaret Brodigan, H. B. C. Carter-Locke, J. Clark, Eva M. Cran, M. Daniels, C. S. Davies, D. O. Dickie, Jean Duncan Whyte, R. W. Elliott, C. N. Faith, Margaret A. B. Fleming, Christina A. Guinn, E. C. H. Huddy, J. H. Lawrence, H. A. Leggett, V. N. Leyshon, F. D. M. Livingstone, Jean J. Macdonald, J. P. McGladdery, R. W. Markham, Isobel M. S. Marshall, E. L. M. Millar, A. Mukerji, Dorothea M. Norman-Jones, M. N. Pai, J. W. Parks, P. Pau, G. H. Shaw, M. M. Sircar, G. R. Taylor, C. S. Thomson, N. V. Williams, R. C. Wofinden, Grace E. Woods, Rowena Woolf.

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

The following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

FINAL M.B., CH.B.—*Part I:* A. N. T. Aikman, T. Akroyd, J. B. Ashmore, C. E. Astley, P. D. Bedford, C. H. Boyd, A. Colbert, J. B. Colman, E. Cope, F. Debney, R. G. Denniss, Patricia M. Dobinson, J. M. Fitton, M. M. Fraiss, M. Goldberg, H. Goldstone, Mary E. Goodson, F. Goldsborough, A. Green, A. Greenwood, G. Higgins, J. Hirst, H. J. M. Holland, Adelaide J. G. James, F. Jennings, R. E. Johnson, Jean Middlemiss, D. E. Mitchell, L. H. Moss, A. Percival, C. Pickard, I. G. W. Pickering, J. D. Pickup, T. B. Purdy, P. Rapaport, G. N. Reed, L. Rosenthal, F. Sandy, J. F. Scannell, J. V. Schofield, Helen M. Secker, W. Sheffield, F. N. Shuttleworth, I. Mary Shuttleworth, S. A. Swanson, E. S. Tan, P. E. R. Tattersall, A. L. Taylor, P. J. Waddington, R. P. Warin, K. D. Wood, I. Young.

D.P.H.—Mary W. Taylor.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, BELFAST

The following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

M.D.—J. G. Pyper (with Gold Medal), J. R. Armstrong (*in absentia*), W. J. Lascelles, J. H. Moffett, B. O. Moore, Mary E. Nevin.

M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.—N. S. Barnett, Eileen M. Bowe, J. McL. Bowman, T. A. Brady, H. Brewster, G. Burns, G. Byrne, J. S. Campbell, D. E. Christie, A. Clint, W. S. Cowan, C. A. Craig, Mary E. Dunn, G. I. Fenton, Muriel Gault, G. Gregg, T. P. Gunn, T. H. Hamilton, Mary McK. Hanna, Martha A. Hay, R. N. Hetherington, J. C. Hewitt, J. K. Houston, H. H. Kelso, I. M. Librach, J. L. Love, M. J. Martin, J. M. B. Morwood, A. J. O'Friel, R. T. Smith, Janet G. Weir, N. A. Williamson, G. O'N. Wynne.

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, CORK

The following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

M.D.—J. B. O'Regan, W. O'Sullivan.

M.Ch.—J. G. Barrett.

M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.—*E. J. Cantillon, †W. Cranley, †J. A. Seavers, †J. J. McGrath, T. J. Bird, J. W. Byrne, F. C. Devlin, F. J. Laycock, W. F. Lenahan, J. A. McCarthy, J. P. Mulligan, J. P. Nolan, M. O'Brien, A. O'Connor, H. A. O'Grady, D. O'Keefe, P. J. O'Reilly, H. J. J. O'Sullivan, W. N. Philpot, S. Rosehill, D. R. Tully. *Part I:* D. J. K. McCarthy. *Part II:* M. A. Carroll, M. G. O'Mahony, J. V. O'Sullivan, P. J. O'Sullivan. *Exempt in Pathology:* M. A. Carroll, M. S. Murphy, J. O'Regan. *Exempt in Midwifery and Surgery:* T. J. O'Connor.

DIPLOMA IN PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE.—M. J. Kennefick.

D.P.H.—J. O'Sullivan.

* With first-class honours.

† With second-class honours.

Medical Notes in Parliament

Drug Traffic in Far East

On the motion for the Christmas adjournment on December 22, Commander FLETCHER raised matters arising out of the work of the Advisory Committee on Drugs at Geneva. Year after year statements at Geneva showed the Japanese Government had not displayed good will in this matter. The British delegate at Geneva said the situation constituted a menace to the rest of the world. A resolution had been passed reiterating that the situation in China was degenerating under Japanese influence and calling on the Governments concerned to take vigorous action to remedy the situation in the Far East. The Japanese Government was charged with fostering trade in morphine, heroin, and opium, not merely for consumption in China but for export all over the world, including the Dominion of Canada. The Government of Hong Kong could not cope with the traffic, and there were 40,000 opium addicts there. The Japanese Government also failed to penalize Japanese smuggling of cocaine into India. Drug-taking in Japan itself was suppressed by rigorous laws. In China every town taken by the Japanese became an open market for drugs. The Central Japanese Opium Companies had opened chain agencies throughout the country. Chinese workers had been forced to receive part of their wages in opium.

Mr. BUTLER said the Government viewed with grave concern the drug situation as reviewed by the League of Nations last autumn. One serious feature was the growth in the use of heroin, which was getting a greater hold on the youth in the Far East. The British Government was in communication with other Governments, and not only with those Governments which were members of the League. Under the Anglo-Japanese Drug Traffic Agreement British consular and diplomatic officers had in the past autumn been instructed to co-operate with the appropriate Japanese authorities by mutually communicating information regarding the proceedings and movements of persons known to be engaged in the illicit drug trade. This co-operation had just been put into motion, and through it the British Government would make clear the gravity it attached to the matter. His information was that in Peking since the formal repeal there of the ordinances of the Chinese Central Government on opium and narcotics, promulgated in 1935, innumerable drug shops were opened until scarcely a street was without one or more. It was recently reported that new ordinances aimed at control of the narcotic trade had been issued in Manchukuo, but it was too early to say how they would operate. The position in Central China did not seem so serious. The increase in the traffic in heroin chiefly emanated from Tientsin. Korean pedlars of this drug followed the Japanese armies, but Lord Halifax had no information on the attitude of the Japanese military authorities to the trade.

The House adjourned till January 31.

A.R.P. *First-aid Services.*—In an approved strength of 140,000 men for first-aid services in association with air raid precautions, 120,876 men have been recruited. The approved strength of women for the same services is 220,000, and 222,190 have been recruited. For rescue and decontamination parties 100,000 men are the approved strength, and 113,800 have been recruited.

The Services

DISTINGUISHED SERVICES IN PALESTINE

The name of Group Captain K. Biggs, M.C., R.A.F.M.S., has been brought to notice by the General Officer Commanding the British Forces in Palestine and Trans-Jordan, in recognition of distinguished services rendered in connexion with the operations in Palestine during the period September 12, 1937, to March 31, 1938.

EFFICIENCY DECORATION T.A.

The King has conferred the Efficiency Decoration of the Territorial Army upon Lieutenant-Colonel O. G. Misquith, R.A.M.C., T.A. (retired).

DEATHS IN THE SERVICES

Colonel BERNARD BRUCE BURKE, C.B.E., D.S.O., R.A.M.C. (ret.), died at Worthing on December 11, 1938, aged 62. He was born on January 2, 1876, was educated at Dublin in the school of the Royal College of Surgeons, and took the L.R.C.P. and S. in 1897. After filling the post of assistant resident surgeon at Nottingham General Hospital he entered the Army as lieutenant in the Royal Army Medical Corps on June 21, 1900, became lieutenant-colonel on December 26, 1917, colonel on August 28, 1928, and retired early in 1931. He served throughout the war of 1914-18, and was mentioned in dispatches in the *London Gazette* of October 19, 1914, January 1, 1916, and December 30, 1918. He received the D.S.O. and, after the war, the C.B.E.

Lieutenant-Colonel RICHARD ROSE WEIR, Bengal Medical Service (ret.), died at Richmond, Surrey, on November 27, 1938, aged 83. He was born on February 21, 1855, the son of the Reverend James Weir of Dranie, Elgin, and was educated at Aberdeen University, where he graduated M.B., C.M. in 1880. He entered the Indian Medical Service as surgeon on September 30, 1882, became lieutenant-colonel after twenty years' service, and retired on February 21, 1910. Most of his service was spent in civil employment, his last post being that of Inspector-General of Jails in Eastern Bengal and Assam. He was a younger brother of the late Colonel P. A. Weir, I.M.S.

Medical News

A meeting of the Paddington Medical Society will be held at the Great Western Hotel, Paddington, W., on Tuesday, January 10, at 9 p.m., when Colonel J. M. Weddell will deliver a lecture on "The Surgical Treatment of Air Raid Casualties." Members of the Air Raid Precautions staff of the Ministry of Health will take part in the discussion, and all medical practitioners are invited to attend.

At a public luncheon to be held on Thursday, January 19, at Princes Restaurant, Piccadilly, W.1, at 1 for 1.10 p.m., Dr. J. R. Rees, Medical Director of the Tavistock Clinic, will speak on "The Progress of Medical Psychology." The luncheon is organized by the National Institute of Industrial Psychology, Aldwych House, Aldwych, W.C.2, from whom tickets, price 5s. 6d., exclusive of wines but inclusive of gratuities, may be obtained. A demonstration of psychological methods of vocational guidance will be held at the Institute following the luncheon at 3 p.m. By reason of limitation of space admission will be by ticket, and guests who wish to attend the demonstration are asked to say so when applying for luncheon tickets.

The British Institute of Philosophy announces an address entitled "The Present Relations of Science and Religion," by Professor C. D. Broad, at University College, Gower Street, W.C., on Tuesday, January 17, at 8.15 p.m. Applications for tickets should be made to the Director of Studies at University Hall, Gordon Square, W.C.1.

On the retirement of Lieutenant-Colonel E. D. Caddell, M.C., Dr. J. H. Harley Williams, D.P.H., Medical Commissioner of the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, has been appointed by the Council as Secretary-General of that body.

Dr. Repond of Monthey, Switzerland, will read a paper on "Psychology and Psychiatry" at a meeting of the Section of Psychiatry of the Royal Society of Medicine (1, Wimpole Street, W.) on Tuesday, January 10, at 8.30 p.m. Members of the medical profession and medical students will be welcomed if introduced by a member.

A meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain will be held at 17, Bloomsbury Square, W.C., on Tuesday, January 10, at 8.30 p.m., when a lecture on "Recent Discoveries about Animal Hormones" will be given by Professor J. H. Gaddum.

Discussions on "Heavy Naphtha Disinfestation" and on "Books and Infection" will be opened by Dr. B. T. J. Glover and Dr. Archibald Dodd respectively at a sessional meeting of the Royal Sanitary Institute at Chester Town Hall on Friday, January 20, at 5 p.m.

Among the subjects to be discussed at a conference on the economic road to peace at Friends House, Euston Road, N.W., from January 26 to 28, is "World Agriculture and the Problem of Nutrition," to be opened by Dr. G. T. Wrench; and Dr. J. Ewart Purves will take part in one of the other discussions. Readers interested should write to the honorary secretaries of the conference at the Dick Sheppard Memorial Club, King's Weigh House, Thomas Street, W.1, for full particulars.

At a meeting of the Illuminating Engineering Society on Tuesday, January 17, at 7 p.m., in the Hall of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Storey's Gate, St. James's Park, there will be a general discussion on the fourth report of the Departmental Committee on Lighting in Factories.

An exhibition of pictures and sculpture by medical practitioners will be held from February 12 to March 12 at the Stadthaus, Berlin-Wilmersdorf, Kaiser-Allee 1-12.

Sir Milsom Rees is again offering two £100 scholarships at Port Regis Preparatory School to the sons of medical men. Candidates must be under 9 years of age when the examination is held during the first week in March, 1939. Applications should be addressed to the Headmaster, Port Regis, Broadstairs.

The *Medical Press and Circular* is celebrating its centenary this month. It was founded in January, 1839, in Dublin by Dr. Arthur Jacob under the title of the *Dublin Medical Press*, and in 1866 it absorbed the *Medical Circular*. From the date of the amalgamation the journal has been published in London. A book will be published in connexion with the centenary, and a dinner will be held at Claridge's on January 25.

The Lancashire Mental Hospitals Board has decided to reduce the hours worked by all indoor staffs from fifty-four to forty-eight a week from April 1.

The British Red Cross Society's Clinic for Rheumatism has benefited to the amount of £1,173 from the Red Cross Ball held at Grosvenor House on November 23, 1938.

A chair of endocrinology has been created at the Collège de France by the Minister of Education, with Professor Courrier of Algiers as its first occupant.

Professor Julius de Darányi, M.D., director of the Hygiene Institute of the Royal Hungarian Péter Pázmány University of Budapest, has been appointed president of the Hungarian Postgraduate Medical Education.

The Egyptian Order of the Nile has been conferred on Professors Sauerbruch, G. von Bergmann, and H. Chaoul by the King of Egypt.

During the period 1931 to 1936 the white population of South Africa increased by 9.6 per cent. and the coloured population by 20.3 per cent., so that the proportion of whites in the total population has fallen from 22.5 to 20.9 per cent.

BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL

THE JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

SUPPLEMENT

containing

Notes on the Work of the Association

Reports of Conferences

National Health Insurance Proceedings

Special Articles

General Medical Council

Public Health Notes Postgraduate News

Meetings of Branches and Divisions

Service Appointments

Correspondence, etc.

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