

and in 1893 proceeded to the M.D. He was clinical assistant in the ear, nose, and throat department and afterwards house-physician to the late Dr. W. H. Stone. After leaving St. Thomas's, Dr. Cooke was assistant to the late Dr. Hatton at Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, but left, and finally settled down at Willesden Green, N.W. He became Divisional Surgeon to the Metropolitan Police at Willesden Green, and later was appointed certifying factory surgeon for the Willesden and Hampstead districts, an office which he relinquished only at the beginning of 1938. He was for many years on the honorary staff at the Passmore Edwards Cottage Hospital, now the Willesden General Hospital.

The following well-known foreign medical men have died: Dr. BERNARD FANTUS, professor of pharmacology and therapeutics at the University of Illinois School of Medicine from 1903 to 1924, and since 1914 director of therapeutics at the Cook County Hospital, Chicago; Dr. G. G. PERRANDO, emeritus professor of legal medicine and insurance medicine at Genoa University; Dr. HANS VIRCHOW, professor of anatomy at Berlin University, aged 88; Professor ERNESTO LUGARO, director of the neuropsychiatric clinic of Turin University, aged 70; Professor AMATORE AUSTONI, senior surgeon to the civil hospital at Verona and one of the leading Italian surgeons; and Dr. MARCEL PINARD, director of the dermatological and venereological department of the Hôpital Cochin, Paris.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

At a Congregation on May 12 the degrees of M.B., B.Chir. were conferred (by proxy) on T. L. Oliver.

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

The honorary degree of LL.D. will be conferred upon Dr. Walter Elliot, F.R.S., F.R.C.P., on June 10, when he will open the Dental Hospital of Manchester and the Turner Dental School.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

At a meeting of the Council, held on May 9, with the president, Mr. Hugh Lett, in the chair, Sir Percival Nicholls, Medical Director-General of the Navy, and Sir Richard Needham were admitted to the Fellowship.

The president was appointed, *ex officio*, a member of the Governing Body of the British Postgraduate Medical School for one year.

It was decided to recognize the schools attached to the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland as places at which the course of study for the Primary Fellowship Examination of this College may be taken.

The City General Hospital, Sheffield, was recognized under paragraphs 21 and 23 of the Regulations for the Fellowship in respect of the posts of senior assistant in surgery and senior house-surgeon.

Diplomas of Membership were granted to A. Lang and F. Livesey and to the 205 candidates whose names were published in the report of the meeting of the Royal College of Physicians of London in the *Journal* of May 4 (p. 752).

A Diploma of Fellowship was granted to B. B. Bhatia.

Mr. E. B. Dowsett, M.R.C.S., L.D.S., left London on May 8 for Egypt to act as Visitor to the dental schools of the Fouad I University, Cairo, on behalf of the College.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH

A quarterly meeting of the College was held on May 7, with the president, Dr. Alexander Goodall, in the chair. Dr. C. G. Magee (London), Professor F. A. E. Crew, F.R.S. (Edinburgh), Dr. A. J. Wilson (Coventry), and Dr. J. L. Henderson (Edinburgh) were introduced and took their seats as Fellows of the College. Dr. Joseph Primrose Leckie (Edinburgh), Dr. James Roberts Boyd (Wellington, N.Z.), Dr. Donald Stewart (Birmingham), Dr. John McMichael (London), Dr. Donald Marcus Fielding Batty (Edinburgh), and Dr. John Halliday Croom (Edinburgh) were elected Fellows of the College.

The Lister Fellowship was awarded to Lieutenant-Colonel W. Glen Liston.

Medical Notes in Parliament

Mr. Churchill has become Prime Minister and has formed a new Government in which Mr. Malcolm MacDonald is Minister of Health. The House of Commons met on May 13 and carried by 381 votes to 0 a resolution welcoming the formation of the Government and declaring the resolve of the nation to prosecute the war to a victorious conclusion. The House of Lords also sat. Both Houses adjourned till May 21.

Health of Factory Workers in Wartime

On May 9 Mr. RHYS DAVIES opened a debate on factory administration. He cited the report of the Industrial Health Research Board of the Medical Research Council, which declared that during the war of 1914-18 increase in the hours of labour did not induce proportionate increase of output. He wished to know whether the factory inspectorate was adequate for the increased number of persons employed in factories. He hoped that inspectors would see employers carried out the suggestions in the Home Office's recent pamphlet about the effects of the black-out on factory workers. Was the Home Office pressing not only for the establishment of safety committees in factories but for the appointment of welfare advisers?

Dr. SUMMERSKILL also referred to the report of the Industrial Health Research Board, which had said that accidents in factories were largely due to sickness and fatigue and that the basic problem was one of health in body and mind. Why did the State examine boys and girls under 16 before they went into a factory but not assume responsibility for the health of boys and girls over 16 or of men and women? Women were being recruited for war work who had never been insured under the National Health Insurance Act, and therefore had never had a medical examination. Dr. DAVID ADAMS said the high rate of tuberculosis on Tyneside was alleged to be due to low nutritional standards and to the overtime worked by women and girls in the factories there.

Mr. PEAKE said the admirable report of the Industrial Health Research Board was well known in the Ministry of Supply. He expounded the work of the Home Office and of the factory inspectors, mentioning that special safeguards for work in radio-active processes had been devised with the aid of the medical and engineering officers in the Factories Department. The pamphlet on the ventilation of factories under black-out conditions had produced good results. The Factory Lighting Committee had issued one report and had been asked to accelerate its activities. To enforce medical examination for entrants over 16 years into factories and industries would require legislation. A good deal had been done recently as regards the employment of whole-time doctors in the larger factories, especially factories established by the Ministry of Supply. The experience of the Home Office confirmed the observations on hours of work which had been quoted by Mr. Rhys Davies. In no case since the war had the Home Office permitted employment by night of girls under 18 or of boys under 16. Many orders authorizing overtime for young persons under 16 had not been renewed.

Colonel LLEWELLIN, in an answer to Mr. De la Bere on the same day, said appropriate local arrangements for medical services had been made at all Royal Ordnance Factories. These included the appointment, as and when necessary, of departmental medical officers working in close contact with the officers of the Home Office. Mr. Burgin was not satisfied that it was necessary to superimpose a central medical organization at the Ministry of Supply.

Protection of Practices Scheme.—On May 7 Mr. GROVES asked the Minister of Health whether he was aware of the uncertainty which existed among insurance practitioners by reason of the failure of the voluntary schemes for the protection of the medical practices of doctors who were whole-time on national work, including service with the Forces, and the amendment of the Allocation Scheme by some insurance committees under the

Medical Benefit Amendment Regulations (No. 4) of 1939, as two methods were operative in some areas; and whether he would consider a unified scheme. Dr. ELLIOT said he was aware that the protection of practices schemes applicable to neighbouring areas were not always uniform. The schemes were, however, promoted by mutual arrangement between the local representative bodies concerned, and he saw no sufficient reason for the imposition by himself of a unified scheme.

Notes in Brief

The standard of physical fitness of the candidates for pilot duties in the Royal Air Force remains satisfactory, and the high medical standard is not proving a limiting factor in securing the numbers of pilots required.

Pensions and allowances may be paid to the widows and dependants of officers and men who die as prisoners of war at the same rates and under the same conditions as if they had been killed in action, if it is certified by the medical advisers of the Ministry of Pensions that death was due to or materially hastened by a wound, injury, or disease directly attributable to or materially aggravated by service in the war.

Men examined by a medical board and found to be unfit for any form of military service are placed in Grade IV and are not called up.

The War Office is considering a proposal to appoint a senior woman medical officer in each Army Command in connexion with the health services for women auxiliaries.

During operations in Norway bombs were aimed, unsuccessfully, Mr. R. A. Butler states, at a British hospital ship which was lying apart from all other ships. On three occasions Norwegian hospital ships have been bombed in Norwegian waters with loss of life to doctors and nurses.

Dr. Elliot understands from the Board of Control that agreement has been reached in principle between the War Office and the local authorities concerned on the charges to be made to the War Office to cover the use of mental hospital premises and services. It is hoped the details will be settled at an early date.

The National Institute of Chiropody has been informed that chiropodists sufficient for the needs of the Army are trained at military hospitals, and should further assistance be required the advice of the British Medical Association will be taken.

The Services

CHADWICK PRIZE AND GOLD MEDAL

The Chadwick Trustees are authorized to "present once in every five years the sum of £100 and a gold medal to be called the Chadwick Navy, Army, or Air Force Prize to such officer of the Navy, Army, or Air Force Medical Service as shall during the preceding five years have specially assisted in promoting the health of the men in the Navy, Army, or Air Force, and shall be nominated for such presentation in the case of an officer of the Navy by the Director-General of the Navy Medical Service of the Crown, in the case of an officer of the Army by the Director-General of the Army Medical Service, and in the case of an officer of the Air Force by the Director-General of the Air Force Medical Service." The trustees have approved of the nomination of Wing-Commander Philip Clermont Livingston to receive the prize and gold medal, which are to be presented on Thursday, June 20, at 3.45 p.m. (before the Chadwick Lecture at 4 p.m.) at the Chelsea Physic Garden, Swan Walk, S.W. The presentation is to be made by the chairman of the Chadwick Trustees, Sir William Collins, and Wing-Commander Livingston will be introduced by Air Marshal Sir Victor Richardson, Director-General of Medical Services, Royal Air Force.

CASUALTIES IN THE MEDICAL SERVICES

ROYAL NAVY

On May 10 was published a list of officers and men of H.M. Submarine *Sterlet*, reported by the Admiralty as missing, long overdue, and now given up as lost. Among the officers was Probationary Temporary Surgeon Lieutenant JOHN SMYTH CRONE, R.N.V.R. Dr. Crone took the M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. in 1939 and joined the British Medical Association this year.

HONORARY SURGEON TO THE KING

Lieutenant-Colonel D. C. Monro, R.A.M.C., has been appointed Honorary Surgeon to the King, vice Major-General G. G. Tabuteau, D.S.O., late R.A.M.C., since deceased.

Medico-Legal

DROPPED FOOT AS AN ACCIDENT

Workmen's compensation law provides that a workman may have compensation for personal injury due to accident arising out of and in the course of his employment. The word "accident" has come to mean a good deal more than it usually means in everyday speech. Lord Lindley, in *Stuart v. Wilson and Clyde Coal Company* (1902), said that it means any unintended and unexpected occurrence which produces hurt or loss. In the same case Lord McLaren said that if a workman sustains a physiological injury as a result of his work, that is accidental injury in the sense of the statute.

Restatement of the Principle

The principle was fully examined and restated the other day by the House of Lords.¹ The workman was a packer, and his work was to build pillars to support the roof of a coal working. The roof was low and he had to work in a crouching position with the outside of his right knee pressing on the pavement. During the month before his injury he suffered from a loss of power to dorsiflex his right foot. One day, after about twenty minutes in the crouching position, he felt his right foot numb. He finished his shift and walked home with the help of his father. The doctor diagnosed his condition as dropped foot—a paralysis of the muscles of the leg caused by pressure on the peroneal nerve. He claimed compensation for injury by accident, but the sheriff-substitute found that there had been no accident within the meaning of the Act.

The House of Lords reviewed a great many reported decisions in cases where the injury had been due to a process extending over a period or to infection, or had been contributed to by ill-health in the workman. The Lord Chancellor applied in the end the test which their lordships had formulated in 1902. This workman, he said, had sustained a definite physiological injury in the performance of his duties and as a result of the work he was doing at the time of his injury. Lord Atkin had no doubt that this was the correct view. The man had suffered a physiological change brought about by an undesigned and untoward event happening in the employment. Their lordships did not, on the facts, have to determine finally whether incapacity due to a disease of gradual onset and progressive development can be an accident within the meaning of the Act.

¹ *Fife Coal Company, Limited, v. Young*. 1940, 2 All E.R. 85.

Medical News

"Food Poisoning" and "Supervision of Food Supplies" will be discussed at a sessional meeting of the Royal Sanitary Institute at Plymouth Guildhall on Saturday, May 25, at 10 a.m. Dr. W. N. M. Mason will introduce the first subject, and the second discussion will be opened by Mr. C. E. Sanderson.

Professor W. W. C. Topley, F.R.S., will deliver a lecture on "Bacteria in the Air" before the Royal Institution, 21, Albemarle Street, W., on Friday, May 31, at 8 p.m.

The next quarterly meeting of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association will be held at 11, Chandos Street, W., on Wednesday, May 22, at 2.30 p.m., when Dr. J. Bierer will read a paper on "Psychotherapy in Mental Hospital Practice."

A meeting of the British Institute of Radiology will be held at 32, Welbeck Street, W., on Thursday, May 30, at 2.30 p.m., when Drs. J. Read, F. G. Spear, J. C. Mottram, and L. H. Gray will read papers on "Physical and Biological Experiments with Neutrons." The annual general meeting of the Institute will be held at 6.30 p.m.