

of such manipulation and variation in its expression as to give more than momentary difficulty even to a chemist.

The operation of such a scheme as suggested here would, while maintaining some at least of the supposed advantages of the trade name, remove nearly all its manifest disadvantages. Thus, in the case, say, of an important new chemotherapeutic substance discovered and marketed by a single firm under a trade name, the firm would have all the advantages accruing from both their monopoly and their use of this name, but the medical profession would presumably be so familiar with the standard name by the time the product became official that it would not be worth the while of any firm to devise a new one. The method would then perhaps be generally adopted that, while the firm which gave the world "M & B 693" would continue to give it, the firm of Blank would be content to offer sulphapyridine (Blank), and everyone, including the poor pharmacologist who has to teach about these things, would be satisfied.—I am, etc.,

Jan. 10.

W. A. BAIN,
Reader in Pharmacology, Leeds
School of Medicine.

Robert Burns's Diet

SIR.—In praise of the Scottish ploughman's fare Dr. S. Watson Smith (January 11, p. 63) states that "on this diet Robert Burns, that prince among poets, was nurtured, and subsisted all his days." As Burns died at 37 Dr. Smith can hardly be accused of overstating his case.—I am, etc.,

Jan. 13.

M. NEWFIELD.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Sir Ernest Graham-Little, M.P., has been unanimously re-elected chairman of the Council for External Students of the University of London for the year 1940-1.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

At a meeting of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, held on January 9, with the president, Mr. Hugh Lett, in the chair, Surgeon Rear-Admiral G. Gordon-Taylor was appointed Bradshaw Lecturer and Mr. L. R. Braithwaite Moynihan Lecturer for 1941.

Mr. Lett was congratulated on having received the honour of a baronetcy.

Dr. Gilbert Orme was reappointed as representative of the College on the Council of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing.

The Hallett Prize adjudged on the result of the recent Primary Fellowship examination was awarded to Jenkin Dillwyn Thomas Jones of the University of Durham.

The posts of the three house-surgeons at the Palmerston North Hospital, New Zealand, were recognized for the six months' surgical practice required of candidates for the final examination for the Fellowship.

The date of Mr. R. E. Smith's Hunterian Lecture on the undescended testicle has been changed to January 23. The lecture will be delivered at the Royal Society of Medicine (1, Wimpole Street, W.), as will all the others announced in this column on January 11 (p. 67). This was omitted by an oversight from the original announcement.

Diplomas

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

Margaret MacK. Methven, G. C. Rae, B. A. MacG. Williamson.

L. S. Powell and R. L. Dunlop (*J. Kansas med. Soc.*, 1940, 41, 432) record two cases of visual disturbance complicating mumps. The first was in a boy aged 11 years who three weeks after the onset of mumps developed severe optic neuritis as well as labyrinthitis. Some improvement took place, but a veil about the vessels at the optic disk and slight pallor of the nerve head persisted. The second case also occurred in a boy aged 11 years, who in convalescence from mumps developed a mild papillitis with paralysis of accommodation. Complete recovery took place.

Obituary

HERBERT TILLEY, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Consulting Surgeon, Ear, Nose, and Throat Department,
University College Hospital

As announced in our last issue, Mr. Herbert Tilley died on January 6, aged 74. He was born at Shepton Mallet, Somerset, and was educated at Queen's College, Taunton, and University College Hospital. He graduated M.B., B.S. of the University of London in 1890, took the M.D. in the following year, and was granted the diploma of F.R.C.S. in 1898. He was consulting surgeon to the ear, nose, and throat department (Royal Ear Hospital) of University College Hospital and laryngologist to the Radium Institute. In 1931-2 he was president of the Medical Society of London and in 1932 was elected a Fellow of University College. He joined the British Medical Association in 1895, was secretary of the Section of Laryngology and Otology when the Association met at Portsmouth in 1899, was vice-president of the same Section at Ipswich in 1900, and was president of the Section of Laryngology at the London Meeting in 1910.



The passing of Herbert Tilley will evoke profound regret among a large section of the profession, for he occupied during many years an outstanding position in British laryngology. He first practised in Hampstead, an experience which he always regarded as of great value, but soon became interested in laryngology, and was appointed to the staff of the Throat Hospital in Golden Square. When a department for diseases of the throat and ear was established at University College Hospital he was appointed to take charge of it, and it was to the welfare and development of that department that he thereafter devoted his time and energy unsparingly. The department, which eventually became amalgamated with the Royal Ear Hospital and, by the liberality of Geoffrey Duveen, is housed in a carefully designed building adjacent to University College Hospital, was his special pride. He took up the study of laryngology at a period of very active progress, when development was proceeding in almost every direction, and his own contributions were mostly in connexion with the pathology and surgery of the accessory sinuses of the nose. He wrote much about this, especially in the later editions of a book of which the first had come from Dr. de Havilland Hall, whilst the fourth and last edition, so much revised and expanded as to be almost a new book, came from himself alone. Finally, in 1934, he gave a final exposition of his views on the pathology of sinusitis in a Semon Lecture, which was filled with original clinical observation and wisdom. This work established his reputation both on the Continent and in the United States, so that besides having the unusual distinction of being president of both the Section of Laryngology and the Section of Otology at the Royal Society of Medicine, he received the rare honour of admission to that exclusive body the American Laryngological Society. To travel with him was a delightful