

of such a commission in view of the rapid and enlightened development which is still taking place in this sphere. Many of them are contributing actively to this development. It would appear that the B.M.A. are themselves not yet fully aware of the extent of this, and I may perhaps be permitted to quote some recent words of Prof. F. A. E. Crew, F.R.S. (in the opening contribution to a discussion arranged by the Edinburgh Branch of the B.M.A.). He said: "When I look around the [Army] Medical Services as they are even now taking shape, I marvel at their comprehensiveness and their promise of completeness, at the simple beauty of their design and the efficiency of their functioning. And I am led to wonder whether we as a society can ever be content to let this organization disintegrate when the war ends."—I am, etc.

Jan. 19.

W. S. C. COPEMAN, M.D., F.R.C.P.

Tobacco and Symptoms of Duodenal Ulceration

SIR.—With regard to dyspepsia in the Army, which you have been discussing recently in your columns, I can from personal experience confirm the fact that one can have symptoms almost, if not quite, identical with those of duodenal ulcer and yet no ulceration be present.

There are a number of factors which contribute to the development of these symptoms in a soldier—nervous excitement, overwork and worry, diet, etc.—but there is one serious exciting and aggravating cause—namely, cigarette smoking. Before the French collapse a kind friend sent a million cigarettes to the troops in France, and I feel sure that most physicians would agree that a million glucose sweets or malted milk tablets would have been a much better gift, and could be made just as popular among friends. I think it a decided disservice to our men to encourage this cigarette smoking, which would not be tolerated in the case of athletes or when perfect training was desired, which it should be in the case of soldiers. We must not allow the apparent unkindness of depriving our gallant men of the comfort of their cigarette to blind us to the bigger and more important question of their highest physical fitness and welfare.

One final point: it is sometimes forgotten that belladonna is most valuable in relieving the spasm which is an underlying factor in these cases.—I am, etc.,

Ilford, Feb. 5.

N. BEATTIE.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

In Congregation on February 4 an offer from Viscount Nuffield to give to the University £25,000 to encourage research in ophthalmology was gratefully accepted. Arising out of this, a decree was adopted authorizing the appointment of a research assistant to the Margaret Ogilvie Reader in Ophthalmology for a maximum of five years and at a salary not exceeding £600 a year, and providing money from the residue of the gift for accommodation, equipment, and staff. The duties of the person holding the new post will be to assist the Reader in researches, whether of a clinical nature or otherwise, into the causes and cure of diseases affecting vision, and if he is a medical practitioner he will be debarred from private practice while in office.

In Congregation on February 18, at 2 p.m., a statute will be brought forward declaring that a candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Medicine shall not be allowed to sit more than three times for the examination in human anatomy and human physiology in the First Examination for that degree without leave of the Board of the Faculty of Medicine. If the statute is approved a decree will be proposed that it shall not apply to any person matriculated before Hilary Term, 1941.

Dr. William Brown has been reappointed Wilde Reader in Mental Philosophy for five years from June 9, 1941.

The Theodore Williams Scholarship in Pathology, 1940, has been divided between M. P. Lewis, B.A., and R. G. Ladkin, B.A.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

In Congregation on February 7 it was resolved that the First M.B. Examination shall begin on March 17 in the present term, and on October 2 in the Michaelmas term of this year.

The following medical degrees were conferred:

M.D.—*O. N. ROUSSEL.
M.B., B.CHIR.—*W. B. D. Maile, *H. D. S. Vellacott, G. E. H. Enderby, D. N. White.

* By proxy.

During January the titles of the degrees of M.B., B.Chir. were conferred by diploma on P. G. Holman of Newnham College.

Congregations during the present term will be held on Saturday, March 1, and Friday, March 14, at 2 p.m.

The Services

D.D.M.S., SCOTTISH COMMAND

Brigadier J. A. Manifold, D.S.O., late R.A.M.C., has been selected for promotion to major-general on March 1, when he will take up the appointment of Deputy Director of Medical Services, Scottish Command. He will be succeeded as Director of Hygiene, the War Office, by Brigadier D. T. Richardson, M.C., late R.A.M.C.

D.D.M.S., EASTERN COMMAND

Brigadier O. W. McSheehy, D.S.O., O.B.E., late R.A.M.C., has been selected for promotion to major-general on March 26, when he will take up the appointment of Deputy Director of Medical Services, Eastern Command. He will be succeeded as Deputy Director-General, Army Medical Services, the War Office, by Brigadier A. Hood, C.B.E., late R.A.M.C.

EFFICIENCY DECORATION

The King has conferred the Efficiency Decoration of the Territorial Army on Colonel John Elvin Rusby, M.C.; Lieut.-Colonels Joseph Alexander Bingham, David Justin Davies, and Maxwell Hamilton Summers; and Temporary Lieut.-Colonel David Saunders Jones.

MENTIONS IN DISPATCHES

Corrigenda

In the list of officers whose names have been brought to notice in recognition of distinguished services in connexion with operations in the field, March to June, 1940, published in the *Journal* of January 4, the name of Lieut. H. L. Connor, R.A.M.C., was omitted, and the initials of Major Y. Moore and Lieut. A. E. Burgess, R.A.M.C., should read Major J. Y. Moore and Lieut. W. M. Burgess, R.A.M.C.

CASUALTIES IN THE MEDICAL SERVICES

ROYAL NAVY

Probationary Temporary Surgeon Lieut. CHARLES LEON PRETRE, R.N.V.R. (H.M.S. *Acheron*), is posted as "Missing, Presumed Killed" in an Admiralty Casualty List published on February 4. He qualified M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. in 1939 and his home was at Dagenham.

Surgeon Lieut. GEOFFREY RAYMOND EDWARD MAXTED, R.N.V.R., died on active service in December, 1940, aged 26. He was the younger son of Dr. and Mrs. E. B. Maxted of Clifton, Bristol, and was educated at Bristol University, where he graduated M.B., Ch.B. in 1938.

Surgeon Lieut. ROBERT DUDLEY ROPER, R.N.V.R., has died suddenly, aged 34. He was the son of the late Dr. H. J. Roper, who died in 1938, and was educated at Cambridge University, where he graduated B.Chir. in 1933, and at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. He also took the M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. in 1933 and the Cambridge M.B. two years later. He had held the posts of house-surgeon to the ear, nose, and throat department and resident anaesthetist at Charing Cross Hospital and casualty house-surgeon and clinical assistant to the skin department at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Before the war he was honorary anaesthetist to Charing Cross Hospital, the Hospital of St. John and St. Elizabeth, and the Connaught Hospital.

ROYAL AIR FORCE

The death is announced, in January on active service, of Flying Officer ARTHUR RICHARD YATES of Sisland, near Loddon, Norfolk. He qualified M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. in 1935. He leaves a widow and two children.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

The name of Lieut. FRANCIS CUTHBERTSON McLAREN is included as "Died" in an Army Casualty List published on January 31. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. T. McLaren of Broughty Ferry and was educated at Glasgow University,

where he graduated M.B., Ch.B. in 1938. After filling the posts of house-surgeon at Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow, and junior assistant medical officer at the North Middlesex Hospital, London, he recently joined the R.A.M.C. He leaves a widow.

DEATHS IN THE SERVICES

Colonel ROBERT WILLIAM CLEMENTS, C.M.G., D.S.O., late R.A.M.C., died at Ootacamund, Southern India, on January 22, aged 70. He was born at Pomeroy, Co. Tyrone, on April 7, 1870, was educated at Queen's College, Galway, took the M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. of the Royal University of Ireland in 1895, and the Cambridge D.P.H. and the Liverpool D.T.M. in 1906. Entering the Army as surgeon lieutenant in 1896, he became lieutenant-colonel in 1915, colonel in 1917, and retired in 1922. He served throughout the war of 1914-18 and was mentioned in dispatches five times, receiving the D.S.O. in 1917 and the C.M.G. in 1918. After retirement he settled in India.

Fleet Surgeon WILLIAM GORDON STOTT, R.N. (ret.), died at Aberdeen on February 5. He was educated at Aberdeen University, where he graduated M.B., C.M. in 1885, after which he entered the Royal Navy, becoming fleet surgeon in 1903.

Obituary

SIR WILLIAM HORROCKS

Sir LEONARD HILL sends the following appreciation of the late Sir William Horrocks:

As a member of the Army Medical Advisory Board I was associated with the late Colonel Horrocks under Sir Alfred Keogh, who was Director-General, A.M.S., when the Germans made their first gas attack in the last war and very nearly broke through the line. Means had to be taken at once to provide defence against gas. A German submarine had been lately captured in which muslin face masks were found, and at the instigation, as I was told, of the First Lord of the Admiralty (then Mr. Winston Churchill) the women of England were thereupon asked to make such masks. These obviously were no good; meanwhile Horrocks designed the flannel hood respirator, which covered the whole head and was fitted with eye-pieces and impregnated with suitable chemicals for absorbing gas. Breathing took place through the pores of the flannel. This respirator was used successfully until the box respirator could be designed and manufactured. So that no time might be wasted over official financial delay, Horrocks told me he had gone out and ordered the flannel on his own responsibility. He carried out very valuable work in initiating the Chemical Warfare Committee and in furthering generally the hygiene of the Army. His son was taken prisoner, and he told me a code had been prepared in case of need by which his son was able to communicate safely with him. Horrocks also told me that his work in Malta had made clear that Mediterranean fever was transmitted by goats' milk, and so brought about the means of prevention. Bruce communicated this discovery in England, and Horrocks felt strongly that credit had not been justly accorded to him. Up to his death he had continued to edit the *Journal* of the R.A.M.C. His services to the Army and to medical science were very great.

JAMES ALLAN, M.D., D.P.H.

Dr. James Allan, who died at his home in Roundhay, aged 88, was for half of his long life medical superintendent of St. James's Hospital, Leeds, and one of the best-known medical officers in the North of England. At the time of his appointment the Leeds Workhouse Infirmary, as it was then called, was insufficient in many respects. A complete transformation took place and room was gradually made for 1,200 patients, including 200 mental cases, while notable changes were made in the class and number of nurses and in the provision made for them. When he retired in 1925 an unusual honour was paid him by the unveiling of a tablet recording his manifold services as medical superintendent, and the late Lord Moynihan spoke in warm terms of his work, saying

that tens of thousands of patients had passed through Dr. Allan's hands.

James Allan graduated M.A. at the University of Aberdeen in 1874. M.B., C.M., with honours, in 1877, and M.D. in 1880; twenty years later he took the Cambridge D.P.H. Before his appointment in 1881 to the post at Leeds he had been assistant medical officer at the Wandsworth Infirmary and house-surgeon and house-physician at the Northern Hospital, Liverpool. He was for many years an active and zealous member of the British Medical Association, joining it in 1882. He represented the Leeds Division at sixteen Annual Meetings, was honorary secretary of the Division for twenty-five years (1906-31), and chairman in 1932-3. His colleagues of the Yorkshire Branch of the Association elected him president in 1921: he was also a past-president of the Leeds and West Riding Medico-Chirurgical Society.

ANDREW SPROTT, M.B., C.M.

We regret to record the death on January 29 of Dr. Andrew Sprott from coronary thrombosis. He had been in failing health during the last twelve months, but his death came with painful suddenness to his many friends in Appleby and the surrounding district, where he was held in the highest esteem and universal affection.

Andrew Sprott came of an old Galloway family. He was born 74 years ago in Wigtownshire, where his father was a well-known farmer who died young, but not before his eldest son developed a knowledge and love of beasts, birds, and flowers surpassed by few, and, furthermore, a capacity for painstaking hard work, a patient zeal and understanding of his fellow men which made him beloved by all with whom he came in contact. He graduated M.B., C.M. at Glasgow University in 1887, and started his professional career in a large country practice as assistant to the late Dr. J. W. Fawcitt of Broughton-in-Furness, and between these two there sprang up a friendship and affection which lasted throughout life. He married his friend's sister, Annie, with whom he had an ideally happy life. He then proceeded to Glenridding, on the shores of Ullswater, where he carried on the wild country practice often under hazardous conditions, but where, also, he found occasional time for his favourite sport of fly-fishing. With the advent of a young family, he transferred his activities to Appleby, the county town of Westmorland. There he built up a large and successful practice (from which he retired three years ago) and a reputation as a good doctor of outstanding kindness and integrity. He was a man of great ability and courage, who spared no effort on behalf of his patients: he was painstaking in the establishment of the diagnoses of his cases, and followed up accurate diagnosis with up-to-date treatment. He had a vivid interest in modern methods and was never behind the times in spite of his fifty years of practice. During the war of 1914-18 he was responsible for the establishment of a Red Cross hospital in Appleby, of which he was the medical officer, eventually becoming county director of the British Red Cross Association. He also took a great interest in the St. John Ambulance Brigade. He was a member of the British Medical Association for thirty-three years.

On his retirement the people of Appleby and district made him a presentation on such a generous scale that he was positively embarrassed, and in his modest way he said to the writer, "I never expected or deserved this." He was a great gardener and a great botanist. His keen interest in botany was a source of joy which he shared with his wife, his daughter, and his invalid son, who died some eighteen months ago after fourteen years in bed as an indirect result of his service during the last war. His eldest son died on active service in Mesopotamia in 1917. He is survived by his widow, a daughter, and son who lives in the Far East.

Dr. ALEXANDER GUNN AULD, who died at the end of January in his eighty-first year, is likely to be remembered for his work on asthma, hay fever, migraine, and related diseases. From quite early days, alike in the laboratory and at the bedside, he made these topics his peculiar province, and