

ance meant the exclusion of the older men. These arrangements involved a change for medical, dental, and veterinary students. These had hitherto been reserved; in future new entrants would be dealt with in the same way as other students, and would have to be considered individually for deferment by Joint Recruiting Boards. Mr. Isaacs said he was asking universities to give preference at women's colleges to those women who had been engaged on war service, and, where women competed with men, to limit the women entrants from school to those of exceptional promise.

The number of young men who could be deferred could not be determined until they knew the number of applications coming from ex-Service men. This meant a period of uncertainty which could not be avoided, and acceptances by universities of men in the age group Oct. 1, 1927, to Sept. 30, 1928, must be regarded as provisional.

Atomic Energy Bill

The Atomic Energy Bill was read a first time in the House of Commons on May 1. The Bill provides that the restriction proposed on disclosure of information relating to plant for the purpose of producing or using atomic energy shall not include references to plant designed to be used solely for scientific research or education.

Kenya Medical Service

Mr. BOWLES asked on May 1 whether the Secretary for the Colonies knew that resident Kenya medical officers, on release from the Army, were denied Government appointments, some of which were held by Italians. Mr. GEORGE HALL replied that he was aware of only one case during the war in which an applicant who was a serving military or ex-military medical officer had been refused a permanent appointment in Kenya. He was not considered suitable on account of his age, but had since been given a post under the Kenya Pensions Assessment Board. Four Italian doctors were at present employed on a purely temporary basis, but would be replaced as soon as suitable candidates were available. Several Kenya residents with medical qualifications were also employed as temporary medical officers. Mr. BOWLES said he had information that Italian medical men were taking the places of medical men who had been resident in Kenya.

Deaf Aid

Mr. BURKE, in a debate on Post Office research on May 3, said the Post Office had just been successful, in association with the Medical Research Council, in bringing out an ear aid which would benefit thousands of deaf people in this country.

Diphtheria Incidence and Deaths

On May 6 Mr. VIANI asked the Minister of Health how many cases of diphtheria were recorded in England and Wales in 1945; how many of these proved fatal; what were the patients' ages; and how many in both fatal and non-fatal cases had been immunized.

Mr. BEVAN said the number of cases of diphtheria notified in 1945 was 18,571. The number of deaths notified in 1945 was 720, this figure being provisional. The ages in the cases notified and in fatal cases were as follows:

Age	Notifications	Deaths
0-	188	18
1-	1,086	113
3-	2,001	120
5-	5,948	257
10-	3,467	74
15-	3,330	45
25 and over	2,421	93
Unknown	130	0
Total	18,571	720

Information about cases of and deaths from diphtheria in relation to immunized children for the year 1945 was not yet available.

Mr. WESTWOOD furnished the following table of cases of diphtheria recorded in Scotland in 1945:

Age Group	Cases		Deaths	
	Immunized	Non-immunized	Immunized	Non-immunized
0-4	267	1,175	1	76
5-14	1,104	1,151	5	29
15 and over	153	810	-	15
Totals	1,524	3,136	6	120

Analgesia in Childbirth

Mr. MIKARDO inquired on May 2 how Mr. Bevan proposed to make universal the use of apparatus and techniques designed to reduce or eliminate pain in childbirth. Mr. BEVAN said administration of gas-and-air analgesia in childbirth could not become universal until there was an adequate supply of apparatus and of midwives trained to use it. The production of apparatus had already been increased, and all pupil midwives beginning Part II of their course on and after July 1 next would be trained in its use. No practicable step would be neglected, but until more women could be attracted to the practice of midwifery progress was bound to be slow. He promised to investigate the use of the trilene apparatus.

Notes in Brief

The number of deaths from cancer in England and Wales during 1945 was 73,754; this represents a crude death rate of 1,945 per million living. These figures are provisional and relate only to civilians. In 1944 21,571 experiments were performed on living animals in connexion with cancer research. The figure for 1945 is not yet available.

Of 749 men and women employed in the Department of Health for Scotland on April 1, 1946, 23 possessed medical degrees. These figures do not include staff employed in the Department's emergency hospitals.

Only one case of smallpox has been notified in Scotland this year in the person of an Army officer returning on a troopship from India.

The Minister of Supply is not aware of any general shortage of rectifying valves for deep x-ray therapy apparatus, although there is difficulty in obtaining replacements for apparatus of German origin.

The Services

Surgeon Rear-Admiral H. M. Whelan has been appointed an Honorary Surgeon to the King in succession to Surgeon Rear-Admiral A. Maclean, C.B., D.S.O., deceased; and Surgeon Rear-Admirals A. E. Malone, C.B., and J. O'Flynn have been appointed Honorary Physicians to the King in succession to Surgeon Rear-Admirals Sir Reginaid Bankart, K.C.V.O., K.H.P., deceased, and J. F. Hole, C.M.G., deceased, respectively.

Air Vice-Marshal K. Biggs, C.B.E., M.C., has been appointed Honorary Physician to the King in succession to Air Marshal Sir Harold E. Whittingham, K.C.B., K.B.E., who has vacated the appointment on retirement from the R.A.F.

Surg. Lieut.-Cmdrs. R. T. Jones and H. R. Vickers, R.N.V.R., have been awarded the R.N.V.R. Officers' Decoration.

The Efficiency Decoration of the Territorial Army has been conferred upon the following officers: Lieut.-Col. (Temp. Col.) R. H. Robinson, Lieut.-Col. T. H. Wilson, Majors (Temp. Lieut.-Cols.) F. R. Bettley and A. S. L. Malcolm (T.A.R.O.), Majors E. Davies-Thomas, R. W. Gemmell, and F. S. Mitchell-Heggs, and Capt. (Temp. Major) F. J. Whitelaw, R.A.M.C.

Subadar K. S. Gupta, I.A.M.C., has been appointed M.B.E. (Military Division) in recognition of gallant and distinguished services while a prisoner of war.

The following have been mentioned in dispatches in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in Burma:

Briqs. (Temp.) G. E. Macalevey, D.S.O., M.C., and A. N. T. Meneces, C.B.E. Col. (Temp.) J. R. Dawson; Lieut.-Cols. (Temp.) R. H. Baird, P. W. Hannay, I. Harris, M. S. Holman, W. C. Mitchell, C. E. Moorhead, F. H. Morrell, W. O'Callaghan, R. A. Philp, W. Serle, C. S. Smalley, M.C., and H. G. H. Waters; Lieut.-Col. (Acting) G. A. S. Akeroyd; Major J. S. Mackay; Majors (Temp.) D. Billig, N. H. Bloom, R. T. Bowes, C. W. P. Bradfield, C. McL. Craig, W. R. McK. Couper, J. A. Farrell (killed in action), W. G. Ferguson, W. Fielding, T. Fitt, L. A. Ives, H. T. Laycock, T. R. Maurice, J. McIntosh, D. S. Milne, H. G. Page, W. W. Park, F. D. F. Steede, F. Stephenson, and J. D. Youngusband; Major (Acting) H. A. Daniels; Capt. W. K. N. Brown, R. N. Cates, W. H. Chase, D. H. Crook, R. S. Gibson, J. Griffith, A. A. Martin, G. S. Moore, J. J. Phillips, G. H. Pimblett, M. F. Ronayne, H. M. Smallwood, W. T. Stone, and R. L. Witney; Capt. (Temp.) R. Groat; Lieuts. R. D. Nicholson and N. Slater, R.A.M.C.; Cols. (Temp.) W. A. Burki, C.B.E., and A. H. Craig; Col. (Acting) V. E. M. Lee, I.M.S.; Lieut.-Cols. (Temp.) A. S. Rao, D. R. Cattanach, D. K. L. Lindsay, R. D. Scriven, M.C., and F. W. Snedden; Major S. N. Mukerji; Majors (Temp.) T. J. Davies, G. K. Mitra, A. C. Greene, W. E. Owens, A. N. Subbaraman, and S. F. Thomas; Capt. A. Hamid, S. H. Barker, C. K. Rao, M.C., I. S. Dalton, D. K. Mitra, H. Reza, J. F. Guerra, O. K. Keshavan, K. P. Bhavani, K. N. Sastri, M. C. Nath, M. Aslam, M. T. Aliappa, M. Singh, O. N. Tyagi, R. Singh, A. A. Rawat, S. Sankaran, O. Sookias, T. N. Pisharott, T. J. Gupta, V. C. Venkatachalam, T. S. Vishwanatham, A. M. Yusuf; Capt. (Temp.) G. M. Chakrabarti, I. P. Sen, K. N. Rao, S. J. Luxa, and V. Batta; Capt. (Acting) N. M. Maitra; Lieuts. C. L. Nagrath, C. R. S. Iyengar, B. B. Gosh, V. A. Pepperel, P. Singh, P. K. Tamaskar, and S. C. Sen; Subadars A. Khan, G. Rasul, J. K. Pandey, H. Khan, K. C. Bedi, K. Lal, N. Nath, N. Singh, and T. Singh; Jemadars A. A. Khan, B. Bux, M. Singh, M. T. Hussain, N. Ram, B. D. Pandey, and S. R. Shah, I.A.M.C.

CASUALTIES IN THE MEDICAL SERVICES

Died at sea.—Major Colin Campion, R.A.M.C.

Died in India.—Lieut.-Col. Gilbert Wolridge Rose, R.A.M.C.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

In a Congregation held on May 2 the following degrees were conferred:

D.M.—J. F. Loutit, J. N. Mills (in absence).
B.M., B.Ch.—M. B. McEvedy, T. H. S. Burns.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

At a Congregation held on May 3 the following medical degrees were conferred, all by proxy except one marked with an asterisk:

M.D.—A. G. V. Aldridge, *G. C. Tooth.
M.B., B.Chir.—R. W. P. Jackson, B. A. J. C. Gregory, R. N. Grabowsky-Atherstone, P. N. Magee.
M.B.—R. G. Orr.

A report by the Council of the Senate on the establishment of a chair of pharmacology appears in the *Cambridge University Reporter* of May 7 (p. 777). This recommends that there be established from Oct 1, 1946, a Sheild Professorship of Pharmacology limited to one tenure, and that the professor be E. B. Verney, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., whose readership in that subject would then lapse.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

At an ordinary meeting of the Council, held on May 9, with Sir Alfred Webb-Johnson, Bt., President, in the chair, Prof. R. V. Bradlaw was re-elected a member of the Board of Examiners in Dental Surgery.

It was decided, subject to the grant of the necessary powers, to establish a Faculty of Dental Surgery in the College.

Dr. G. M. Vevers and Dr. A. J. Durden Smith were admitted as Fellows of the College.

The Walker Prize was presented to Prof. E. C. Dodds; the John Hunter Medal and Triennial Prize to Dr. Joan Ross; and the Begley Prize to Mr. Otto Fleischner.

The Council accepted the trusteeship of the Cecil Joll Memorial Fund, under which there will be awarded a triennial prize for some surgical subject.

The Chase Farm Hospital, Enfield, the Seamen's Hospital, Tilbury, and the Broad Green Hospital, Liverpool, were recognized in respect of the resident surgical post required of the candidates for the Final Fellowship Examination.

Diplomas of membership were granted, jointly with the Royal College of Physicians of London, to J. R. Handforth and to the 125 successful candidates whose names were printed in the report of the meeting of the Royal College of Physicians of London in the *Journal* of May 4 (p. 704); as were the names of the successful candidates for the diplomas in medical radiodiagnosis and medical radiotherapy.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL NOTES

Discussion of Table

In *England and Wales* an increase was recorded in measles 401, and whooping-cough 62, while the notifications of both diphtheria and dysentery fell by 26.

The largest variations in the local trend of scarlet fever were an increase in London 20 and a decrease in Glamorganshire 20. The returns for diphtheria showed the smallest total for 34 weeks. Whooping-cough was slightly more prevalent in most districts; the largest rise was Glamorganshire 33, and the chief exceptions to the general trend were decreases in London 38 and Middlesex 32. Measles is still mainly concentrated in London and the surrounding counties, and the largest rises were London 119, Essex 66, Middlesex 56, Kent 41, and Warwickshire 41.

The notifications of dysentery were the lowest for 16 months. The chief centres of infection were Lancashire 28, London 25, Staffordshire 14, Kent 13, and Surrey 10.

In *Scotland* increases were recorded for acute primary pneumonia 51, diphtheria 24, and scarlet fever 19; decreases were shown for measles 105 and whooping-cough 15. The incidence of dysentery remained unchanged. The rise in cases of diphtheria was contributed by Glasgow, where the figures rose from 32 to 55.

In *Eire* the incidence of diarrhoea and enteritis increased by 20 and reverted to the level of the preceding weeks. Increases were also reported for scarlet fever 17 and whooping-cough 11.

In *Northern Ireland* scarlet fever fell by 21 cases.

Week Ending May 4

The notifications of infectious diseases in *England and Wales* during the week included: scarlet fever 945, whooping-cough 2,147, diphtheria 367, measles 2,711, acute pneumonia 610, cerebrospinal fever 58, dysentery 212, paratyphoid 6, typhoid 5.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND VITAL STATISTICS

We print below a summary of Infectious Diseases and Vital Statistics in the British Isles during the week ended April 27.

Figures of Principal Notifiable Diseases for the week and those for the corresponding week last year, for: (a) *England and Wales* (London included). (b) *London* (administrative county). (c) *Scotland*. (d) *Eire*. (e) *Northern Ireland*.

Figures of Births and Deaths, and of Deaths recorded under each infectious disease, are for: (a) The 126 great towns in *England and Wales* (including *London*). (b) *London* (administrative county). (c) The 16 principal towns in *Scotland*. (d) The 13 principal towns in *Eire*. (e) The 10 principal towns in *Northern Ireland*.

A dash — denotes no cases; a blank space denotes disease not notifiable or no return available.

Disease	1946					1945 (Corresponding Week)				
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Cerebrospinal fever ..	48	6	32	—	1	56	3	18	3	1
Deaths	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	389	27	104	42	11	564	24	126	104	22
Deaths	1	—	—	1	1	7	—	2	2	—
Dysentery	163	25	63	—	—	486	32	188	3	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis lethargica, acute	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	40	8	3	—	—	32	7	1
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infertive enteritis or diarrhoea under 2 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	56	6	2	14	6	43	8	6	16	4
Measles*	2,793	1,054	354	29	—	16,023	1,058	341	65	23
Deaths	6	1	—	—	—	8	1	—	2	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	50	5	24	—	—	59	5	15	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid fever	5	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	22 (B)	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 (1A, 1B)	—	—
Pneumonia, (influenza)*	654	39	11	21	2	530	29	3	9	4
Deaths	18	2	1	3	—	12	2	1	—	1
Pneumonia, primary	—	—	188	28	7	—	—	174	31	10
Deaths	—	—	28	14	—	—	—	25	11	—
Polio-encephalitis, acute	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis, acute	5	1	—	1	—	5	—	2	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal fever	—	—	23	—	—	—	—	1	11	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia ‡	148	12	17	—	—	128	13	17	2	1
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Relapsing fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	1,054	104	147	29	19	1,426	71	212	13	34
Deaths	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid fever	4	—	—	2	1	3	—	—	13	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping-cough*	1,669	138	76	36	5	1,190	65	201	39	24
Deaths	7	3	1	—	—	4	—	3	1	—
Deaths (0-1 year)	354	50	53	34	16	304	40	40	29	23
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths (excluding stillbirths)	4,553	662	578	197	131	4,057	576	536	190	129
Annual death rate (per 1,000 persons living)	—	—	12.7	12.6	—	—	—	12.2	12.3	—
Live births	8,303	1,202	1,062	454	258	6,587	701	906	396	252
Annual rate per 1,000 persons living	—	—	21.4	29.1	—	—	—	18.1	25.6	—
Stillbirths	235	32	40	—	—	186	21	30	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total births (including stillborn)	—	—	36	—	—	—	—	32	—	—

* Measles and whooping-cough are not notifiable in *Scotland*, and the returns are therefore an approximation only.

† Includes primary form for *England and Wales*, *London* (administrative county), and *Northern Ireland*.

‡ Includes puerperal fever for *England and Wales* and *Eire*.