

of personal musings, arguments, and reminiscences, in which the ordinary reader, and the medical reader more particularly, will find matter much more attractive for the occupation of his hardly won leisure than any more formal treatise would be likely to offer. There is a breezy freshness about the book which carries the reader easily along; and the chapter headings, in spite of their suggestion of an intellectual severity, do not hinder the author from any kind of digression which the natural vagaries of his interest may start. Under "Psychology" there is a subsection on religion, and we have Admiral Dudley's views on this, as on all subjects, with a down-right directness. We gather that he is not in favour of it in any orthodox form, "as a self-confessed prejudiced medical man with a personal grudge against the priesthood as a profession."

Emphatically a book to be read and enjoyed, packed full with the fruits of a salty wisdom.

HENRY DALE.

ANATOMY OF THE HEALTH SERVICE

The National Health Service. By Roger Ormrod, M.A., B.M., B.Ch.(Oxon.), and Harris Walker. Annotations to the National Health Service Acts, 1946 and 1949, by John H. Ellison, M.A.(Cantab.). Reprinted from Butterworths Annotated Legislation Service. (Pp. 241. £1 7s. 6d., plus 1s. 1d. postage.) London: Butterworth and Co. (Publishers), Ltd. 1950.

The preface to this book states that it is designed to provide a detailed account of the National Health Service Acts of 1946 and 1949 and the principal statutory instruments which give effect to the Acts. The authors give a detailed exposition of the Health Service, with the texts of the Acts and of the principal statutory instruments (up to June, 1950). They are both barristers, and though one of them has also a medical qualification the book is written entirely from the legal point of view. They display the dry bones of the Service accurately on the whole, but without the flesh and blood with which those who have to work the Service have clothed them, and without which it could not function. Curiously enough the only major blunder discovered is the definition of a hospital (p. 6, last two lines), where by careless condensation of the words of the Act hospitals are made to be convalescent homes instead of including them.

It will be convenient no doubt for many people (but chiefly for lawyers and administrators) to have the text of the Acts and the principal statutory instruments in one volume; but the flow of amending regulations and rules necessitated by the growth of a large service will make very frequent supplements or new editions necessary if the book is to retain its value as a work of reference.

F. GRAY.

GYNAECOLOGY IN PRACTICE

Medical Gynecology. By Professor James C. Janney, M.D., F.A.C.S. Second edition. (Pp. 454; illustrated. £1 12s. 6d.) Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1950.

This is a happily arranged little book designed for general practitioners and medical students. It presents the practical and clinical approach to the subject. Each chapter is on a symptom rather than a disease; the significance of physical signs rather than pathology; medical and physical methods of treatment rather than the minutiae of surgical operations. In one section the author considers the principles and applications of

special tests, and in another discusses at length the important sociological problems associated with gynaecology. There are few textbooks which devote so much space usefully to consideration of marital maladjustment and its prevention and treatment.

Ideas of what a candidate should know of gynaecology, at the time of final examination, have changed considerably in recent years, and teaching is being modified accordingly. This book is a serious and satisfying attempt to present the new outlook, avoiding so far as possible all that comes within the province of the specialist. It concentrates on the problems as they present to the general practitioner and on the forms of treatment which fall within his sphere.

T. N. A. JEFFCOATE.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Review is not precluded by notice here of books recently received

A Synopsis of Fevers and their Treatment. Issued by Virol Limited. 9th ed. (Pp. 192. 2s. 6d.) London: Virol Limited. 1950.

Industrial and Safety Problems of Nuclear Technology. Edited by Professor M. H. Shamos and Professor S. G. Roth. (Pp. 368. 28s.) London: Hamish Hamilton. 1950.

The Cerebral Cortex of Man. By W. Penfield, C.M.G., M.D., B.Sc., D.Sc., F.R.C.S., F.R.S., and T. Rasmussen, M.D. (Pp. 248. 48s. 6d.) London: Macmillan. 1950.

Cell Growth and Cell Function. By T. O. Caspersson, M.D. (Pp. 185. 28s.) London: Chapman and Hall. 1950.

The National Health Service Act, 1946, Annotated: Supplement to 1948 Edition. By S. R. Speller, LL.B. (Pp. 285. 27s. 6d.) London: H. K. Lewis. 1951.

A Textbook of Histology. By Professor E. V. Cowdry. 4th revised ed. (Pp. 640. 60s.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1950.

Whitaker's Almanack 1951. By J. Whitaker, F.S.A. (Pp. 1,156. Complete ed. 12s. 6d.; shorter ed. 7s. 6d.) London: J. Whitaker. 1950.

An Addendum to "King's and Some King's Men." By H. Willoughby Lyle, M.D., F.R.C.S. (Pp. 211. 30s.) London: Geoffrey Cumberlege. 1950.

Atoms and Atomic Energy. By R. W. Hallows, T.D., M.A., M.I.E.E. (Pp. 196. 10s. 6d.) London: Chapman and Hall. 1950.

Handbook of Diagnosis and Treatment of Venereal Diseases. By A. E. W. McLachlan, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.S.Ed. 4th ed. (Pp. 368. 17s. 6d.) Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone. 1951.

Introduction to Diophtalmology. By N. A. Stutterheim, M.D. (Pp. 43. 7s. 6d.) London: H. K. Lewis. 1950.

Principles of Internal Medicine. Edited by T. R. Harrison, B.A., M.D. (Pp. 1,590. 90s.) London: H. K. Lewis. 1950.

Thomas W. Salmon, Psychiatrist. By E. D. Bond, M.D. (Pp. 237. 15s.) London: Chapman and Hall. 1950.

Genetic Neurology. Edited by P. Weiss. (Pp. 239. \$5.) Chicago: University of Chicago Press. 1950.

L'Épilepsie Expérimentale. By Professor G. Moruzzi. (Pp. 139. No price.) Paris: Hermann. 1950.

La Stérilité Involontaire. By R. Palmer. (Pp. 493. 1,600 francs.) Paris: Masson. 1950.

Hirndurchblutungsstörungen. By Dr. A. Brobeil. (Pp. 264. M. 45.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1950.

Allgemeine Pathologie. By Professor F. Büchner. (Pp. 528. M. 32.80.) Berlin: Urban and Schwarzenberg. 1950.

the insanity defence was not open to the husband, and granted a decree to the wife, both because he could not find that insanity has ever been clearly established as a defence to a petition based on cruelty, and because such a defence does not in his opinion accord with the true view of the law relating to cruelty.

However, in case his view of the law should be reversed on appeal, Mr. Justice Pearce dealt with the question whether the husband had proved the degree of insanity necessary to establish absence of responsibility. He considered that the second part of the M'Naghten test, whether or not the husband knew that he was doing wrong, was very unsatisfactory in measuring misdeeds so dependent on the circumstances and personalities of the parties as acts of cruelty. Things may be cruel in particular circumstances and between particular persons that are not at the time of their commission known to be wrong. The Court of Appeal has ruled out the substitution of the word "cruel" for the word "wrong" in the M'Naghten test, a ruling which in itself is further evidence of how unsatisfactory such a test is. In civil matters the courts both of common law and of equity apply the first part of the M'Naghten test, whether the person alleged to be of unsound mind knew the nature of the act. This the judge thought would be reasonable. In the present case it was agreed that the husband knew the nature and quality of his acts. Moreover, even if the knowledge of wrong properly forms part of the test, the husband had not proved clearly, or at all, that he did not know that his acts were wrong; and, as his conduct would have been unlawful even if the delusions had been true, he could not escape liability for it. Therefore, even if the M'Naghten test is fully applicable to such cases—which in the judge's opinion it is not—the result would still be the same and the wife would obtain her decree.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

In a Congregation held on November 18, 1950, the degree of D.M. was conferred on D. S. Parsons.

The following medical degrees were conferred on December 16, 1950:

D.M.—J. F. Monk, J. C. Pease.

B.M.—J. P. Bingle, M. J. V. Bull, G. P. Burn, *I. B. Denny, B. S. Freeman, J. R. Golding, W. D. E. Hamilton, *R. H. Hill, D. E. Hone, Ruth Lister, J. G. Millar, C. G. Miller, H. E. Milligan, R. G. Mitchell, R. M. Morris-Owen, E. F. H. Murphy, J. K. Pearce, Constance M. Ridley, Jane M. Robinson, Gillian Rowe-Dutton, G. M. Scott, *Barbara Sellman, Jean McL. Smellie, G. T. Smerdon, Mrs. Diane L. Spencer, J. G. Wallace.

Professor A. D. Gardner, D.M., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., and Professor E. G. T. Liddell, D.M., F.R.S., have been appointed chairman and vice-chairman respectively of the Faculty of Medicine and Professor W. E. Le Gros Clark, D.Sc., F.R.C.S., F.R.S., chairman of the Faculty of Biological Sciences for the academic year 1950-1.

Applications for the Horatio Symonds Studentship in Surgery for 1951, of the value of about £200 a year, must reach the Registrar of the University, Clarendon Building, Oxford, by March 31.

N. Rosen (Roundhay School) has been elected to a War Memorial Medical Scholarship at University College, Oxford.

*In absence.

UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS

William Leslie Burgess, C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P.Ed., has been appointed to the newly instituted James Mackenzie Chair of Public Health and Social Medicine in the University, from April 10. Dr. Burgess was appointed assistant medical officer of health for Dundee in 1913, becoming medical officer of health for the city five years later. Since 1918 he has been a member of the staff of the University of St. Andrews, first as lecturer in public health and in fevers and later as reader in public health. Dr. Burgess has also served on many departmental and inter-departmental committees of inquiry.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

The following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

M.D.—*Branch I (Medicine)*: D. M. Abelson, M. Atkinson, A. G. Bearn, G. A. Bedwell, J. D. Blainey, S. O. Boldy, L. Brotmacher, F. G. Campbell, H. E. Claremont, R. S. C. Couch, J. S. Crowther, L. Cudkovicz, A. E. Doyle, C. J. Earl, T. R. L. Finnegan, P. Freedman, C. N. Grainger, P. C. Harris (*Mark of Distinction and University Medal*), A. R. Harrison, A. Hollman, G. Howells, P. E. Jackson, C. L. Joiner, D'A. Kok, M. J. Livera, J. Luder, J. C. Macaulay, R. A. Moir, C. D. Routh, B. Schwartz, L. G. Scott, L. V. Sthyr, P. P. Turner, A. Venner, R. L. Ward, R. G. Welch, Joan C. Wells, R. R. Willcox, I. Yentis. *Branch II (Pathology)*: Naomi Datta, Deborah Doniach, C. H. Gray (*Mark of Distinction and University Medal*), W. J. Hanbury, A. B. Hill, G. R. F. Hilson, J. D. O'D. Lavertine, G. L. Le Bouvier, A. J. M. Reese, R. B. H. Tierney. *Branch III (Psychological Medicine)*: A. J. P. Oldham. *Branch IV (Midwifery and Diseases of Women)*: J. G. Dumoulin, D. W. James, J. C. S. Leverton. *Branch V (Hygiene)*: D. J. Davies, R. A. G. Smith.

M.S.—*Branch I (Surgery)*: A. Elton, T. W. Rowntree.

The following candidates at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine have been approved at the examination indicated:

ACADEMIC POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN PUBLIC HEALTH.—Lily G. Arumugam, K. M. Basu, J. P. Brazil, Carol W. Buck, D. H. D. Burbridge, C. G. Burgess, T. W. Carrick, C. S. Chou, M. J. Colbourne, A. H. R. Coombes, J. D. Cottrell, D. E. Cullington, G. M. Curtois, R. G. Davies, L. E. A. Dearberg, M. Doraisingham, H. El Nagar, A. G. Farr, M. A. Fawkes, L. V. R. Fernando, P. S. Fuller, A. Girby, Y. G. Gupte, Margaret I. Hendrie, P. R. Henson, F. R. T. Hollins, J. G. S. Holman, I. J. Jeffery, W. H. Jeffrey, E. F. E. Kellar, E. H. Lamb, N. Leitch, I. M. Macgregor, D. H. Mackay, G. P. Merson, G. A. Mott, See Yook Ng, G. A. R. Perera, R. Perumal, W. D. Ratnavale, F. G. Sembeguya, E. S. Sidey, L. Silverstone, G. A. Steele, Julie S. Suleiman, Shwe Thwin, T. Visuvalingam, A. S. Wallace.

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

The Council of the University has approved regulations for the award of the Alfred Lucas Blain Memorial Scholarship in Pharmacy, established under the will of the late Mrs. M. E. Blain for the encouragement of research in pharmacy and allied subjects. The first offer will be made in September.

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

The following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

M.D.—J. W. L. Edwards, Elizabeth Rees.

M.CH.ORTH.—N. J. Blockey, L. Bonnin, V. K. Drennan, K. S. Fan, L. Henry, J. H. Hicks, T. McSweeney, F. Machanik, J. B. Maloney, M. R. Reddy, A. M. Sallam, H. O. Williams.

FINAL M.B., CH.B.—*Part III (Old Regulations)*: G. M. Barnes, Monica T. Barry, Winifred Billington, Cynthia J. Bladon, Elizabeth J. Coope, H. S. Evans, T. K. Hardy, D. H. Jones, Mary W. Malone, Eileen P. O'Mahony, C. W. R. Pyne, H. Shecter, Sheila M. Ward, Marjorie J. Williamson. *Passed in separate subjects*: J. C. Holden (Medicine and Surgery).

D.P.H.—*Part I*: B. Devlin, M. Doherty, G. Fairclough, Wilhelmina N. Gaye, W. A. Glynn, B. Hamilton, H. M. Thomas, J. Vignoles.

CERTIFICATE IN PUBLIC HEALTH.—P. J. Burke, Alta F. Stout.

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND

The following candidates at University College, Galway, have been approved at the examinations indicated:

M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.—Mary E. Doyle, J. M. Fahy, J. F. Finnegan, A. K. Forde, B. J. Foy, Sarah L. Gavigan, J. J. Holloway, P. K. Joyce, D. Kelleher, J. V. Loughlin, C. Lydon, Catherine M. McDermott, K. U. Moran, Cecily M. Morris, P. J. O'Hara, Maeve T. Treacy, G. P. Walsh.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY OF BELFAST

The following degrees and diplomas were conferred on December 20, 1950:

M.D.—R. D. N. Blair, B. Mullally, B. Blewett.

M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.—C. G. Alexander, S. A. Agnew, Elizabeth F. Bennett, J. B. Bowden, W. A. Boyd, C. F. Brennan, T. D. Brown, J. M. R. Campbell, Janet C. Davidson, P. J. Devlin, D. A. Elliott, N. P. Ellison, Patricia E. Ferguson, A. G. Fullerton, W. J. Glover, F. Hillman, S. R. A. Hogg, T. Horner, D. W. Ingram, D. H. Johnston, A. Jones, Dorothea Kelso, Mea W.

Kelso, W. J. Kernohan, Frances E. W. Kinnaird, A. L. Kirkland, H. Korentager, R. S. Lindsay, Doreen E. Linton, C. R. Locker, J. C. H. Loughridge, M. J. Lyons, W. T. E. McCaughey, E. McFall, M. J. McKenna, Edith M. McKinney, A. G. McKnight, Frances M. McQuitty, W. N. McWilliam, R. G. S. Malone, V. J. Marmion, J. E. H. Mercer, N. G. Metrustry, H. A. Millar, G. Moles, M. H. Moles, S. Moore, J. F. O'Sullivan, G. C. Patterson, J. N. Patterson, A. C. C. Pinion, Norah I. Rottger, J. L. Russell, I. McC. Todd, Mary Uprichard, W. G. Wade, J. A. Weaver, C. R. Whitfield, J. S. Willman, Sheila M. Wilson, H. G. Wright, Sandra Wyllie.

C.P.H.—A. C. Darrah, R. Logan, F. V. MacLaine, S. H. Moore, P. N. Newsam, W. T. Orton, W. J. Patterson, J. Simpson, E. M. Wells.

ROYAL FACULTY OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF GLASGOW

Professor L. S. P. Davidson will deliver the Finlayson Memorial Lecture in the Hall of the Faculty (242, St. Vincent Street, Glasgow) on Wednesday, January 24, at 5 p.m. His subject is "The Malabsorption Syndrome." All medical practitioners are invited to attend the lecture.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS

At a recent meeting of the Council of the College, with the President, Professor Hilda Lloyd, in the chair, Mr. Geoffrey Keynes and Dr. R. J. Minnitt were formally admitted to the Fellowship of the College.

The President was appointed to represent the College at the fifth Centenary Celebrations of the University of Glasgow.

Leverhulme Scholarships were awarded to L. W. Cox, M.B., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.O.G., J. C. McClure Browne, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.O.G., and D. C. A. Bevis, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.O.G.

The following candidates from Australia and New Zealand were elected to the Membership: Lois E. Benson, A. D. Byrne, M. Connaughton, E. W. Duncan, J. M. Farrar, F. G. Favaloro, R. C. Gordon, A. M. B. Grant, G. H. Green, W. R. D. Griffiths, A. L. Hellestrand, R. E. Hemsley, T. D. Hollywood, W. G. Jasper, P. R. Long, R. H. Macdonald, Ella A. N. Macknight, L. O. S. Poidevin, N. H. W. Saxby, J. R. Sherwin, W. L. Sloss, K. F. Tarlinton, H. R. Thomson, Helen E. Thomson, T. W. Vorrath, Marjorie R. Walker, Alice Wheildon.

The following candidates from New Zealand were awarded the Diploma in Obstetrics: T. J. Buckley, R. R. Grigor, R. G. Gudex, G. C. Liggins, Diana Montgomery, R. A. Warren.

FACULTY OF RADIOLOGISTS

The following candidates have satisfied the Fellowship Board at the 1950 examination for the Fellowship: *Radiotherapy*, D. G. Bratherton, B. A. Stoll, R. C. Tudway. *Radiodiagnosis*, A. N. Gaballa, W. S. Holden, G. B. Locke.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL NOTES

Smallpox at Brighton

Up to noon on January 16 there have been 30 cases of smallpox in the Brighton area. Eight cases have died. The cases have come from three main foci.

(1) *Bevendean Hospital*.—All the initial cases from here were employed in the ward in which the second case was nursed for 10 days. Eight belonged to the day or night nursing staffs, and two were ward maids. Of these, three nurses and the two domestic workers have died. During the past few days four other cases have occurred in the hospital. These were connected, more or less directly, with the personnel in the affected ward.

(2) *Laundry*.—The clothing of the original case was sent here, and from this six employees have contracted the disease. Two laundry workers have died.

(3) *Telephone Exchange*.—The second case was employed here, and two further cases have come from this source.

In the past week four cases have been notified not directly related to the three main foci; they were not under surveillance when they developed the disease. Rather tenuous circumstances may relate these cases to existing foci, but the position is not clear. Other cases of this type have to be expected. The infection disseminated from the three foci before strict surveillance was set up is only now becoming manifest.

Although the disease is confined to the Brighton area and there is no sign of spread to other parts of the United Kingdom, the strictest vigilance is still imperative throughout the country.

Influenza

The statistics given below indicate an increased incidence of influenza throughout England and Wales. In the week ending January 6 there were large increases in pneumonia cases and deaths both in England and Wales and in the great towns, while there was also a considerable increase in influenza deaths in the latter—from 102 in the preceding week to 458 in the week referred to here.

This steep rise reflects an unusually high prevalence of the disease, which may continue during coming weeks. Of these deaths, 339 out of the 458 occurred north of a line roughly drawn from Crewe through Sheffield to the Humber, and were largely associated with outbreaks on Merseyside and Tyneside; here the disease was generally mild in form, though highly infectious, and the deaths, with few exceptions, were among elderly people.

There was also an increase in influenza deaths in the London and South-east Region compared with the preceding week, while increases of some degree occurred in all regions. It would appear that, particularly in the north and north-west, there is some increase in the severity of the disease.

The evidence of the numbers of new claims to sickness benefits also indicates an increased influenza prevalence, especially in the north and north-west. In these two regions combined such claims totalled 74,844 in the week ending January 2 compared with 31,371 in the week ending December 19, 1950. For the whole country the claims nearly doubled themselves in the same period.

It would appear that in the areas in the north and north-west originally attacked the epidemic has passed its peak. But there is evidence of an increased prevalence in various towns and cities not so far seriously affected—for example, Manchester, Bolton, Salford, Wolverhampton, Sheffield, Norwich—and possibly this indicates a spread of the northern epidemic. Similarly, in Carlisle (Cumberland) and Kendall (Westmorland) there were suggestive rises in insurance claims.

In the Southern, Eastern, and Western Regions there is an increasing general prevalence of influenza in many areas with scattered, localized outbreaks here and there, but nowhere, so far as is known at present, do situations exist similar to those of the past fortnight in many cities and towns in the north-west. During the week ending January 6 deaths certified as due to influenza in London county numbered 40. This does not suggest or even portend epidemic proportions.

The position in the south up to January 16 remains uncertain. But there was serological evidence of virus A infections, and virus A was isolated from garglings in one case during the week ending January 13.

The following cases of and deaths from pneumonia and influenza have been reported in the great towns:

	4/11	11/11	18/11	25/11	2/12	9/12	16/12	23/12	30/12	6/1
Pneumonia:										
Cases ..	253	261	313	302	282	347	374	364	502	956
Deaths ..	198	177	188	207	198	236	289	351	383	770
Influenza:										
Deaths ..	19	20	16	24	28	34	33	54	102	458

Totals from the first week of the year in the great towns compared with the preceding two years are as follows:

	1949	1950	1951
Pneumonia:			
Cases ..	642	639	956
Deaths ..	434	299	770
Influenza:			
Deaths ..	47	52	458

ST. ANDREWS UNIVERSITY.—At Lecture Theatre, Materia Medica Department, Medical School, Small's Wynd, Dundee, January 25, 5 p.m., "*The Influence of Adaptation on Host-Parasite Relationships in Disease*," by Professor W. J. Tulloch.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL, Hyde Park Corner, London, S.W.—January 25, 4.30 p.m., lecture-demonstration on psychiatry.

TORQUAY AND DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Torbay Hospital, January 25, 8.30 p.m., "*Backache, Sciatica, and Ruptured Disks*," by Mr. Kenneth Pridie.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE (Physiology Theatre), Gower Street, London, W.C.—January 25, 5.15 p.m., "*Physico-chemical Properties and Pharmacological Activity of Drugs*," by Mr. F. Bergel, Ph.D., D.Sc.

Friday

KENT AND CANTERBURY HOSPITAL, Canterbury.—January 26, 5 p.m., clinical meeting.

LONDON UNIVERSITY.—At London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, Gower Street, W.C., January 26, 5.30 p.m., "*Infection and Immunity in Smallpox*," special university lecture in pathology by Professor A. W. Downie.

MEDICAL SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF VENEREAL DISEASES, 11, Chandos Street, London, W.—January 26, 8 p.m., general meeting.

●**ROYAL EYE HOSPITAL,** St. George's Circus, Southwark, London, S.E.—January 26, 5.30 p.m., "*Physiology of the Eye*."

ROYAL MEDICAL SOCIETY, 7, Melbourn Place, Edinburgh.—January 26, 8 p.m., "*The Wider Scope of Therapeutics*," dissertation by Mr. J. K. Stewart Kirkaldy.

ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE.—At Royal Technical College, Salford, January 26, 10.30 a.m., papers: "*The Promotion of Mental Health in the Community*," by Dr. A. Torrie and Professor E. W. Anderson; "*The Control of Infection in the Community*," by Dr. M. T. Parker and Professor Wilfrid Gaisford; "*Temperature Control: The Basic Principle of Food Hygiene*," by Mr. J. C. Starkey.

Saturday

BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETY.—At Postgraduate Medical School, Ducane Road, London, W., January 27, 10.30 a.m., 293rd meeting. Papers will be read.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF ALLERGISTS.—At Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, London, W., January 27, 11 a.m. annual general meeting. 11.30 a.m., short papers will be read.

KENT PAEDIATRIC SOCIETY.—At Farnborough Hospital, Kent, January 27, 2.30 p.m., clinical meeting.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS**BIRTHS**

Browne.—On December 25, 1950, at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, to Barbara (formerly Cunningham), wife of Professor R. C. Browne, D.M., M.R.C.P., a daughter—Elizabeth Caroline.

Cantor.—On January 9, 1951, at the Middlesex Hospital, London, W., to Kathleen (formerly Wallach), wife of Dr. J. Cantor, a son—Timothy Jefferson.

MARRIAGES

Abramson—Dods.—On December 9, 1950, at Colinton Church, Edinburgh, Allan William Abramson, M.R.C.P., D.C.H., to Morag Dods, M.R.C.O.G.

DEATHS

Armstrong.—On December 30, 1950, at 120, Gloucester Court, Kew, Surrey, Wilfred Ernest Arbutnot Armstrong, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Lieutenant-Colonel, I.M.S., retired, aged 85.

Campbell.—On January 3, 1951, at Dundee, Peter Campbell, M.B., of Scurbrae, Balmerino, Fife, aged 94.

Clark.—On January 1, 1951, Agnes Catherine Clark, M.B., B.Chir., D.A., of 153, Cromwell Road, London, S.W.

Davis-Taylor.—On December 29, 1950, at 3, Spencer Road, Southsea, Edward James Davis-Taylor, M.B., B.Chir.

Drought.—On December 31, 1950, Robert Smerger Albert Drought, M.B., B.Ch., of Brabourne, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex, aged 79.

Matson.—On December 21, 1950, at Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, Thomas Rhodes Matson, D.S.O., M.B., Ch.B., late of 10, Albany Street, Edinburgh.

Mitchell.—On December 20, 1950, Albert Waldegrave Mitchell, M.R.C.S., Slane House, Maedalen Road, Wandsworth Common, London, S.W.

Munro.—On December 25, 1950, at Wimborne, Dorset, Marjorie Munro (formerly Culloden), M.B., Ch.B., Corner Cottage, Lower Rowe, near Wimborne, Dorset, formerly of Romford, Essex.

Ormsby.—On December 27, 1950, at Rochford Hospital, Essex, William Ormsby, L.R.C.P.&S.I.&L.M., of Rathmoy, Co. Mayo, Eire, late of 56, Hildaville Drive, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex, aged 78.

Parry.—On December 31, 1950, at the Rothbury Nursing Home, Newport, Guy William Parry, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Abergavenny, Mon.

Peake.—On December 24, 1950, Ernest Cromwell Peake, M.D., of Reed Thatch, Burpham, Arundel, Sussex, late of China.

Platts.—On December 18, 1950, at 112, London Road, Chelmsford, Essex, Harry Platts, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Rodgers.—On December 30, 1950, at Ennerdale, West Avenue, Leeds, William Rodgers, M.B., Ch.B., aged 79.

Sansom.—On January 6, 1951, in a nursing-home, St. Leonards, Sussex, Charles Lane Sansom, C.M.G., F.R.C.S.Ed., D.P.H., aged 88.

Thomas.—On December 27, 1950, at his home, Wembley, Middlesex, Albert Edward Thomas, M.D., D.P.H.

Ward.—On December 20, 1950, at New York City, George Gray Ward, M.D.

Warrick.—On December 21, 1950, at 3, St. German's Place, Blackheath, London, S.E., Robert Walter Warrick, M.B., B.S.

West.—On January 1, 1951, at his home, Broadpark, Moor Lane, Budleigh Salterton, Devon, Charles Ernest West, F.R.C.S., aged 77.

Any Questions?

Correspondents should give their names and addresses (not for publication) and include all relevant details in their questions, which should be typed. We publish here a selection of those questions and answers which seem to be of general interest.

Demonstration of Malaria Parasites

Q.—What is the most certain method of demonstrating malaria parasites in the blood of a patient suspected of having malaria? When should blood films be taken? Is the prior injection of adrenaline helpful?

A.—Malaria parasites can best be demonstrated in the blood of a patient by making a thick film on a slide, staining the film with Giemsa's stain, and examining it under the microscope. A good brand of stain should be used, the distilled water should be correctly buffered, and the standard technique of staining followed. A prolonged search may be necessary before a parasite is detected; the film should be examined by an experienced worker, and it should be confirmed that the patient has received no antimalarial treatment. The species of parasite may not be recognizable in a thick film and can be more easily determined (if the infection is not too light) in a thin film.

As a rule, parasites are present throughout the febrile periods; they are often most numerous, in the case of *Plasmodium falciparum*, at the beginning of each paroxysm. In *P. malariae* infections, parasites may occasionally remain undetectable for several attacks and may appear only during the later relapses, so if this form of the disease is suspected many blood films should be examined.

Adrenaline as an aid to the diagnosis of malaria is probably more used by Continental than British workers; its intravenous administration may cause a transient appearance of parasites in the peripheral circulation, and this procedure may therefore be helpful in doubtful cases.

Treatment of Malaria

Q.—(1) What is the best treatment for B.T. and M.T. malaria? (2) Is proguanil ("paludrine") still thought of as highly as it was two or three years ago? (3) What is the best way to prevent B.T. relapses?

A.—(1) *Treatment of Benign Tertian Malaria.* (a) In an indigenous population when the aim of treatment is simply to control the overt attack, a single dose of 300 mg. proguanil hydrochloride, 300 mg. mepacrine hydrochloride, or 500 mg. chloroquine diphosphate usually suffices.

Alternatively, full therapeutic courses may be given: proguanil (300 mg. b.d. for 7–10 days); mepacrine (300 mg. t.d.s. for the first day; 200 mg. t.d.s. for the second day; 100 mg. t.d.s. for 5–7 days); or chloroquine (500 mg. on admission; 500 mg. four hours later; 500 mg. once daily for the next three days).

(b) In individuals not frequently exposed to reinfection and in whom it is desired to eradicate the infection, treatment with paludrine, mepacrine, or chloroquine will control the overt attack but will not affect the relapse rate. Combined treatment with an 8-aminoquinoline, such as pamaquin, and a schizontocidal drug will, however, considerably reduce the relapse rate.

Examples of such combined treatment are:

- i. Quinine dihydrochloride 10 gr. (0.65 g.).
Pamaquin hydrochloride 10 mg.
Given together t.d.s. for 10 days; and
- ii. Proguanil hydrochloride 100 mg.
Pamaquin hydrochloride 10 mg.
Given together t.d.s. for 10 days.

During treatment the patient must be kept in bed and given plenty of fluid. Toxic effects from pamaquin are