

said that was a matter for the hospital authorities. It was a long time since the Ministry had issued guidance on the matter, and he would consider whether it would be helpful to do so again.

#### Beds for Mentally Deficient Children

Mr. SOMERVILLE HASTINGS on June 19 asked what steps the Minister of Health was taking to provide further accommodation in institutions for mentally deficient children: there were approximately 4,000 cases waiting, half of whom were regarded as urgent, for vacancies in 7,120 beds.

Mr. I. MACLEOD said the attention of regional hospital boards had been drawn to the urgency of this matter. They had been asked to give special attention to schemes for increasing the accommodation for this type of case. About 200 extra beds would become available for schemes now in hand, but that was negligible against the size of the problem.

#### Treatment for Haemophilia

On June 19 Mr. P. F. REMNANT asked what inquiries had been made into the treatment for haemophilia devised by Dr. W. A. Timperley, Sheffield, and what steps Mr. Macleod had taken to assess the value of this treatment.

Mr. I. MACLEOD said this treatment had been investigated by the Medical Research Council on three separate occasions, care being taken to follow the technique recommended by Dr. Timperley. In every case the Council's investigators failed to find any evidence in support of the claims made. The treatment could be prescribed under the general medical service if a doctor happened to think it suitable. The fullest investigation had taken place into the claim, and in 1937 Dr. Timperley had been given a grant by the Medical Research Council.

#### Alcohol and Road Accidents

In the course of a debate on road safety on June 20 Mr. S. E. VIANI, the opener, referred to the risks to motorists of drinking. He said that 12 years ago a Select Committee had advised a scientific blood test. It was hardly an infringement of personal liberty to take two or three drops of blood from the lobe of an ear, which had to be set against blood spilt on the roads.

Later, Viscount HINCHINGBROOKE said a small glass of light sherry was not a bad stimulus to good driving; in fact it was a very good stimulus indeed. A very small quantity of any drug could do a lot to keep the senses keen.

Mr. SOMERVILLE HASTINGS pointed out that the effect of a drink could last for very long periods. It was for that reason that B.O.A.C. insisted that its flying crews should not only take no drink while working but should not drink anything for at least eight hours before going on duty. The British Medical Association in an inquiry a few years ago found that 3 oz. of whisky (six tablespoonfuls) had a marked psychological effect in diminution of attention and control, and reduction in reasoning power. 90% of professional drivers employed by public authorities and private companies were forbidden to take drink when driving cars on the road. In Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Holland, Turkey, Germany, Switzerland, and parts of the United States the blood alcohol test was officially recognized as evidence. In some countries it was actually compulsory. In Denmark since the test was introduced the percentage of accidents due to drinking had gone down from about 10 to 2. However, the test was not infallible, because it had been shown recently, particularly by Professor Leonard Goldberg in Stockholm, that those who habitually took a lot of alcohol could take more than 0.15% in their blood without necessarily becoming public dangers. He thought that every police station should exhibit a notice saying that anyone charged with being under the influence of alcohol while in charge of a car could have a blood test if they asked for it. The notice should state clearly the value of the test not only in convicting but in proving innocence.

Mr. M. HIGGS said that the greater the penalty the more apprehensive magistrates became of convicting. They would not want to take away a lorry driver's driving licence if that took away his living.

Mr. CHUTER EDE said that the meaning of the word "drunk" had changed. When he was in the Army, if a man could take off his boots before he got into bed he was not drunk. He did not think blood tests were satisfactory, because they were not infallible. The same amount of alcohol, particularly a small amount, had very different effects on different people. Even in the countries where it was used the test was not yet regarded even by medical opinion as an infallible one. He would like to see it made possible for the motorist himself to ask for a blood test.

In replying to the debate Mr. G. BRAITHWAITE, for the Government, said he agreed completely with what Mr. Chuter Ede had said.

*Tuberculosis in Singapore.*—Over 500 beds are constantly in use for tuberculous patients in Singapore. It is hoped to start work in the near future on a new sanatorium which will provide a further 300 beds. The medical plan for Singapore envisages provision of 1,100 beds. There is a general shortage of trained staff and of staff accommodation.

*Poison and Antidote.*—The Poisons Board advises against legislation making it legally obligatory to have an antidote printed in label form on bottles, jars, or receptacles containing dangerous drugs, poisons, and the like.

*Prescription Machines.*—Twenty-two machines have been purchased by hospital committees for the purpose of collecting the shilling for prescriptions in out-patient departments; 237 machines have been hired.

## Universities and Colleges

### UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

The Council of the University is to recommend to the next meeting of the Court of Governors that Professor H. F. Humphreys, Vice-Principal and Director of Dental Studies and Professor of Dental Surgery, be appointed Vice-Chancellor and Principal for one year from October 1, in succession to Sir Raymond Priestley, who retires on September 30. Professor Humphreys will resign his two appointments on September 30.

Professor A. P. Thomson, Professor of Therapeutics and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, has been appointed Vice-Principal of the University for one year from October 1, in succession to Professor Humphreys. He will continue to be Dean of the Faculty of Medicine.

Honour schools in medical sciences will be established within the Faculty of Science as soon as the necessary facilities are available. The objects of their establishment are (a) to provide an adequate basic training at honours degree level for those intending to work in one or other of the scientific fields associated with medicine in universities, research institutions, schools, hospitals, and industry; and (b) to provide a one-year course for selected medical students leading to the same degree. The present honour school in anatomy and physiology will be replaced by (1) an honour school in anatomical studies, to be the responsibility of the professor of anatomy; (2) an honour school in physiological studies, to be the responsibility of the professor of physiology; (3) an honour school in medical biochemical studies, to be the responsibility of the professor of pharmacology.

Dr. J. W. Gerrard, Lecturer in Paediatrics and Child Health, has been appointed First Assistant in the department from April 1.

The title of Reader in Chemical Pathology (Cancer Research) has been conferred on D. L. Woodhouse, Ph.D., M.Sc., Lecturer and Senior Research Fellow.

Dr. Edward Park, of Johns Hopkins University, has accepted an invitation to be the first Leonard Parsons Lecturer and will deliver two lectures in 1953.

### FACULTY OF OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

At the Council meeting of the Faculty, held on May 9, the following were elected officers for 1952-3: *President*, Mr. O. M. Duthie; *Vice-presidents*, Mr. R. C. Davenport, Mr. A. B. Nutt; *Honorary Secretary*, Mr. J. H. Doggart; *Honorary Treasurer*, Mr. E. G. Mackie.

which means that attending medical officers actually cross the line and thus become eligible for membership. The roll of members now runs into several hundred, and the average attendance at each of the meetings is about 100. Recently a meeting was devoted to an account of the Commonwealth Medical Services in the field, with particular reference to an infantry division and to comparing our medical organization and tactics with those of the United States Army. Colonel G. Anderton, of the division, gave a general outline of the Commonwealth organization, which includes Australian, New Zealand, Indian, and Canadian contingents. Lieutenant-Colonel R. L. Marks described the organization and use of a field ambulance, and Lieutenant-Colonel A. G. Rangaraj spoke about the parachute field ambulance, an all-Indian unit of which India can be proud, for they have already parachuted into action with United Nations troops. Nothing but praise is heard about their turnout and bearing in Korea.

**Plaque to Professor Stewart.**—Professor H. R. Dean, Master of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, on June 12, unveiled a bronze plaque in honour of Professor Matthew Stewart, former professor of pathology at Leeds (*Yorkshire Post*, June 13). The residue of the money raised by subscription for the plaque, nearly £2,000, will be used to found a Matthew Stewart Lecture at Leeds University.

### NEW ISSUES

**Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases.**—The next issue of this journal (Vol. 11, No. 2) will be available in a week's time. The principal contents include:

**SHEEP CELL AGGLUTINATION TEST FOR RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS.** J. Ball.  
**INTRA-ARTICULAR HYDROCORTISONE (COMPOUND F) ACETATE.** C. R. Stevenson, J. Zuckner, and R. H. Freyberg.  
**CORTISONE-ASCORBIC ACID INTERACTION AND THE PATHOGENESIS OF AMYLOIDOSIS.** Gunnar Teitlum.  
**INTERPRETATION OF MULTIPLE BIOPSIES OF SYNOVIAL TISSUE IN RHEUMATIC DISEASES.** B. Cruickshank.  
**JOINT AND NEUROMUSCULAR MANIFESTATIONS OF PERIARTERITIS NODOSA.** Edward W. Lowman.  
**PERIOSTITIS DEFORMANS.** M. Soriano.  
**ANAEMIA OF RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS.** M. R. Jeffrey.  
**CORTISONE IN THE TREATMENT OF DEGENERATIVE JOINT DISEASE OF THE HIP.** William F. Dowdell, Walter M. Solomon, Robert M. Stecher, and Ralph Wolpaw.

Issued quarterly; annual subscription £2 2s., single copy 12s. 6d.

**Thorax.**—The next issue of this journal (Vol. 7, No. 2) is now available. The principal contents include:

**TERTIARY SYPHILIS OF THE LUNG AND ITS DIAGNOSIS.** A. D. Morgan, W. E. Lloyd, and Sir Clement Price-Thomas.  
**FOUR CASES OF DIABETES INSIPIDUS AND PULMONARY DISEASE.** John D. Spillane.  
**HUMIDIFICATION OF THE AIR PASSAGES.** V. E. Negus.  
**MASSIVE HAEMOPTYSIS FROM ARTERIO-BRONCHIAL FISTULA IN PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.** M. Berard and Jaubert de Beaujeu.  
**THE SO-CALLED MIDDLE LOBE SYNDROME.** Bjarne Fretheim.  
**GASTRO-OESOPHAGEAL HAEMORRHAGE IN HEPATIC CIRRHOSIS.** H. Butler.  
**PEPTIC ULCERATION AND PERFORATION OF THE STOMACH AFTER OESOPHAGECTOMY.** V. S. Brookes and J. L. Stafford.  
**A RADIOGRAPHIC TECHNIQUE FOR THE STUDY OF LUNG PATHOLOGY.** George J. Cunningham and John W. Miller.  
**MEDIASTINAL HAEMANGIOMA.** O. Peräsalo.  
**A CASE OF PULMONARY CRYPTOCOCCOSIS.** D. Barron Cruickshank and G. Kent Harrison.  
**THE FAILED THORACOPLASTY.** R. Grenville-Mathers and H. J. Trenchard.  
**A TABLE FOR PULMONARY RESECTION IN THE PRONE POSITION.** Hans Rahbek Sørensen.

Issued quarterly; annual subscription £2 2s., single copy 12s. 6d.

These journals are obtainable from the Publishing Manager, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

### SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

A fee is charged or a ticket is required for attending lectures marked ●. Application should be made first to the institution concerned.

#### Monday, June 30

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.—5 p.m., "The Long Pull in Cancer Research," Imperial Cancer Research Fund Lecture by Dr. Peyton Rous, F.R.S.

#### Tuesday, July 1

HORSE SHOE CLUB.—At Medical Society of London, 11, Chandos Street, W., 5 p.m., annual general meeting.

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL, Denmark Hill, London, S.E.—At Medical School Lecture Theatre, 4.30 p.m., "Progress in the Treatment of Breast Cancer," First Dorothy Platt Memorial Lecture by Professor D. W. Smithers.

● MIDDLESEX COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Middlesex Guildhall, London, S.W., 3.30 p.m., John Tate Meeting; 5 p.m., "Observations on Pain and its Relief," John Tate Memorial Lecture by Professor Lambert Rogers.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.—5 p.m., "The Effects of War on Surgical Practice," Robert Jones Lecture by Sir Max Page.

#### Wednesday, July 2

YORKSHIRE SOCIETY OF ANAESTHETISTS.—At Leeds General Infirmary, 8 p.m., "Some Reflections on Twenty-nine Years of Anaesthesia," by Dr. J. K. Hasler.

#### Thursday, July 3

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON, Pall Mall East, S.W.—5 p.m., "The Puzzle for Therapy in Fluoroacetate Poisoning," Bertram Louis Abrahams Lecture by Sir Rudolph Peters, F.R.S.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.—4.45 p.m., "The Evolution of Modern Tendon Surgery," Moynihan Lecture by Dr. L. Mayer; 6 p.m., "The Physiology of the Nasal Blood Vessels," otolaryngology lecture by Professor D. Slome.

#### Friday, July 4

INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH, Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London, W.C.—5 p.m., "The Prophylactic Effect of Vitamin K in Newborn Infants," by Professor P. Plum (Copenhagen).

INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.—5 p.m., "The Prophylaxis and Treatment of Upper Respiratory Infections," by Professor T. E. Walsh (Washington University).

#### Saturday, July 5

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF ALLERGISTS.—At Biochemistry Lecture Theatre, University Museum, Parks Road, Oxford, 9.30 a.m., meeting. Papers will be read.

### APPOINTMENTS

HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Great Ormond Street, London, W.C.—  
*Resident Assistant Physician*, R. G. Welch, M.D., M.R.C.P., *Assistant Medical Registrar*, C. H. M. Walker, M.D., M.R.C.P.Ed., D.C.H., *House Physician to Professor A. A. Moncrieff*, W. H. Cary, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P., D.C.H.  
SHELL, MARY MORISON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., *Assistant Medical Officer of Health*, County of Aberdeen.  
SILVER, C. P., B.M., B.Ch., M.R.C.P., *Assistant Tuberculosis Officer to Dispensary Clinic*, London Chest Hospital.

### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS

#### BIRTHS

Alban-Jones.—On June 11, 1952, to Delyth (formerly Lewys Lloyd), wife of Dr. D. J. A. Alban-Jones, a daughter.  
Beale.—On June 19, 1952, at 13, Church Street, Bridgwater, Somerset, to Violet (formerly Pride), wife of Dr. J. Hanway Beale, a son.  
Smillie.—On May 21, 1952, to Pamela, wife of Dr. T. G. Smillie, 195, Greenhill Avenue, Sheffield, a daughter.

#### MARRIAGES

Watson-Leach.—On May 17, 1952, at Halifax, Yorks, David Anthony Watson, B.A., M.R.C.V.S., of Wimbledon, London, S.W., to Barbara Leach, M.B., Ch.B., of Halifax.

#### DEATHS

Ascough.—On June 10, 1952, at King William's Town, South Africa, Matthew Thomas Ascough M.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., late of Celyn, Romiley, Cheshire, aged 75.  
Dunstan.—On June 21, 1952, at his home, Dunkeld, High Salvington, Worthing, Sussex, Walter Robert Dunstan, M.Sc., M.B., D.P.H., formerly of Lewes, Sussex, aged 75.  
Turner.—On June 15, 1952, at his home, Albert Turner, M.D., J.P., of Farnbridge Hall, White Notley, Witham, Essex.

# BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL

THE JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

## SUPPLEMENT

containing

**Reports on the Work of the Association**

**Health Service News**

**General Medical Council**

**Meetings of Branches and Divisions**

**Service Appointments**

**Correspondence, etc.**

VOLUME I, 1952

JANUARY TO JUNE

LONDON

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

TAVISTOCK SQUARE, W.C.1

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# INDEX TO VOLUME I FOR 1952

Names of contributors are printed in capitals. Subject entries for original articles, leading articles, annotations, and correspondence are indicated by the use of the symbols (O), (L), (A), and (C), respectively. Some subjects dealt with under various main headings in the *Journal*—e.g., "Annotations," "Any Questions?," "Leading Articles," etc.—are also set out under these headings.

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