

"I cannot imagine any dwelling-house with one closet to 40 people. It is a disgusting thing. On the question of epidemic disease, if one man gets a disease the others will get it." It was contrary to all principles of humanity and justice, Mr. Yates said, that in addition to sentence a prisoner should be thrown into conditions which were a grave danger to health.

Sir DAVID MAXWELL FYFE, Home Secretary, acknowledged the extent of overcrowding, but pointed out that a total of 24,000 persons in prison had not been known in this country for 70 years. This sensational increase was confined to male prisoners, and the overcrowding to which it gave rise was concentrated in the local prisons. There were 5,680 men prisoners sleeping three in a cell, a state of affairs that nothing but necessity could excuse. So far there seemed to have been no epidemics, and there seemed to have been no effect on health and hygiene at all.

Food Consumption

Major LLOYD-GEORGE informed Mr. F. T. Willey on March 4 that the average civilian food consumption was 3,000 calories per head per day before the war, against 2,950 in 1952. The comparable animal protein figures were 43.2 g. and 42.0 g.

Margarine Content

Mr. PETER FREEMAN wanted to know the proportion and content of each ingredient in each variety of margarine. Dr. CHARLES HILL informed him on March 2 that the main variety, known as "special" margarine, contained hard and soft vegetable oils and marine oils in proportions which were frequently varied according to the supply and the time of year, as well as milk, salt, flavouring, and vitamin. The only other variety on sale to the public was kosher and vegetarian margarine, which contained no marine oil, milk, salt, or flavouring.

Therapeutic Substances Bill

The Therapeutic Substances (Prevention of Misuse) Bill was read a third time in the House of Lords on March 3, and sent to the Commons.

Cortisone Production.—Mr. Iain Macleod stated on March 5 that production of cortisone in this country had started, but output was not yet sufficient to meet current needs. Distribution was restricted to selected hospitals, and he hoped gradually to increase the quantities issued.

The Services

DOMVILLE MEMORIAL GIFT

The trustees of the Domville Memorial Gift wish to elect a recipient on or about March 14. The present value is £5 7s. 8d. yearly, tenable for three years. The recipient must be a child (or children) of a deceased Naval medical officer, and in necessitous circumstances, and under the age of 15 years. Particulars of claim and birth certificate(s) should be forwarded by March 10 to the honorary secretary, Domville Memorial Gift, R.N. Hospital, Haslar, Gosport, Hants, who will give any further information desired.

Surgeon Lieutenant-Commanders A. R. Harper, G. Hayes, and A. B. Semple, R.N.V.R., have been awarded the R.N.V.R. decoration.

Major-General E. P. N. Creagh, late R.A.M.C., has been appointed Honorary Physician to the Queen in succession to Major-General T. Menzies, C.B., O.B.E., late R.A.M.C.

Brigadier R. Murphy, C.B.E., late R.A.M.C., has been appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Queen in succession to Major-General R. D. Cameron, C.B., C.B.E., M.C., late R.A.M.C., retired. He has also been appointed a Deputy Director of Medical Services of the Army, and has been granted the temporary rank of Major-General.

Brigadier F. C. Hilton-Sergeant, late R.A.M.C., has been appointed a Deputy Director of Medical Services of the Army, and has been granted the temporary rank of Major-General.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND VITAL STATISTICS

Summary for British Isles for week ending February 21 (No. 7) and corresponding week 1952.

Figures of cases are for the countries shown and London administrative county. Figures of deaths and births are for the 160 great towns in England and Wales (London included), London administrative county, the 17 principal towns in Scotland, the 10 principal towns in Northern Ireland, and the 14 principal towns in Eire.

A blank space denotes disease not notifiable or no return available. The table is based on information supplied by the Registrars-General of England and Wales, Scotland, N. Ireland, and Eire, the Ministry of Health and Local Government of N. Ireland, and the Department of Health of Eire.

CASES in Countries and London	1953					1952				
	Eng. & Wales	Lond.	Scot.	N. Ire.	Eire	Eng. & Wales	Lond.	Scot.	N. Ire.	Eire
Diphtheria	16	2	19	0	4	37	3	21	1	1
Dysentery	241	29	136	10		591	56	78	3	1
Encephalitis, acute ..	8	0	1	0		5	0	0	0	
Enteric fever:										
Typhoid	8	0	1	0		3	0	0	1	3
Paratyphoid	4	0	7(B)	0		6	0	1(B)	0	
Food-poisoning	194	23		0		85	21		0	
Infective enteritis or diarrhoea under 2 years				5	22				10	13
Measles*	32,890	1832	447	119	399	5,734	123	483	152	137
Meningococcal infection	63	8	28	7	2	45	5	25	3	5
Ophthalmia neonatorum	44	1	8	0		40	2	13	1	
Pneumonia†	2,142	117	475	30	17	1,143	50	478	20	3
Poliomyelitis, acute:										
Paralytic	25	3	0	2	0	9	1	0	1	1
Non-paralytic	2	0				5	0			
Puerperal fever§	258	33	8	4	1	218	39	9	2	
Scarlet fever	1,550	83	264	39	73	1,613	141	251	18	55
Tuberculosis:										
Respiratory			158	29				161	29	
Non-respiratory			28	4				35	4	
Whooping-cough	2,197	121	253	29	126	2,648	128	418	103	73

DEATHS in Great Towns	1953					1952				
	Eng. & Wales	Lond.	Scot.	N. Ire.	Eire	Eng. & Wales	Lond.	Scot.	N. Ire.	Eire
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0
Dysentery	0	0		0		0	0		0	
Encephalitis, acute ..		0			0		0			0
Enteric fever	0	0	0	0		0	0		0	
Infective enteritis or diarrhoea under 2 years	9	4	1	1	2	14		1	0	1
Influenza	521	79	27	2	4	29	6	9	1	0
Measles		0	0	1	1		0	1	0	0
Meningococcal infection		4	0				0			
Pneumonia	772	109	40	10	17	368	57		18	20
Poliomyelitis, acute ..	3	0			0	0	0			0
Scarlet fever		0	0	0	0		0		0	0
Tuberculosis:										
Respiratory	151	24	34	5	7	176	24	30	4	14
Non-respiratory		2	0	1	3		3	5	1	4
Whooping-cough	9	0	0	0	0	4	0		2	1
Deaths 0-1 year	316	41	36	10	17	296	32	43	23	13
Deaths (excluding stillbirths)	9,038	134	808	128	206	6,856	967	796	162	202
LIVE BIRTHS	8,047	1179	925	217	335	8,101	1249	910	234	375
STILLBIRTHS	190	20	23			231	30	28		

* Measles not notifiable in Scotland, whence returns are approximate.

† Includes primary and influenzal pneumonia

§ Includes puerperal pyrexia.

The Tuberculosis Educational Institute (N.A.P.T. and Joint Tuberculosis Council) has organized a refresher course for doctors on "Radiology in the Treatment of Tuberculosis," to be held at St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School, London, S.E.1, from April 14 to 17. The fee for the course is £4 4s., and tickets are obtainable from the secretary of the Institute, Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

European Association against Poliomyelitis.—The next General Statutory Assembly of the European Association against Poliomyelitis will be held at the State Institute of Serotherapy, 80, Amagor Boulevard, Copenhagen, on April 25. After the business meeting there will be a symposium on "The Treatment of Poliomyelitis Complications at the Acute Stage." Further information may be obtained from the secretariat general of the association, 130, Rue de Linthout, Bruxelles.

NEW ISSUES

Medical and Biological Illustration.—The next issue (Vol. 3, No. 1) will be available in a week's time. The contents include: POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION OF THE CORONARY ARTERIES. Deryk Snow and Robert Ollershaw. BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION. Stella Ross-Craig. MOUNTING: PART I. THE MOUNT AND THE ORIGINAL. Sylvia Treadgold. PHOTOGRAPHY IN PLANT PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL. C. M. Cadwallader. SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF EFFECTIVE TEACHING FILMS. L. P. Greenhill and C. R. Carpenter. EQUIPMENT AND METHODS: THE E.E.L. COLOUR TEMPERATURE METER. THE ILFORD "SKYHOOK" LIGHTING SET. AN AID TO SKETCHING. EMULSION STRIPPING. A VERSATILE ILLUMINATOR. A WARM STAGE FOR THE MICROSCOPE. TRACING FILM.

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SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

Details in this column are necessarily brief. Further information and tickets where required (marked ●) should be obtained from the institution concerned.

Monday, March 16

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—8.30 p.m., Lettsomian Lecture by Dr. E. R. Cullinan: Some Disorders of the Liver and Bile Passages. ROYAL EYE HOSPITAL.—5.15 p.m., Dr. T. H. Whittington: Science and Art of Refraction—Introduction.

Tuesday, March 17

CAERNARVONSHIRE AND ANGLESEY PAEDIATRIC CLUB.—At Clinic, Sackville Road, Bangor, 4.30 p.m., Dr. Alice M. Stewart: The Relation Between the Health of the Newborn and the Health of the Mother. ●INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. F. R. Bettley: Antibiotics. ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5 p.m., Hunterian Lecture by Professor D. MacG. Jackson: Treatment of Burns—An Exercise in Emergency Surgery. SOUTH-WEST LONDON MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Bolingbroke Hospital, S.W., 8.30 p.m., Mr. Douglas MacLeod: Some Causes of Pelvic Pain in Women. WEST END HOSPITAL FOR NERVOUS DISEASES.—5.30 p.m., Mr. I. R. McCaul: Investigation of Cerebral Tumour.

Wednesday, March 18

CHARTERED SOCIETY OF PHYSIOTHERAPY: TAUNTON AND DISTRICT BRANCH.—At Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton, 8 p.m., Professor R. Milnes Walker: Cardiac Surgery. ●INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. H. Haber: Keratoses and Keratodermias. INSTITUTE OF UROLOGY.—At St. Paul's Hospital, W.C., 4.30 for 5 p.m., Mr. A. W. Badenoch: Haematuria. LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE.—4 p.m., Dr. C. C. Chesterman: The Training of Auxiliary African Medical Personnel. MIDLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Birmingham Medical Institute, 8.15 p.m., Professor J. M. Webster: Medical and Legal Aspects of Criminal Abortion. ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—4 p.m., annual general meeting of Faculty of Anaesthetists; 5 p.m., Joseph Clover Lecture by Professor E. A. Pask: James Brown. ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HYGIENE.—3.30 p.m., Dr. J. A. Scott: Contribution of the Health Centre to the Public Health.

Thursday, March 19

BRITISH INSTITUTE OF RADIOLOGY.—8 p.m., Professor Olle Olsson (Sweden): Some Roentgenodiagnostic Problems Connected with Bright's Disease. EDINBURGH CLINICAL CLUB.—At B.M.A. Scottish House, 8 p.m., Dr. I. R. C. Batchelor: Alcoholism. LIVERPOOL MEDICAL INSTITUTION.—At Sefton General Hospital, 2.30 p.m., afternoon clinical demonstration. ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5 p.m., Hunterian Lecture by Professor G. K. Tutton: Cerebral Abscess—The Present Position. ROYAL EYE HOSPITAL.—5.30 p.m., Miss M. Savory: Eye Surgery in the Elderly and Infirm. ROYAL SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE.—At Royal Army Medical College, 7.30 p.m., laboratory meeting.

Friday, March 20

BRITISH INSTITUTE OF RADIOLOGY.—5 p.m., meeting of Medical Members; 6.30 p.m., Dr. L. F. Lamerton, M.Sc., Ph.D.: Study of the Phases of Radiation Response in the Rat. FACULTY OF RADIOLOGISTS.—At Royal College of Surgeons of England, 2 p.m., Admission of Fellows; 2.30 p.m., Dr. A. G. Morrow: Percutaneous Portal Venography and its Surgical Application; Dr. I. B. D. Middlemass: Deformity of Oesophagus in Bronchogenic Carcinoma; Dr. N. N. Blaxland: Vacuum Phenomenon in the Spine; Dr. L. L. Ralph: Internal Carotid Thrombosis. ●INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., clinical demonstration by Dr. R. M. B. MacKenna: Local Treatment. OSLER CLUB OF LONDON.—At 11, Chandos Street, W., 7.45 p.m., Dr. W. R. Bett: History, Folk-lore, and Anthropology of Enuresis. Discussion by Dr. R. Sessions Hodge and Dr. C. Hooykaas. ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—5.30 p.m., Jenner Memorial Lecture by Dr. R. Lewthwaite: Preventive and Therapeutic Aspects of the Typhus Group of Fevers. SOCIETY OF PUBLIC ANALYSTS: PHYSICAL METHODS GROUP.—At King's College, Strand, W.C., 2.20 p.m., Symposium: Developments in Microscopical Methods.

APPOINTMENTS

MANCHESTER REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.—J. Cowan, M.B., Ch.B., D.M.R.D., Consultant Radiologist to Crumpsall, Mossall, and Booth Hall Hospitals, Manchester; B. Boas, M.D., Assistant Ophthalmologist to Ashton-under-Lyne General Hospital and to Lancashire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire Local Authorities; M. R. Geake, M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.P., Consultant Chest Physician, Preston and Chorley Hospital Centres; J. A. L. Cooper, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.A., Consultant Anaesthetist to Preston and Chorley Hospitals; N. W. Gill, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S., Consultant Ear, Nose, and Throat Surgeon to South Manchester Hospitals; A. Jolleys, M.D., F.R.C.S., Consultant Paediatric Surgeon to Royal Manchester Children's and Booth Hall Hospitals; F. A. L. Da Cunha, M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.O.G., Assistant Consultant Obstetrician/Gynaecologist to Oldham and Ashton Hospitals; R. H. Seville, M.D., M.R.C.P., Consultant Dermatologist to Lancaster, Barrow, and Blackpool Hospital Centres; T. F. McCarthy, M.D., M.R.C.P.Ed., Assistant Physician, Nab Top Sanatorium, Marple, A. B. Colohan, M.B., B.Ch., Tuberculosis Physician and Medical Officer in Charge of Mass Miniature Radiography Unit based at Chorley; Hildegard C. Fisher, M.D., D.P.M., Assistant Psychiatrist, Lancaster Moor Hospital; N. E. Rankin, M.B., B.S., Assistant Pathologist to Bury and Rossendale Hospital Centres; I. S. Mudie, M.B., Ch.B., D.T.M.&H., Tuberculosis Physician to Altrincham, Mid-Cheshire, and Crewe Areas. O'CONNOR, M. C., M.B., B.S., Temporary Medical Officer of Health, Long Ashton Rural District, Bristol. TODD, ELZA HARRIS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Assistant Medical Officer, Area 9 (Heston, Isleworth, Southall, Brentford and Chiswick), Middlesex County Council.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS

BIRTHS

Abramson.—On February 27, 1953, at the Ayrshire Central Hospital, to Dr. Morag (formerly Dods), wife of Dr. Allan Abramson, a daughter. Crow.—On March 2, 1953, at the Kingston Hospital, to Barbara (formerly Killick), M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H., wife of Robert S. Crow, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P., of 8, Brunswick Road, Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey, a son. McGowan.—On March 4, 1953, at 2, Stoke Paddock Road, Bristol, to Rosalind (formerly Barclay), wife of Dr. G. K. McGowan, a daughter. MacTaggart.—On March 2, 1953, to June Mary, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., wife of Douglas Keith MacTaggart, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., of Springfield, Culcheth, Warrington, Lancs, a son. Pack.—On March 3, 1953, to Dr. Mary Pack (formerly Stanton), wife of Dr. Gordon Pack, of Andover, Hants, a son—Andrew Gordon. Warin.—On February 22, 1953, at the Maternity Hospital, Bristol, to Anne, wife of Dr. R. P. Warin, a daughter. Wilkinson.—On February 25, 1953, at the Queen Mary Hospital, Stratford, London, E., to Patricia, wife of Dr. Harry Wilkinson, a son.

MARRIAGES

Polwin—Barkway.—On March 7, 1953, at St. John's Church, Buckhurst Hill, Essex, Stephen J. S. Polwin, M.B., B.Ch., D.Obst.R.C.O.G., to Dorothy Margaret Barkway.

GOLDEN WEDDING

Primmer—Robertson.—On March 10, 1903, John Boyd Primmer, M.B., Ch.B., to Jean Robertson, of Dunfermline, now of Aberdeen, Fifeshire.

DEATHS

Cuff.—On February 15, 1953, at St. Stephen's Hospital, Barnet, Herts, Sidney Wilnot Cuff, L.M.S.S.A. Forssander.—On February 14, 1953, Dorothy Jean Ogilvie Forssander (formerly Dinick, née Mitchell), L.R.C.P.&S.Ed., L.R.F.P.S., L.D.S., R.C.S.Ed., of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Griffin.—On February 14, 1953, James Valentine Griffin, L.R.C.P.&S.I. & L.M., of The New House, Goldsmith's Avenue, Crowthorne, Sussex, aged 82. Hill.—On February 15, 1953, John Percival Hill, M.D., of The Limes, Stowmarket, Suffolk, aged 79. Hunter.—On February 27, 1953, at Wakefield, Evelyn Margaret Hunter, wife of John Hunter, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., of 60, Batley Road, Wakefield, Yorks. Hutton.—On February 16, 1953, in a nursing-home, Leeds, Albert Edward Hutton, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of 4, The Grange, Far Headingley, Leeds, aged 81. Johnstone.—On February 14, 1953, at the West London Hospital, James Johnstone, M.B., F.R.C.S., D.P.H., J.P., of Richmond, Surrey, aged 90. Nelson.—On February 17, 1953, at "Beechwood," Beech Lane, Calderstones, Liverpool, Philip Nelson, M.D., Ph.D. Sandeman.—On February 20, 1953, at Kevin, Bridge-of-Weir, Renfrewshire, Walter Sandeman, M.B., C.M., D.P.H., aged 92. Walker.—On February 17, 1953, at Churchill Court, near Bristol, John William Walker, O.B.E., F.R.C.S., aged 93.