



### Infectious Diseases

The largest fluctuations in the returns of infectious diseases during the week ending March 21 in England and Wales were a rise of 302 in the number of notifications of measles, from 26,924 to 27,226, 71 for dysentery, from 362 to 433, and a fall of 50 for scarlet fever, from 1,675 to 1,625.

The largest rises in the number of notifications of measles were 251 in Hertfordshire, from 858 to 1,109; 127 in Worcestershire, from 346 to 473; and 106 in Cornwall, from 263 to 369; and the largest falls were 250 in Essex, from 1,615 to 1,365; 156 in Surrey, from 1,961 to 1,805; 107 in Kent, from 1,415 to 1,308; and 103 in Oxfordshire, from 434 to 331. Only small fluctuations occurred in the local trends of scarlet fever. The notifications of whooping-cough rose from 3,072 to 3,104; the largest fluctuation was an increase of 67 in Lancashire, from 528 to 595. 20 cases of diphtheria were notified, 11 fewer than in the preceding week. A decrease in Lancashire from 10 to 5 was the chief feature of the returns of diphtheria.

26 cases of acute poliomyelitis were notified; these were 5 more for paralytic and 4 more for non-paralytic cases than the preceding week. The largest return was 3 in Sussex.

The largest centres of dysentery were Lancashire 80 (Liverpool C.B. 40), Leicestershire 64 (Leicester C.B. 63), London 41, Middlesex 43 (Edmonton M.B. 31), Yorkshire West Riding 37 (Leeds C.B. 12), and Cheshire 17.

133 deaths were attributed to influenza in the great towns, 6 fewer than in the preceding week.

### Industrial Accidents and Disease

The number of workpeople (other than seamen) in the United Kingdom whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment were reported in February was 121, compared with 101 in the previous month and 114 (revised figures) in February, 1952. The number of cases of industrial disease reported was 41, including 3 from lead poisoning, 4 from anthrax, 14 from epitheliomatous ulceration, and 20 from chrome ulceration. There were no deaths.—*Ministry of Labour Gazette*, March, 1953.

## The Services

A Supplement to the *London Gazette* has announced the following awards:

*First Clasp to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration*.—Major A. M. Rennie, R.A.M.C.

*Territorial Efficiency Decoration*.—Major A. M. Rennie, Captain (Honorary Major) D. R. Beaton, and Captain H. J. Minford, M.C., R.A.M.C.

## Medical News

### Association of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

—The annual general meeting of the association was held in the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland on March 21 with the president, Dr. Paul Murray, in the chair. Professor A. K. Henry, professor of anatomy at the R.C.S.I. and emeritus professor of clinical surgery of Cairo University, was elected president for 1953-4. Dr. J. D. H. Widdess was elected vice-president, Dr. Catherine A. Quinn hon. treasurer, Dr. P. D. J. Holland hon. record secretary, and Mr. W. A. L. MacGowan hon. corresponding secretary.

**Medical Aspects of Civil Aviation.**—The standing medical committee of the International Air Transport Association held its third annual meeting at Estoril, Portugal, during the week March 21 to 28. The members represented 18 international airlines, and Sir Harold Whittingham was in the chair. The committee discussed the practical application of the W.H.O. International Sanitary Regulations, medical requirements for aircrew, medications contra-indicated for use by aircrew when on duty, methods of disinfection of aircraft, and the maintenance of wholesome water supplies on aircraft. It was considered that aircraft could be kept virtually free of insects if fabric and paint were impregnated with a synthetic resin containing an effective insecticide. This would save time in transit and the personal annoyance caused by aerosol spraying.

**Bravery in Kenya.**—The award of the M.B.E. (Civil Division) to Mrs. Dorothy Meiklejohn, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of Aberdare District, Kenya, was gazetted in London on March 27. The citation was as follows:

On an isolated farm Mrs. Meiklejohn and her husband were in their sitting-room when, suddenly, four Africans burst into the room and immediately launched a savage attack on them. At least one of the Africans was armed with a pistol, while the others were in possession of native knives. Mrs. Meiklejohn shouted to her husband and tried to reach for a firearm which was in her handbag, but was slashed on the wrist. Both Mrs. Meiklejohn and her husband were attacked again and again until the Africans thought they were dead; they then left. Mrs. Meiklejohn's husband climbed the stairs to his bedroom and collapsed there. Mrs. Meiklejohn was suffering from multiple and very serious wounds. Her face and arms were slashed and she was fast losing blood, but, determined to obtain help for her injured husband and raise the alarm, she staggered to her car and drove to the police station, at Thomson's Falls, a distance of nine miles, over a rough and lonely road. On arrival she was only able to identify herself before she collapsed. She was taken to hospital and recovered, but her husband succumbed to his injuries.

Mrs. Meiklejohn showed outstanding fortitude in the face of grave danger.

### Award of Manson and Chalmers Memorial Medals.

The council of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene has awarded the Manson Medal, 1953, to Professor Jérôme Rodhain, director of the Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp. The medal is awarded triennially to the living author of original work in any branch of tropical medicine or hygiene. The Chalmers Memorial Medal, 1953, has been awarded by the council to Mr. D. J. Lewis, medical entomologist in the Sudan Government Service. This medal is awarded biennially for research of outstanding merit on tropical medicine or hygiene. Only those under 45 years of age are eligible.

**Dangerous Drugs.**—Two new Statutory Instruments affecting dangerous drugs came into force on March 31. The first, the Dangerous Drugs Regulations, 1953, consolidates and amends certain earlier Regulations and, apart from a few scheduled exceptions, applies to all substances covered by the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1951. The second, the Dangerous Drugs Act (Relaxation) Order, 1953, frees morpholinylethylmorphine from control by Subsection (1) of Section 11 of the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1951. This drug, which is obtained from one of the phenanthrene alkaloids of opium, is now controlled by Part III of the new Regulations.

**Sir Howard Florey, F.R.S.**, is on a three months' visit to Canberra in his capacity as adviser to the Australian National University on the John Curtin Memorial School of Medical Research.

**Dr. William Storrar**, formerly assistant administrative medical officer of the South-western Regional Hospital Board, has been appointed medical director of the Montreal General Hospital. He graduated from Edinburgh in 1939, and went to Canada in 1951.

**Professor R. M. Titmuss**, formerly a member of the Medical Research Council's Social Medicine Research Unit and now professor of social administration at the London School of Economics, has been appointed a member of the National Insurance Advisory Committee.

**The Rev. A. C. Irvine, M.D.**, senior missionary of the Church of Scotland Mission in Kenya, is to receive the honorary degree of D.D. at the summer graduation at Aberdeen University.

### COMING EVENTS

**National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis.**—A meeting for members of all sections of the N.A.P.T. is to be held in the Great Hall, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1, on Saturday, April 18, at 2.30 p.m. The subject to be discussed is "The Modern Management of Tuberculosis by Chemotherapy and Otherwise." Application for tickets should be made as early as possible to the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

**Seminar on World Health.**—During the World Health Assembly at Geneva the World Federation of United Nations Associations is organizing a Seminar to be held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva from May 4 to 15. The Seminar will be opened by Dr. Brock Chisholm, and there will be lectures on world health problems. Applications may be sent through a United Nations Association or directly to the World Federation of United Nations Associations, 1, Avenue de la Paix, Geneva, or 19, Avenue Kléber, Paris, 16.

### NEW ISSUES

**British Journal of Industrial Medicine.**—The next issue (Vol. 10, No. 2) will be available in a week's time. The contents include:

- RESPIRATORS FOR PROTECTION AGAINST MERCURY VAPOUR. V. B. Vouk, Z. Topolnik, and M. Fugas.  
THE ACTION OF FLINT OF VARIABLE SIZE INJECTED AT CONSTANT WEIGHT AND CONSTANT SURFACE INTO THE LUNGS OF RATS. E. J. King, G. P. Mohanly, and C. V. Harrison.  
DUST SAMPLING TO SIMULATE THE HUMAN LUNG. H. H. Watson.  
PNEUMOCONIOSIS OF COAL-MINERS IN SCOTLAND. John Black.  
A PILOT INVESTIGATION INTO THE OCCURRENCE OF PNEUMOCONIOSIS IN LARGE POWER STATIONS IN SOUTH WALES. Idris Davies.  
EXPECTED FREQUENCY OF BLADDER TUMOUR IN WORKS POPULATION. R. A. M. Case.  
METHYLOXYBENZENE SULPHATE: A NEW INDUSTRIAL SENSITIZING AGENT. C. N. D. Cruickshank and H. Howard-Swaffield.  
PSYCHOLOGICAL HANDICAP IN RELATION TO PRODUCTIVITY AND OCCUPATIONAL ADJUSTMENT. M. Markowe and L. E. D. Barber.

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

**Abstracts of World Medicine.**—The April issue (Vol. 13, No. 4), which is now available, contains abstracts of important papers on both medical and surgical subjects drawn from the medical literature of some 20 different countries and of all five continents. In addition to clinical medicine and surgery, the subjects covered include pathology, bacteriology, pharmacology, and chemotherapy, and there are also sections dealing with public health, industrial medicine, forensic medicine and toxicology, aviation medicine, anaesthetics, radiology, and the history of medicine.

Issued monthly; annual subscription £4 4s., single copy 8s. 6d.; a specimen will be sent free on request.

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, April 13

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—8.30 p.m., meeting of Fellows. Discussion to be introduced by Dr. K. Harris and Dr. S. Oram: Early Manifestations of Coronary Disease.

● ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5.15 p.m., Mr. F. Masina: Surgical Approach to Tumours of the Bladder; 6.30 p.m., Mr. V. H. Riddell: Thyroid Tumours.

ROYAL EYE HOSPITAL.—5.15 p.m., Dr. T. H. Whittington: Astigmatism and its Treatment. Factors Affecting Binocular Vision.

#### Tuesday, April 14

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.—5 p.m., Lumsden Lecture by Dr. E. A. Carmichael: Hemiplegia of Early Onset and the Results of Hemispherectomy.

● ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5.15 p.m., Mr. R. Furlong: Pseudocoaxalgia; 6.30 p.m., Mr. P. Clarkson: Injuries of the Hand.

#### Wednesday, April 15

INSTITUTE OF UROLOGY.—At St. Paul's Hospital, W.C., 4.30 for 5 p.m., Dr. E. G. B. Calvert: Surgery and the Diabetic.

● ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5.15 p.m., Professor Lambert Rogers: Costoclavicular Syndrome; 6.30 p.m., Mr. Harold Edwards: Treatment of Inguinal Hernia.

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HYGIENE.—3.30 p.m., Dr. B. E. Schlesinger: Tuberculosis in Childhood (Illustrated).

#### Thursday, April 16

BRITISH INSTITUTE OF RADIOLOGY.—8 p.m., Dr. A. E. Jones: Clinical Aspects of Carcinogenesis; Dr. A. Glucksmann: Histological Aspects of Carcinogenesis.

EPSOM AND SUTTON INTER-HOSPITAL PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION.—At Horton Hospital, Epsom, 5.30 p.m. Films: (1) Dr. T. F. Main: Grief; (2) Dr. H. R. Rollin: three short films illustrating manic and depressive psychoses.

FARNBOROUGH HOSPITAL, Kent.—5.30 p.m., Dr. C. J. Gavey: Physician's Evaluation of Surgical Risks.

LONDON JEWISH HOSPITAL MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At 11, Chandos Street, W., 8.30 p.m., Dr. Michael Kremer: Modern Views on Epilepsy and its Treatment.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.—5 p.m., Lumsden Lecture by Dr. E. A. Carmichael: Hemiplegia of Early Onset and the Results of Hemispherectomy.

● ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5.15 p.m., Dr. Kenneth Perry: Tuberculous Glands of Neck; 6.30 p.m., Mr. Cecil Flemming: Fractures of the Foot.

ROYAL EYE HOSPITAL.—5.30 p.m., Miss J. M. Dollar: Problem of Iridocyclitis and its Investigation.

ST. ANDREWS UNIVERSITY.—At Physiology Department, Dundee, 5 p.m., Professor W. C. W. Nixon: Physiological and Clinical Aspects of Uterine Action.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—5 p.m., Dr. A. S. Paterson: postgraduate demonstration in neurology.

SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY: MICROBIOLOGY GROUP.—At Medical Society of London, 6.15 p.m., Dr. Lois Dickinson: Use of the Bacteriophage in the Study of Viruses; Mr. L. J. Meanwell: Bacteriophages of the Lactic Streptococci

#### Friday, April 17

BRITISH INSTITUTE OF RADIOLOGY.—5 p.m., meeting of medical members; 6.30 p.m., Professor J. Rotblat: Study of the Distribution of Thorotrast in the Body by Autoradiography.

FACULTY OF RADIOLOGISTS.—At Royal College of Surgeons of England, 4 p.m., Professor R. J. V. Pulvertaft: Study of Radiosensitivity in Vitro; Dr. Edith Paterson: Factors Influencing Recovery after Whole Body Radiation; Dr. W. M. Court Brown: Some Aspects of Water and Electrolyte Metabolism in Radiation Sickness.

KENT AND CANTERBURY HOSPITAL.—8 p.m., clinical meeting.

LONDON ASSOCIATION OF THE MEDICAL WOMEN'S FEDERATION.—At Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, 8.30 p.m., Mr. C. E. Shattock: Lumps in the Breast.

● ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—6.30 p.m., Mr. Roland Jones: Surgery of Peripheral Vascular Disease.

ROYAL EYE HOSPITAL.—4.30 p.m., Mr. A. J. Cameron: Problem of Retinitis Pigmentosa.

### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS

#### BIRTHS

**Brittain.**—On March 21, 1953, at the Christopher Nursing Home, Wigan, Lancs, to Dr. Ina (formerly Eakins), wife of Dr. George Brittain, a daughter.

**Eason.**—On April 2, 1953, at the Lambeth Hospital, London, S.E., to Ruth (formerly Towler), wife of Thomas John Eason, F.R.C.S.Ed., a brother for Robert and Charles.

**Griffiths.**—On March 26, 1953, at Overton Lea Maternity Home, Cheltenham, Glos, to Elizabeth, wife of Dr. Eric Griffiths, a daughter—Lynn Elizabeth.

**Johnston.**—On March 26, 1953, at the Varborough Nursing Home, Southsea, Hants, to Kay, wife of Dr. C. L. Johnston, a brother for Heather and Moya.

**Levien.**—On March 26, 1953, at Hamilton, New Zealand, to Norah Margaret (formerly Mathers), wife of G. H. Levien, F.R.C.S., a daughter.

#### MARRIAGES

**Owen-Griffith.**—On March 28, 1953, at Moriah Chapel, Caernarvon, Kelyth Lloyd Owen, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., to Jean Griffith.