

clear, but even if the powders were not given at clinics it would not interfere with the right of a doctor to prescribe a preparation in which this was included.

Charge for Certificates

Mr. V. COLLINS (Shoreditch and Finsbury, Lab.) on March 7 asked the Minister of Health if he was aware that many doctors charged 2s. for medical certificates issued to Health Service patients, and if he would make a regulation to prohibit this charge. Miss PAT HORNSBY-SMITH, Parliamentary Secretary, replied that general practitioners in the Health Service were not required to provide free medical certificates other than those required under the National Insurance Acts and certain other enactments which are set out in Regulations. The Minister saw no reason for altering this system. Mr. COLLINS said that often these certificates had to be paid for after a period of unemployment. If the per capita charge did not cover them, could it be adjusted so that the certificates could be issued free? Miss HORNSBY-SMITH said that certificates required to obtain benefit under any of the regulations were obtainable free, but other types of certificate were not.

Opticians' Registration

Miss PAT HORNSBY-SMITH informed Mr. A. BLENKINSOP (Newcastle-upon-Tyne, East, Lab.) on March 7 that the Government could hold out no hope of introducing legislation for the registration of ophthalmic and dispensing opticians at present. She said that the difficulty was with the Parliamentary time-table.

Mental Nursing.—There is still a shortage of mental nurses, which has been estimated at about 10,000.

Lost in Hospital.—In the three years 1951-2 to 1953-4 the value of articles recorded as lost in Scottish hospitals was respectively £18,479, £25,933, and £16,068.

Fluoridation Tests.—Experiments in the fluoridation of water are to start in Anglesey, Darlington, and Watford during the summer. Special equipment has to be provided, and the local authorities are now inviting tenders.

The Services

Major-General F. J. O'Meara, late R.A.M.C., has been appointed Honorary Physician to the Queen, in succession to Brigadier R. J. Rosie, C.B.E., retired.

Colonel C. M. Marsden, late R.A.M.C., has been appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Queen, in succession to Major-General J. C. Collins, C.B., C.B.E., retired.

Colonel J. B. S. Guy, C.B.E., T.D., R.A.M.C., T.A., has been appointed Honorary Colonel of a T.A. Unit, in succession to Colonel P. Hickey, T.D., R.A.M.C., T.A., whose tenure has expired.

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

Third Clasp to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration.—Major (Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel) T. C. McKenzie, T.D., R.A.M.C., retired.

Second Clasp to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration.—Major (Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel) T. C. McKenzie, T.D., R.A.M.C., retired.

First Clasp to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration.—Lieutenant-Colonel A. Wilcox, T.D., and Majors (Honorary Lieutenant-Colonels) T. C. McKenzie, T.D., retired, and Sir J. C. Nicholson, R.A.M.C.

Territorial Efficiency Decoration.—Colonel G. O. Montgomery, retired. Lieutenant-Colonel T. F. Redman, Majors (Honorary Lieutenant-Colonels) W. I. Gordon and Sir J. C. Nicholson, Majors E. S. Curtiss, D. B. McVittie, E. L. Simpson (retired), and A. J. Thomson, and Captain (Acting Lieutenant-Colonel) H. K. Meller, M.B.E. (now A.E.R.), R.A.M.C.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND VITAL STATISTICS

Summary for British Isles for week ending February 19 (No. 7) and corresponding week 1954.

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	1955					1954				
	Eng. & Wales	Lond.	Scot.	N. Ire.	Eire	Eng. & Wales	Lond.	Scot.	N. Ire.	Eire
Diphtheria	16	0	6	0	1	19	1	5	0	1
Dysentery	1,145	55	285	4	1	754	90	184	9	7
Encephalitis, acute ..	3	0	0	0		3	0	0	1	
Enteric fever: Typhoid	4	0	0	0		1	0	1	0	2
Paratyphoid	3	0	3	0		10	0	3	0	
Food-poisoning	112	16		0		224	18		0	
Infective enteritis or diarrhoea under 2 years				12	15				11	28
Measles*	19,976	2402	236	648	68	1,944	29	65	10	291
Meningococcal infection ..	43	8	19	5		51	8	17	2	4
Ophthalmia neonatorum ..	48	11	1	0		20	2	4	0	
Pneumonia†	1,020	80	267	47	3	932	48	262	4	1
Poliomyelitis, acute: Paralytic	13	2	2	0	2	15	0	4	0	4
Non-paralytic	8	1								
Puerperal fever‡	213	52	8	1		225	35	4	1	
Scarlet fever	682	28	75	52	27	1,223	54	187	35	24
Tuberculosis: Respiratory	713	68	128	28		792	98	174	33	
Non-respiratory	116	7	17	8		127	8	18	7	
Whooping-cough	1,910	151	192	42	27	2,099	71	354	50	61

DEATHS in Great Towns	1955					1954				
	Eng. & Wales	Lond.	Scot.	N. Ire.	Eire	Eng. & Wales	Lond.	Scot.	N. Ire.	Eire
Diphtheria	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Dysentery	0	0		0		0	0		0	
Encephalitis, acute ..		0			0		0			0
Enteric fever	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	
Infective enteritis or diarrhoea under 2 years	12	0	3	0	2	12	0	4	0	2
Influenza	82	19	7	0	5	45	2	2	0	2
Measles		1	1	1	0		0	0	0	1
Meningococcal infection ..		0	0				2	0		
Pneumonia	357	73	32	17	14	421	53	29	8	13
Poliomyelitis, acute ..	1	0			0	1	0			0
Scarlet fever		0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis: Respiratory	104	17	19	4	4	126	20	19	1	7
Non-respiratory										
Whooping-cough	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1
Deaths 0-1 year	247	32	38	11	18	258	25	48	5	23
Deaths (excluding stillbirths)	6,894	1085	788	181	219	7,161	1020	715	123	222
LIVE BIRTHS	7,051	1044	927	211	360	8,072	1136	963	251	460
STILLBIRTHS	185	22	27			204	23	30		

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

† Includes primary and influenza pneumonia.

‡ Includes puerperal pyrexia.

Institute of Psychiatry.—A series of postgraduate courses in psychiatry will be held at the Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, London, S.E.5, starting on April 4.

Central Council for the Care of Cripples.—Conference on "The Well-being of the Disabled" at Leeds University, April 12-14. Details from the council, 34, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

Brompton Hospital Association.—Dr. G. E. BEAUMONT will preside over the dinner of this association on April 15 at the Waldorf Hotel at 7.15 for 8 p.m. The cost of the dinner will be £1 5s. (excluding drinks). Application should be made to Dr. A. F. FOSTER-CARTER, Brompton Hospital, London, S.W.3.

Society for General Microbiology.—Twentieth general meeting at the Royal Institution, London, April 18-20. On April 18 at 6 p.m. Professor C. B. VAN NIEL will deliver the second Marjory Stephenson Memorial Lecture on "Natural Selection in the Microbial World." On April 19 and 20 there will be a symposium on "Mechanisms of Microbial Pathogenicity."

Postgraduate Course for General Practitioners.—A full-time course at the Cardiff Royal Infirmary and Llandough Hospital, April 25-May 7, has been arranged by the Welsh National School of Medicine. Details from the secretary of the school, 34, Newport Road, Cardiff.

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, March 14

BRITISH PSYCHO-ANALYTICAL SOCIETY.—At Royal Society of Medicine, 8.30 p.m., Ernest Jones Lecture by Mr. J. Wisdom: Logic of the Unconscious.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—8.30 p.m., clinico-pathological meeting.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.—7.30 p.m., Dr. G. Brownlee: The Attack on the Tubercle Bacillus.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON: DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY.—At Physiology Theatre, 4.45 p.m., Dr. Joseph Needham, F.R.S.: New Light on Physico-chemical Aspects of Morphogenesis.

Tuesday, March 15

CHADWICK TRUST.—At Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, 5.30 p.m., Professor E. J. King, Ph.D., D.Sc.: Silicosis.

ILFORD MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At King George Hospital, Ilford, 8.45 p.m., Professor W. C. W. Nixon and Dr. Shila G. Ransom: Training for Childbirth.

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. A. D. Porter: Actinic Eruptions.

SOUTH-WEST LONDON MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Bolingbroke Hospital, 8.30 p.m., Mr. E. G. Muir: Abdominal Emergencies.

WEST END HOSPITAL FOR NEUROLOGY AND NEUROSURGERY.—5.30 p.m., Mr. J. Minton: Ocular Manifestations in Clinical Neurology (Part II).

Wednesday, March 16

HYPNOTHERAPY GROUP.—At Royal Society of Medicine, 8 p.m., Dr. J. A. Hadfield: Place of Suggestion in Analytic Treatment.

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. J. O. Oliver: Allergy and Immunity in Skin Diseases.

INSTITUTE OF UROLOGY.—4.30 for 5 p.m., Mr. J. F. Barrington: Indications for Treatment in Enlarged Prostate.

LONDON UNIVERSITY.—At Meyerstein Lecture Theatre, Westminster Medical School, 5.30 p.m., special university lecture in biochemistry by Academician W. A. Engelhardt (Moscow): Mechano-chemistry of Muscle.

MIDLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Birmingham Medical Institute, 154, Great Charles Street, 8.15 p.m., Professor J. H. Dible: Some Pathological Observations on Peripheral Vascular Disorders.

ROYAL FACULTY OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF GLASGOW.—5 p.m., Weild Lecture by Professor R. McWhirter: Breast Cancer.

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HYGIENE.—3.30 p.m., Dr. J. Greenwood Wilson: Housing and Health.

ROYAL MEDICAL SOCIETY, Edinburgh.—8 p.m., annual extraordinary general meeting.

ST. MARYLEBONE HOSPITAL FOR PSYCHIATRY AND CHILD GUIDANCE.—5.30 p.m., Mr. G. C. Knight: Neurosurgical Treatment.

WELSH NATIONAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.—At Reardon Smith Lecture Theatre, Cardiff, 8 p.m., Fifth William Sheen Memorial Lecture by Sir Geoffrey Jefferson, F.R.S.: Aneurysms of the Cavernous Sinus.

WILLESDEN GENERAL HOSPITAL MEDICAL SOCIETY.—8.45 p.m., Presidential Address by Dr. T. Pearse Williams: Some Comments on the Colon.

Thursday, March 17

BRITISH INSTITUTE OF RADIOLOGY.—8 p.m., Mr. G. E. Flatman and Mr. R. E. Ellis, B.Sc.: Report on the Use of Convergent Beam X-ray Therapy at the Middlesex Hospital; Mr. K. Y. Ortan, B.A.: Rotation Therapy with the 2 meV Van Der Graaf Generator in Sheffield.

EDINBURGH CLINICAL CLUB.—At 7, Drumsheugh Gardens, 8 p.m., Dr. Alexander Joe: Poliomyelitis—Aetiology, Diagnosis, and Treatment.

LIVERPOOL MEDICAL INSTITUTION.—At Liverpool Ear, Nose, and Throat Infirmary, 3 p.m., afternoon clinical demonstration.

LONDON UNIVERSITY.—At University College Hospital Medical School, 5 p.m., special university lecture in pathology by Dr. Honor B. Fell, F.R.S.: Response of Organs in Culture to Environmental Influences.

NORTH-WESTERN TUBERCULOSIS SOCIETY.—At Clinical Theatre, Manchester Royal Infirmary, 5 p.m., Dr. L. E. Houghton: Corticotrophin in the Treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

NUFFIELD ORTHOPAEDIC CENTRE.—At Wingfield-Morris Orthopaedic Hospital, 8.30 p.m., Professor O. Scaglietti: Diagnosis and Early Treatment of Congenital Dislocation of the Hip.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL COLLEGE.—5 p.m., Lieutenant-Colonel H. N. Stafford: Coroner's Practice and Procedure.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.—5 p.m., Oliver-Sharpay Lecture by Professor W. Melville Arnott: Order and Disorder in Pulmonary Function.

ROYAL EYE HOSPITAL.—5.30 p.m., Dr. T. H. Whittington: Some Aspects of Refraction Work: (4) Effects of Lenses in Relation to Prescription and Fitting of Glasses.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE.—At Royal Army Medical College, 7.30 p.m., laboratory meeting.

ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—5 p.m., Sir Paul Mallinson: psychiatry demonstration.

SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY: MICROBIOLOGY GROUP.—At Medical Society of London, 6.15 p.m., Dr. M. Lumb: Lesser Known Antibiotics.

● **WEST LONDON MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.**—At Rembrandt Hotel, S.W., 7 for 7.30 p.m., dinner meeting. Sir John Charles: Counting the Cost.

Friday, March 18

BRITISH INSTITUTE OF RADIOLOGY.—5 p.m., meeting of medical members.

FACULTY OF RADIOLOGISTS.—At Royal College of Surgeons of England, 5 p.m., Radiotherapy Section Meeting. Mr. G. W. Bloomfield: An Evaluation of the Clinical Results in Two Million Volt X-ray Therapy.

● **INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.**—5.30 p.m., clinical demonstration by Dr. F. R. Bettley.

INSTITUTE OF DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—5 p.m., clinical demonstration by Dr. J. Smart: Bronchitis.

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF LONDON.—(1) 2 p.m., Mr. R. S. Murley: Carcinoma of the Female Breast, with Especial Reference to the Evaluation of the Results of Treatment. (2) 4 p.m., Dr. R. A. J. Asher: Medical Uses of Hypnotism.

● **ROYAL FACULTY OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF GLASGOW.**—5 p.m., Dr. J. H. Hutchison: Some New Diseases in Paediatrics.

SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY: FINE CHEMICALS GROUP.—At Westminster Medical School, 6 p.m., discussion to be introduced by Dr. A. Lawson, Dr. J. H. Wilkinson, Professor N. F. MacLagan, and Dr. I. C. Gilliland: Chemical Aspects of Thyrotoxicosis.

Saturday, March 19

BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETY.—At University College London, annual general meeting, followed by scientific papers.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SCHOOL.—10.30 a.m., symposium: Cardiovascular Diseases.

● **ST. STEPHEN'S HOSPITAL.**—At Rheumatism Unit, Fulham Road, S.W., March 19 and 20, 10 a.m., each day, concentrated week-end course in the "Rheumatic Diseases."

APPOINTMENTS

CAMERON, ALICK, M.D., Deputy Medical Officer of Health for the Urban Districts of Sevenoaks, Southborough and Tonbridge and the Rural Districts of Sevenoaks and Tonbridge; Clinical Assistant, Ophthalmic Department, Bromley Hospital.

GRIFFITH, A. H., M.B., B.S., D.P.H., Senior Medical Officer, Cardiff City Council.

LIVERPOOL REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.—P. D. Kelsall, M.B., Ch.B., F.F.A.R.C.S., D.A., Consultant Anaesthetist, Southport, Ormskirk, and North Liverpool areas.

WYNN-WILLIAMS, DAVID, M.S., F.R.C.S., Consultant Plastic Surgeon at Nottingham and Derby.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS

BIRTHS

Bisset.—On March 5, 1955, to Dr. Sheona (formerly Lamont), wife of Dr. H. W. Bisset, of West Hartlepool, a brother for Christine.

Jefferies.—On February 26, 1955, at Lewisham Hospital, London, S.E., to Doris (formerly Rowland), wife of Harry G. Jefferies, M.B., B.S., a sister for Carolyn Jane—Angela Gail.

Moodie.—On March 1, 1955, to Barbara (formerly Jeffery), wife of Dr. G. Moodie, of Worksop, Notts, a daughter.

DEATHS

Anthony.—On February 22, 1955, at his home, Wilfred Mark Anthony, M.B., B.S., of Church Hill, Walthamstow, London, E.

Ashcroft.—On February 26, 1955, at 25, Oakfield Drive, Upton by Chester, Cheshire, Edward Maynard Ashcroft, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., late of Levenshulme, Manchester, and Heaton Moor, Stockport, aged 79.

Browne.—On February 25, 1955, at Northampton, Benjamin Sidney Browne, L.R.C.P.&S.Ed., late of Alcester, Warwick, and Cleeve Hill, Glos, aged 91.

Campbell.—On February 23, 1955, at the Royal Northern Infirmary, Inverness, Ranald Douglas Campbell, D.S.O., M.B., Ch.B.

Glaister.—On February 11, 1955, at Chichester, Joseph Glaister, M.B., Ch.B.

Liang.—On November 3, 1954, at Tokyo, Japan, while on his way to the U.S.A., Pow Kan Liang, M.B., F.R.C.S.Ed.

Mitton.—On February 19, 1955, in a nursing home, Cheshire, Norman Vernon Mitton, M.B., Ch.B., formerly of Savile Grange, and 10, Lord Street, Halifax, Yorks, aged 67.

Nicholson.—On February 14, 1955, at 22, Balliol House, Manor Fields, Putney, London, S.W., John Archibald Nicholson, M.C., M.B., Ch.B., aged 64.

Peacock.—On February 16, 1955, in a nursing home, Frinton, Essex, William Ernest Peacock, M.D.

Simpson.—On February 2, 1955, Cecil Butler Simpson, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., late of Filey, Yorks, aged 81.

Spurway.—On February 11, 1955, John Spurway, M.B., C.M., of Bredon, near Tewkesbury, aged 85.

Wareham.—On February 4, 1955, in hospital, Harold Edgar Wareham, M.B., Ch.B., of 16, Merchiston Avenue, Edinburgh, aged 83.

Whitehead.—On February 10, 1955, Brian Whitehead, M.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of Hamilton House, Downton, Salisbury, Wilts.

Widdowson.—On February 20, 1955, at Odiham, Hants, Eric Arthur Widdowson, D.S.O., M.B., Ch.B.