

# Vital Statistics

## Infectious Diseases

The only large variations in the trends of the notifications of infectious diseases in England and Wales during the week ending March 5 were increases of 2,753 for measles, from 23,700 to 26,453, and 160 for whooping-cough, from 1,678 to 1,838.

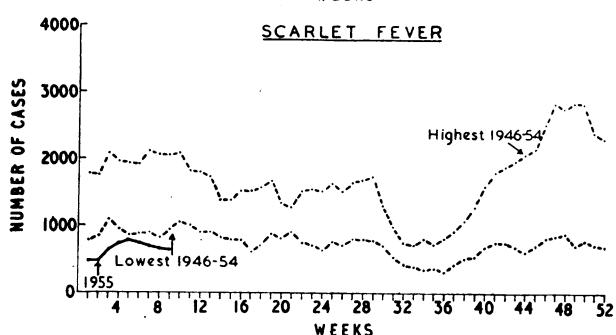
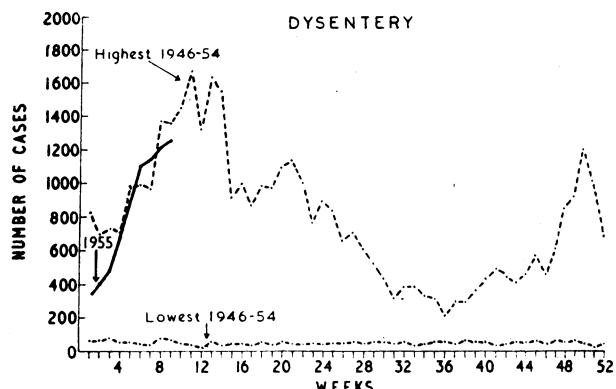
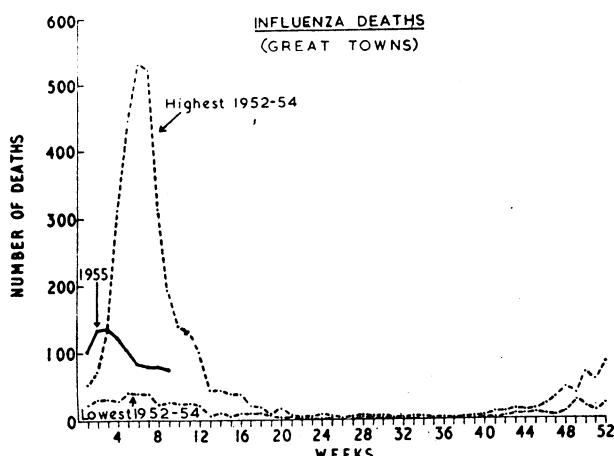
The largest increases in the incidence of measles were 718 in London, from 2,694 to 3,412, 551 in Yorkshire West Riding, from 3,335 to 3,886, 446 in Kent, from 986 to 1,432, 346 in Essex, from 1,392 to 1,738, 224 in Derbyshire, from 998 to 1,222, 195 in Warwickshire, from 1,579 to 1,774, 192 in Surrey, from 807 to 999, 192 in Middlesex, from 616 to 808, 146 in Nottinghamshire, from 1,275 to 1,421, and the only large fall was 124 in Hertfordshire from 319 to 195. 648 cases of scarlet fever were notified, being 27 fewer than in the preceding week, and no large variations were recorded in the trends. The largest rises in the incidence of whooping-cough were 53 in Lancashire, from 158 to 211, and 35 in Kent, from 80 to 115. 17 cases of diphtheria, 4 more than in the preceding week, were notified.

14 cases of acute poliomyelitis were notified. These cases were 2 more for both paralytic and non-paralytic cases than in the preceding week. The multiple notifications were Yorkshire West Riding 5 (Leeds C.B. 2) and London 2.

For the ninth consecutive week a rise has been reported in the number of notifications of dysentery. During the week reviewed 1,265 cases were notified, an increase of 28. The largest returns were Lancashire 524 (Blackpool C.B. 155, Oldham C.B. 115, Blackburn C.B. 102, Manchester C.B. 30, Liverpool C.B. 20, Royton U.D. 18, St. Helens C.B. 12, Chadderton U.D. 12, Darwen M.B. 12, Lytham St. Anne's M.B. 12), Northumberland 95 (Newcastle-upon-Tyne C.B. 30, Morpeth M.B. 19, Whitley Bay, M.B. 17), Yorkshire West Riding 85 (Huddersfield C.B. 29, Leeds C.B. 21), London 64 (Chelsea 9), Durham 62 (South Shields C.B. 10, Easington R.D. 10, Newcastle R.D. 10), Norfolk 50 (Norwich C.B. 30), Northamptonshire 47 (Northampton C.B. 31, Kettering M.B. 13), Leicestershire 37 (Leicester C.B. 24), Cheshire 37 (Stockport C.B. 22), Surrey 27 (Egham U.D. 13), Nottinghamshire 26 (Beeston and Stapleford U.D. 12, East Retford M.B. 10), Glamorganshire 26, and Yorkshire North Riding 20 (Middlesbrough C.B. 19).

## Graphs of Infectious Diseases

The graphs below show the uncorrected numbers of cases (deaths for influenza) of certain diseases notified weekly in England and Wales (great towns for influenza). Highest and lowest figures reported in each week during the nine years 1946-54 (influenza, 1952-4) are shown thus -----, the figures for 1955 thus ——. Except for the curves showing notifications in 1955, the graphs were prepared at the Department of Medical Statistics and Epidemiology, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.



## Week Ending March 12

The notifications of infectious diseases in England and Wales during the week included : scarlet fever 780, whooping-cough 1,881, diphtheria 9, measles 25,321, acute pneumonia 958, acute poliomyelitis 11, dysentery 1,407, paratyphoid fever 8.

## Universities and Colleges

### UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Theodore Williams Scholarships in Pathology have been awarded to Margaret R. Blears (Lady Margaret Hall) and Rosemary E. Troughton (Scholar of Somerville College).

In Congregation on January 20 the following medical degrees were conferred :

B.M.—W. G. Cowell, C. S. K. Ruck, D. Severs, Audrey M. Grumitt, and G. D. H. Lynne-Davies (in absence).

### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

In Convocation on January 8 it was announced that Dr. Patricia M. Elliott had been elected and Dr. C. A. H. Franklyn re-elected as representatives of the Faculty of Medicine on the Standing Committee of Convocation for a period of three years.

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND

Drs. W. R. Shanahan and O. M. P. Tobias were admitted to the Membership of the College on February 4 and Dr. K. M. Basu on March 4 (*in absentia*).

## The Services

The *London Gazette* has announced the following awards :

*Third Clasp to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration*.—Brigadier A. L. Crockford, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., T.D., Q.H.S. (Honorary Colonel of a T.A. Unit).

*Second Clasp to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration*.—Major J. E. Elliott, T.D., R.A.M.C.

*First Clasp to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration*.—Captain (Honorary Major) H. E. Blake, R.A.M.C.

*Territorial Efficiency Decoration*.—Colonel R. W. Raven, O.B.E., Major (Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel) J. H. Haslett, Majors H. W. W. Good and G. H. Smith, Captains (Honorary Majors) E. W. O. Adkins, H. E. Blake, and H. S. Shucksmith, and Captain J. C. Cameron, R.A.M.C.

## NEW ISSUES

**British Journal of Pharmacology and Chemotherapy.**—The new issue (Vol. 10, No. 1) is now available. The contents include:

- THE MODE OF ACTION OF ANTI-THYROID DRUGS: FURTHER OBSERVATIONS ON IN VITRO INHIBITION OF OXIDATIVE PROTEIN IODINATION. Russell Fraser, M. G. W. Hanno, and W. R. Pitney.
- IN VITRO TESTS OF CHEMICAL COMPOUNDS ON ASCARIS LUMBRICOIDES AND FASCIOLA HEPATICA. A. Mackie, G. Marjorie Stewart, A. A. Cutler, and A. L. Misra.
- THE EFFECT OF ANTI-CHOLINESTERASE AGENTS ON THE RAT'S BLOOD PRESSURE. P. Dirnhuber and H. Cullumbine.
- STUDIES ON THE TOXICITY OF ALKYL TIN COMPOUNDS. H. B. Stoner, J. M. Barnes, and Janet I. Duff.
- A CORRELATION BETWEEN CHOLINESTERASE INHIBITION AND INCREASE IN MUSCLE TONE IN RABBIT DUODENUM. Heather Shelley.
- THE ISOLATED HEART OF MYA ARENARIA AS A SENSITIVE PREPARATION FOR THE ASSAY OF ACETYLCHOLINE. Brodie Hughes.
- THE EFFECTS OF ADRENALINE, NORADRENALINE, AND DIHYDROERGOTAMINE ON EXCISED HUMAN MYOMETRIUM. William J. Garrett.
- THE EFFECT OF NALORPHINE ON THE ANTIDIURETIC ACTION OF MORPHINE IN RATS AND MEN. H. Schnieder and E. K. Blackmore.
- HISTAMINE RELEASE AND THE "STRESS" PHENOMENON. P. A. Nasmyth.
- THE FORMALDEHYDE DERIVATIVES OF AMINO ACIDS AND THE MODE OF ACTION OF A FORMALDEHYDE-TYROSINE DERIVATIVE AGAINST INFLUENZA A VIRUS IN OVO. Loris Dickinson.
- THE ACTION OF LYSYNGE ACID DIETHYLAMIDE ON MAMMALIAN CHOLINESTERASES. R. H. S. Thompson, A. Tickner, and G. R. Webster.
- CARDIOVASCULAR AND RESPIRATORY ACTIONS OF 5-HYDROXYTRYPTAMINE IN THE CAT. S. R. Kottergoda and Joan C. Mott.
- ANTITUBERCULOUS EFFECTS OF CERTAIN SURFACE-ACTIVE POLYOXYETHYLENE ETHERS. J. W. Cornforth, P. D'Arcy Hart, G. A. Nicholls, R. J. W. Rees, and J. A. Stock.
- HISTAMINE RELEASE IN RABBIT BLOOD BY DEXTRAN AND DEXTRAN SULPHATE. C. G. Haining.
- THE SPASMODIETIC PROPERTIES OF THIOBENZILIC ACID ESTERS AND RELATED COMPOUNDS. M. W. Parkes.
- THE EFFECT OF COMPOUND 48/80 ON GANGLIONIC TRANSMISSION. S. B. Gertner.
- THE EFFECTS OF SODIUM SALICYLATE ON BLOOD GLUCOSE IN THE RAT. M. J. H. Smith.
- THE THERAPEUTIC ACTIVITY OF SOME SULPHONES AND SULPHOXIDES IN EXPERIMENTAL TUBERCULOSIS OF GUINEA-PIGS. S. K. Gupta and R. N. Chakravarti.
- OBSERVATIONS ON  $\alpha$ -AMINO-POLYMETHYLENE TRIMETHYLAMMONIUM COMPOUNDS. R. B. Barlow, H. Blaschko, Jean M. Himms, and U. Tredelenburg.
- THE ACTIONS OF HETEROCYCLIC BISQUATERNARY COMPOUNDS, ESPECIALLY OF A PYRROLIDINIUM SERIES. D. F. J. Mason and R. Wien.

Issued quarterly; annual subscription £4 4s.; single copy 25s.; 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, March 28

- INSTITUTE OF ORTHOPAEDICS.—5 p.m., Dr. W. R. Bett: Medical Writing—The Use of Medical Libraries and the Preparation of Papers for Medical Journals.
- MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—8.30 p.m., discussion to be introduced by Dr. J. T. Ingram and Dr. C. Allan Birch: Cutaneous Manifestations of General Disease.
- ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5.15 p.m., Mr. E. G. Muir: Treatment of Cancer of the Rectum; 6.30 p.m., Mr. N. R. Barrett: Mediastinal Tumours.

## Tuesday, March 29

- INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. P. M. F. Bishop: Steroid Therapy.
- MIDDLESEX COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At North Middlesex Hospital, Silver Street, Edmonton, N., 3 p.m., clinical meeting.
- ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5.15 p.m., Mr. Rodney Smith: Treatment in Acute Intestinal Obstructions; 6.30 p.m., Professor R. McWhirter: Tumours of High Radiosensitivity.
- ROYAL STATISTICAL SOCIETY: STUDY CIRCLE ON MEDICAL STATISTICS.—At Westminster Medical School, 6 p.m., Dr. C. J. Donelan, Dr. K. W. Cross, and Professor R. M. Titmuss: Hospital Statistics: A Discussion of Ends and Means.
- WEST END HOSPITAL FOR NEUROLOGY AND NEUROSURGERY.—5.30 p.m., Mr. G. C. Knight: Diagnosis and Treatment of Facial Pain and Trigeminal Neuralgia.

## Wednesday, March 30

- INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. R. W. Riddell: Trends in the Study of Mycotic Diseases.
- INSTITUTE OF UROLOGY.—4.30 for 5 p.m., Dr. E. G. B. Calvert: Surgery and the Diabetic.
- LONDON UNIVERSITY.—At St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School, 5 p.m., special university lecture in pharmacology by Professor Mark Nickerson (Manitoba): Specific Inhibition of Adrenergic Responses.
- MANSFIELD MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Mansfield and District General Hospital, 8.30 p.m., Dr. C. M. Fletcher: Miners' Lung. Members of the Nottinghamshire Branch, B.M.A., are invited.
- ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—3.45 p.m., Erasmus Wilson Demonstration by Dr. J. Stretton Young: Degeneration in Tumour Pathology.
- ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5.15 p.m., Professor R. S. Pilcher: Pathology and Treatment of Bronchiectasis; 6.30 p.m., Mr. D. J. Browne: Congenital Dislocation of the Hip.
- ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HYGIENE.—3.30 p.m., Mr. J. Minton: Prevention of Blindness in Infancy and Childhood (illustrated).
- ST. MARYLEBONE HOSPITAL FOR PSYCHIATRY AND CHILD GUIDANCE.—5.30 p.m., Dr. J. Flind: Psychosomatic Disorders.

## Thursday, March 31

- INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. W. R. Bett: Medical Writing. LIVERPOOL MEDICAL INSTITUTION.—8 p.m., annual meeting; 8.30 p.m., Mr. R. Roaf: Hospitals and Medical Schools in India.
- ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL COLLEGE.—5 p.m., Dr. B. E. Schlesinger: Indications for Cortisone Therapy in Paediatrics.
- ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5.30 p.m., Otolaryngology Lecture by Professor Lambert Rogers: Vascular Diseases in Relation to Otolaryngology.
- ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—6.30 p.m., Mr. T. Holmes Sellors: Constrictive Pericarditis.
- ROYAL EYE HOSPITAL.—5.30 p.m., Dr. T. H. Whittington: Some Aspects of Refraction Work: (6) Hypermetropic and Myopic Patients Compared.
- SOCIETY OF ANAESTHETISTS OF SOUTH WALES.—At Seabank Hotel, Porthcawl, 7.30 for 8 p.m., (1) Dr. E. Harvey Franks: Intra-arterial Thiopentone; (2) Professor W. W. Mushin: Trilene Analgesia in Midwifery; (3) Dr. W. W. Mapleson, Ph.D.: Things Aren't Always What They Seem; (4) Dr. H. G. Middleton: Anaesthesia in the Treatment of Burns.

## Friday, April 1

- INSTITUTE OF DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—5 p.m., radiological demonstration by Dr. Franklin G. Wood.
- ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5.15 p.m., Mr. N. C. Tanner: Treatment of Cancer of the Stomach; 6.30 p.m., Mr. E. W. Riches: Retention of Urine.
- SOCIETY OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH: WELSH BRANCH.—At B.M.A. House, 195, Newport Road, Cardiff, 6.30 p.m., joint meeting with West of England Industrial Medical Officers. Discussion: Foot Hygiene. Speakers, (a) Mr. Gwyn James, (b) an Industrial Medical Officer, (c) a representative of the British Boot, Shoe, and Allied Trades Research Association.
- WHITTINGTON CLINICO-PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—At Archway Wing, Whittington Hospital, N., 5.15 p.m., demonstration by Dr. A. L. Jacobs. Illustrated lecture by Mr. W. W. Davey: Is Your Gastrectomy Really Necessary?

## Saturday, April 2

- MIDLAND TUBERCULOSIS SOCIETY.—At King Edward VII Memorial Sanatorium, Hertford Hill, near Warwick, 3 p.m., clinical meeting and annual general meeting.

## APPOINTMENTS

- HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Great Ormond Street, London, W.C.—Ailene B. Donnison, M.B., B.Chir., Assistant Resident Medical Officer, Tadworth Court; Barbara G. Ockenden, M.B., B.S., Assistant Morbid Anatomist; G. C. Lloyd-Roberts, M.B., F.R.C.S., Part-time Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon; Dragomir Vuckovic, House-physician to Neurological and Neurosurgical Department; J. A. Cheese, M.D., D.C.H., and Rosemary Stephens, M.B., B.S., D.C.H., House-physicians; F. N. Bamford, M.B., Ch.B., House-surgeon.

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS

## BIRTHS

- Abraham.—On March 12, 1955, at the Bristol Maternity Hospital, to Beryl (formerly May), wife of Dr. Ross Abraham, a sister for Lindsay—Susan Diane.

- Bird.—On March 11, 1955, at the Jessop Hospital for Women, Sheffield, Yorks, to Nora (formerly Bateman), wife of Dr. Julian Bird, a daughter.

- Carstairs.—On March 5, 1955, to Jean (formerly Dutton), wife of Captain J. R. L. Carstairs, R.A.M.C., British Military Hospital, Up Park Camp, Kingston, Jamaica, British West Indies, a son—Andrew James.

- Herdman.—On March 14, at Crickhowell, Brecks, to Betty Howarth, M.B., M.R.C.P., wife of G. J. S. Herdman, M.B., a daughter.

- Roche.—On March 4, 1955, at St. Teresa's Maternity Hospital, Wimbledon, London, S.W., to Susan (formerly Margaret), wife of Dr. G. K. T. Roche, a brother for Patricia, Peter, and Stephen.

## DEATHS

- Holker.—On February 25, 1955, at Withington, Glos, John Holker, M.D., D.Sc., late of Manchester, and Florida, U.S.A.

- Hyslop.—On February 23, 1955, at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Vincent Hyslop, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of Newcastle, and 3, Prince Edward Mansions, London, W., aged 61.

- Low.—On March 4, 1955, at Muirlands, Larbert, Stirlingshire, Natan Chaim Low, M.D., aged 43.

- Macdonald.—On February 10, 1955, in a nursing-home, Chrisselbelle Macdonald, M.B., Ch.B., of "Dornoch," Golborne, near Warrington, Lancs.

- Macpherson.—On March 3, 1955, at 9, Bellevue Crescent, Edinburgh, Alexander Macpherson, M.B., Ch.B., late of Accra, Gold Coast.

- Martin.—On February 20, 1955, at Weston-super-Mare, Somerset, Philip Stanley Martin, M.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., aged 69.

- Moorhead.—On February 26, 1955, at "Nantai," Tower Road, Jersey, C.I., John Moorhead, L.R.C.P.&S.Ed., L.R.F.P.S., aged 88.

- Nuttall.—On February 19, 1955, at Rivermead, Rickmansworth, Herts, Arthur Peel Nuttall, M.D., late of Bury, Lancs, aged 85.

- Palmer.—On February 26, 1955, at his home, 14, Windlesham Road, Brighton, Charles Spencer Palmer, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., late of Redhill, and Torquay, aged 88.

- Parsons.—On March 4, 1955, at Kirkcudbright, Wilfred Parsons, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Major, R.A.M.C., retired, of Colchester, Essex, aged 76.

- Powell.—On February 27, 1955, at Pemberton House, Hay, Hereford, Hubert Wybrants Powell, L.R.C.P.&S.Ed., L.R.F.P.S., formerly of Passage West, Co. Cork.

- Reed.—On February 20, 1955, at The Vicarage, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol, William Henry Reed, L.M.S.S.A., formerly of Charlton, London, S.E., aged 90.

- Russ.—On February 26, 1955, Charles Russ, M.B., of 7, Carlton Road, Ealing, London, W.

- Scruby.—On March 2, 1955, Zilla Mary Scruby, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., of "Corrie," 21, Newton Road, Cambridge.

- Shipsey.—On March 4, 1955, at Hospital of St. John and St. Elizabeth, London, N.W., William Edward Shipsey, L.R.C.P.&S.I. & L.M., of Beckenham, Kent.