

chief centres of infection during the week were Yorkshire West Riding 213 (Bradford C.B. 64, Leeds C.B. 40, Rotherham R.D. 26, Rotherham C.B. 23, Sheffield C.B. 18), Surrey 114 (Chertsey U.D. 108), Lancashire 102 (Liverpool C.B. 17, Manchester C.B. 17, Ashton under Lyne M.B. 14, Blackpool C.B. 13), Northumberland 66 (Longbenton U.D. 31, Seaton Valley U.D. 24), Nottinghamshire 37 (Nottingham C.B. 13, Mansfield C.B. 12), London 36 (scattered through 13 boroughs), Essex 34 (West Ham C.B. 19), Cheshire 34 (Hyde M.B. 19), Kent 33 (Dartford M.B. 16, Chislehurst and Sidcup U.D. 12), Durham 31 (South Shields C.B. 14), Southampton County 26 (Southampton C.B. 13), and Warwickshire 22 (Birmingham C.B. 19).

The largest outbreak of food-poisoning was 67 notifications in Glamorganshire, Cowbridge R.D., and this was the largest outbreak in recent weeks.

#### Week Ending April 27

The notifications of infectious diseases in England and Wales during the week included: scarlet fever 542, whooping-cough 2,237, diphtheria 7, measles 26,960, acute pneumonia 425, acute poliomyelitis 63, dysentery 570, paratyphoid fever 2, and typhoid fever 5.

#### Industrial Accidents and Diseases

The number of workpeople (other than seamen) in the United Kingdom whose deaths from accidents in the course of their employment were reported in March was 123, compared with 101 (revised figure) in the previous month and 117 (revised figure) in March, 1956.

The numbers of cases of industrial diseases in the United Kingdom reported during March, 1957, were as follows: lead poisoning 1, phosphorus poisoning 1, epitheliomatous ulceration 10, chrome ulceration 18, total 30. There were no deaths.—*Ministry of Labour Gazette*, April, 1957.

#### Northern Ireland in 1956

The Registrar-General for Northern Ireland reports that in 1956 the general death rate, infant mortality rate, and tuberculosis death rate were the lowest ever recorded. As elsewhere, the cancer death rate for males increased.

The birth rate was 21.1 per 1,000 population, an increase of 0.3 over that for 1955. The general death rate was 10.6 per 1,000 live births. The death rate from cancer for males rose from 155 per 100,000 male population in 1955 to 162 in 1956. The corresponding rates for females were 157 and 154. The increase in the rate for males was mainly due to deaths from lung cancer and to a less extent to deaths from cancer of the stomach. Since 1946 male mortality from lung cancer has increased by 210%. The death rate from tuberculosis was 12 per 100,000 population. No deaths from diphtheria were registered.

## Universities and Colleges

#### UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Dr. E. D. Acheson has been elected to a Radcliffe Travelling Fellowship.

#### UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

In Congregation on March 23 the following degrees were conferred:

M.CHIR.—C. H. Talbot (by proxy).  
M.B.—S. J. Steele, D. E. R. Bateman, W. M. A. Wright.

#### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Professor B. S. Platt has been nominated as representative of the University on the governing body of the National Society's Training College of Domestic Subjects, and Dr. Aubrey Kagan as representative on the governing body of the Holland Park Secondary School.

The Paul Philip Reitlinger Prize for 1956 has been awarded to Lionel Edgar Thomas (King's College Hospital Medical School).

## Medical News

**World Red Cross Day.**—May 8, the 129th anniversary of the birth of Jean Henry Dunant, the Swiss philanthropist and founder of the Red Cross movement, was celebrated as "World Red Cross Day." When it began the Red Cross was almost entirely confined to the treatment of those wounded in war, but to-day, states LORD WOOLTON, chairman of the British Red Cross Society, the peacetime demands on it are almost as great as those in times of war. Lord Woolton appeals for both money and more members. "Helping in inter-nation disasters, providing nursing and education, work in the Colonies—where we have 47 branches—is costing the British Red Cross £70,000 a year more than its income," he states, "and for my part I do not know where we could withdraw or withhold the help we give." Describing the Society's work, Lord Woolton tells of the setting up of a new organization, the Radio Amateur Emergency Network, to deal with breakdowns in communications as occurred during the East Coast floods in January, 1953. It is a co-operative venture between the G.P.O., the Red Cross, and the Radio Society of Great Britain.

**Clinical Genetics Research Unit.**—The Medical Research Council announces the establishment of a Clinical Genetics Research Unit under the directorship of Dr. J. A. FRASER ROBERTS, lecturer in medical genetics at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Accommodation for the unit has been provided at the Institute of Child Health, The Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London, W.C.1. The unit's research programme includes the investigation of congenital malformations and hereditary abnormalities and diseases and studies of the role of inheritance in common diseases.

**Clinical Research in the N.H.S.**—The Ministry of Health has issued a memorandum on clinical research, stressing the importance of its continuance and development for the efficiency of the Health Service. The memorandum describes the powers and duties of regional hospital boards, boards of governors, and management committees for promoting clinical research; the opportunities for co-operation in this field; and the means of financing it. Attention is drawn specifically to the four-year-old White Paper, *Clinical Research in Relation to the National Health Service* (H.M.S.O., 1953), whose recommendations were accepted in principle by the Government at the time (see *British Medical Journal*, 1953, 2, 140), and to the powers to conduct research conferred on hospital boards and committees by Section 16 (2) of the National Health Service Act, 1946. The Minister, states the memorandum, hopes that boards and committees will do "all that lies in their power to foster clinical research in their hospitals." The memorandum goes on to recall the functions of the Medical Research Council's Clinical Research Board—the organization of major clinical research schemes financed from Exchequer funds and the suggestion of new clinical research units for which the M.R.C. might assume responsibility—and explains how hospital boards and committees may avail themselves of the Clinical Research Board's assistance. Besides this "centrally organized" research, the memorandum also deals with "decentralized" research carried out with Exchequer funds by hospital boards and committees themselves. There is also a short note on locally organized research from non-Exchequer funds. An appendix gives the composition of the Clinical Research Board. Its chairman is Sir GEOFFREY JEFFERSON, F.R.S., and the secretary, Dr. F. J. C. HERRALD, of the M.R.C. Headquarters Staff, at 38, Old Queen Street, London, S.W.1.

**Children in Hospital.**—The Paediatric Committee of the Royal College of Physicians has issued a five-page report on the care of children in hospital. The committee was

## COMING EVENTS

**National Conference on Medical Records.**—Arranged by the Association of Medical Records Officers. Brighton, May 16-19. Details from Mr. B. B. BONNER, 11, Queensway, Horsham, Sussex.

**German Postgraduate Medical Congress.**—Sixth congress, West Berlin, June 12-16. Details from the secretariat, Klingsorstrasse 21, Berlin-Steglitz.

**British Council Courses for Overseas Specialists.**—"Plastic Surgery," East Grinstead and Oxford, June 16-29 (£46); "Radioisotopes in Medicine," Sheffield and London, September 15-28 (£44); "Psychological Treatment of the Problem Child," London, November 17-30 (£42). Apply to local representative of the British Council.

**Problems of Child and Juvenile Health.**—International Conference in Berlin, June 25 to 27. Papers in English, German, and Russian. The conference aims at an exchange of experience between specialists from Eastern and Western countries. Details from Professor WINTER, Institut für Sozial-hygiene, Neue Wilhelm Strasse 15, Berlin W. 8.

## NEW ISSUES

**British Journal of Preventive and Social Medicine.**—The new issue (Vol. 11, No. 1) is now available. The contents include:

- CONTROL OF TUBERCULOSIS. IMPORTANCE OF HEREDITY AND ENVIRONMENT. A. W. Anderson, B. Benjamin, R. Grenville-Mathers, and H. J. Trenchard.
- HOUSING AND TUBERCULOSIS IN A MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY. G. Z. Brett and B. Benjamin.
- CONTRIBUTION OF CIGARETTE SMOKING TO RESPIRATORY DISEASE. J. H. Edwards.
- A SURVEY OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS. A. Leslie Banks, R. G. Carpenter, James A. Hislop, and George Nisbet.
- RETINOBLASTOMA. OCCURRENCE OF THE CONDITION IN NORTHERN IRELAND, 1938-1956. A. C. Stevenson and V. A. F. Martin.
- OBSERVATIONS ON THE INCIDENCE OF UPPER RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS IN A ROYAL AIR FORCE FORMATION IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA. W. B. Thorburn.
- THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE NURSE IN GENERAL PRACTICE. D. L. Crombie and K. W. Cross.
- VAGARIES OF LOCAL MORTALITY RATES UNDER THE 1953-54 RULES FOR TRANSFER OF DEATHS. David Hewitt.

Issued quarterly; annual subscription £2 2s.; single copy 12s. 6d.; obtainable from the Publishing Manager, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

**Medical and Biological Illustration.**—The new issue (Vol. 7, No. 2) is now available. The contents include:

- FRONTISPIECE.
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- LINE PHOTOGRAPHY. Percy W. Bullock.
- THE IDEAL LECTURE THEATRE—I. PROJECT IN SIGHT AND SOUND. Peter Hudson and Allan Low.
- RETINAL CAMERA REVIEW. Peter Hansell.
- A TECHNIQUE FOR DISPLAYING DEMONSTRATION SPECIMENS. Fred L. Miltenberger and Carroll R. Ball.
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## 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.

## Sunday, May 12

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL.—10.30 a.m. to 12 noon, clinical meeting for general practitioners.

## Monday, May 13

LONDON UNIVERSITY.—At London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, 5.30 p.m., special university lecture in medicine by Professor Charles Huggins (Chicago): On the Treatment of Mammary Cancer.

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HYGIENE.—5 p.m., Harben Lecture by Professor P. Drinker, D.Sc.: Air Pollution and the Public Health—Problem of Great Cities (illustrated).

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON.—At Chemistry Theatre, Gower Street, W.C., 5.30 p.m., Karl Pearson Centenary Lecture by Professor J. B. S. Haldane, F.R.S.

## Tuesday, May 14

CHELSEA CLINICAL SOCIETY.—At Rembrandt Hotel, Thurloe Place, S.W., 7.30 p.m., annual dinner.

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. F. A. Whitlock: Neurophysiology of Itching.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.—5 p.m., Croonian Lecture by Professor G. W. Pickering: Regulation of Body Temperature in Health and Disease.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—3.45 p.m., Imperial Cancer Research Fund Lecture by Professor G. Hadfield: Application of Physiological Principles to Hormone-dependent Human Breast Cancer.

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HYGIENE.—5 p.m., Harben Lecture by Professor P. Drinker, D.Sc.: Air Pollution and the Public Health—Problem of Industry (illustrated).

ROYAL VETERINARY COLLEGE.—4 p.m., special university lecture by Professor R. A. Gregory: Some Aspects of Mammalian Gastroenterology.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—At Wright-Fleming Institute, 5 p.m., Almroth Wright Lecture by Dr. B. A. D. Stocker: Heritable Transformations of Bacteria.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON.—5.30 p.m., 2nd Gideon de Laune Lecture by Sir Henry Dale, O.M., F.R.S.: Medicinal Treatment; Its Aims and Results.

WEST END HOSPITAL FOR NEUROLOGY AND NEUROSURGERY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. D. F. Bosanquet: Neuropathology.

## Wednesday, May 15

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. H. Haber: The Dyskeratoses.

INSTITUTE OF DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—5 p.m., Mr. C. E. Drew: Experimental studies of the Extracorporeal Circulation.

LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY: FACULTY OF MEDICINE.—At Physiology Lecture Theatre, Old Medical School, 5.15 p.m., Professor G. Wald (Harvard): Molecular Basis of Vision.

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF LONDON.—2 p.m., Sir Howard Florey, F.R.S.: Endothelium.

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HYGIENE.—5 p.m., Harben Lecture by Professor P. Drinker, D.Sc.: Air Pollution and the Public Health—Prevention and Control (illustrated).

ROYAL MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. E. H. Huxley and Dr. Jean Hanson: Studies on the Mechanism of Muscular Contraction.

WILLESDEN GENERAL HOSPITAL MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Department of Physical Medicine, 8.45 p.m., Dr. P. R. Evans: Recent Changes in Paediatrics.

## Thursday, May 16

ALFRED ADLER MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At 11, Chandos Street, W., 8 p.m., Dr. A. Spencer Paterson: Psychopathology of Schizophrenia.

BRITISH INSTITUTE OF RADIOLOGY.—8.30 p.m., Presidential Address by Mr. I. G. Williams: Role of Surgery and Radiotherapy in the Treatment of Breast Cancer.

INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. R. D. Hahn (U.S.A.): Tabes Dorsalis, with especial reference to Primary Optic Atrophy.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.—5 p.m., Croonian Lecture by Professor G. W. Pickering: Regulation of Body Temperature in Health and Disease.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—3.45 p.m., Arnott Demonstration by Miss J. Dobson: Curiosities of Natural History.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE.—7.30 p.m., symposium to be opened by Dr. C. A. Hoare, followed by Group Captain W. P. Stamm, Dr. R. A. Neal, and Dr. G. Woolfe: Laboratory Aspects of Amoebiasis. A discussion will follow.

## Friday, May 17

DUBLIN UNIVERSITY: TRINITY COLLEGE.—At Anatomy Theatre, 5 p.m., Montgomery Lecture on Ophthalmology by Dr. F. B. Walsh (Baltimore): Ocular Movements Associated with Regeneration of the Third Nerve.

● INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. P. J. Hare: clinical demonstration.

INSTITUTE OF DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—5 p.m., Dr. F. H. Young: open clinical demonstration.

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF LONDON.—10 a.m., Professor A. M. Boyd: Management of Obliterative Arteriosclerosis of the Lower Extremity.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—At Wright-Fleming Institute Theatre, 5 p.m., Mr. J. D. S. Flew: Genital Prolapse.

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS

## BIRTHS

**Laidlaw.**—On May 1, 1957, at Ronswood Hospital, Worcester, to Greta (formerly Mair), wife of Dr. A. J. Laidlaw, a brother for Fiona and Alastair—Kelvin Alexander Mair.

**Nathanson.**—On March 15, 1957, to Margaret (formerly Milman), wife of Dr. N. E. Nathanson, of 61, Mill Road, Higher Bebington, Cheshire, a daughter.

**O'Kelly.**—On April 18, 1957, at British Military Hospital, Tripoli, to Dorothy, wife of Captain Frank O'Kelly, R.A.M.C., a sister for Margaret.

## DEATHS

**Balleny.**—On April 22, 1957, George Christopher Balleny, M.B., Ch.B., of 61, Higher Drive, Banstead, Surrey, aged 28.

**Brown.**—On April 18, 1957, at the London Hospital, Gerald Rowland Hamilton Brown, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of 40, Lanchester Road, London, N.

**Causton.**—On April 18, 1957, at St. John of God Nursing Home, Torquay, Devon, Edward Postle Gwyn Causton, O.B.E., aged 80.

**Cheyne.**—On April 19, 1957, William Hunter Watson Cheyne, M.B., B.Ch., D.T.M., of Crewkerne, Somerset, aged 67.

**Fison.**—On April 20, 1957, James Fison, M.D., of Flat 2, 28, York Place, Harrogate, Yorks.

**Isaac.**—On April 21, 1957, at his home, 1, Harwood Court, Upper Richmond Road, Putney, London, S.W., Hyman (George) Isaac, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., aged 77.

**Norman.**—On April 23, 1957, at the Old House, Tillingham, Essex, Alfred Clarence Norman, C.B.E., M.D., late of Bagdad, Iraq.

**Porritt.**—On April 23, 1957, at 71, Wavertree Court, Streatham Hill, London, S.W., Austin Thomas Porritt, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

**Whitehouse.**—On April 18, 1957, at 14, The Crescent, Solihull, Warwicks, Edwin St. John Whitehouse, M.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., aged 89.