

from the opposite shoulder is a short strap fixed in the centre of the top of the sack with a hook to fix on the waist-belt, and thus take off some of the weight from the sling.

For carrying additional small articles of clothing, the soldier has a long sack (Fig. 7), about 9 in. in width and 6 ft. long, open at each end, and stitched across at its centre, so as to make two bags. It is worn over one shoulder like a bandolier, the ends being tucked under the waist-belt at the opposite side. It reminds one of the expedient resorted to occasionally in this and some other European countries by the labourer on the tramp, who stuffs his belongings into the legs of his spare pair of trousers, and then, closing the waist and tying the legs together at the end, slings his improvised kit bag over his shoulder *en banderoles*.

The water bottle, canteen, and mess tin (Fig. 9) are of aluminium, the first two being blackened outside; the mess tin fits inside the canteen like a tray. The rice ration is carried in the small grass box shown in front of the mess tin. The copper Chinese camp kettle, also shown in Fig. 9, is a very practical contrivance. It has double sides; the water poured into the outer jacket is heated by burning charcoal in a small stove in the centre of the vessel, air being admitted by the lateral aperture near the bottom, through which also the ashes can be extracted. With this water can be boiled even in a gale, and the Japanese soldiers have realized its value in campaigning and use it very generally.

Food.

Of the various samples of food the rice-ration ready boiled, and the biscuits—consisting of wheat and rice flour, with a few grains of millet seed to prevent it from becoming too hard—are specially notable. Vegetables of various kinds—sliced potatoes, carrots, beans, sliced gourd, etc.—are thoroughly dried, thus ensuring preservation and diminished weight. Tea and salt are both in solid cakes or cubes, and various meats and fish are in hermetically-sealed tins. Even fodder for the horse is prepared, like the vegetables for the men, by drying.

STRETCHERS.

In addition to these articles of outfit and food Miss McCaul has brought over two military stretchers, which are worth close and detailed inspection. The poles are of bamboo, and the weight of the stretcher complete (12 lb.) compares favourably with the much heavier stretcher in use in the British army. The supports or runners are particularly ingenious and simple. When the stretcher is folded they double on to the poles, but when it is opened their weight causes them to fall perpendicularly under the framework of the stretcher, and a loose metal ring then slides down and locks them in position. A metal frame at each end of the body of the stretcher supports a cover at a comfortable height above the patient. Each transverse comes in two in the centre, and the cover-frames or supports are hinged in the centre for folding.

PRIVATE ASYLUMS AND THE LUNACY ACT.

WE have received from Mr. E. D. Farmar-Bringhurst, F.R.C.S., a statement with regard to the circumstances under which he has been deprived of a licence held by him for a private asylum in the county of Herts, which appears to show that he has suffered a substantial injustice. He informs us that he applied in the usual manner to the justices of St. Albans at quarter sessions on June 14th last for the annual renewal of the licence which he held, with a view to transferring the licence and effecting a sale. The solicitor who presented his application has reported as follows:

After some discussion the Chairman suggested that the application be adjourned to the adjourned quarter sessions on July 18th, and that in the meantime a proper notice of transfer should be served and plans lodged.

The Hon. A. Holland-Hibbert, however, strongly opposed the renewal of the licence, and he moved as an amendment that the renewal be refused. This motion was eventually carried by 9 votes to 6, and the licence is therefore cancelled.

The licence expired on July 25th, the termination of the thirteen months for which such licences are usually granted. The licence had been in force since 1845, but under the Lunacy Act of 1890, Section 207 (6) it would appear that it cannot now be renewed. Mr. Farmar-Bringhurst informs us that no fault has ever been found with his management of the asylum either by the local visiting justices, the Commissioners in Lunacy, or the Lord Chancellor's visitors; but, on the contrary, all observations have been of a favourable character. The refusal to renew the licence has involved Mr. Farmar-

Bringhurst in a serious loss. He states that he paid £2,560 to the former owner of the house, and that he has spent some £3,000 in alterations and improvements.

In reference to the above statement, we consider it desirable to deal briefly with the case disclosed therein. Assuming the facts to be sufficiently and accurately stated and subject to any modification of view which would arise from our knowledge of countervailing facts, we certainly think that our correspondent's case is a very hard one, calling for inquiry, and if possible, for rectification. We especially refer to the statement of our correspondent that no fault has been found at any time with the management of his asylum.

Although his communication does not expressly so state, it seems pretty clear that in this case the Justices in Quarter Sessions did not recommend to the Lord Chancellor revocation of the licence, and that the Commissioners in Lunacy had no part in the proceeding; but that the Justices simply declined to renew our correspondent's licence. From this decision we fear that he has no ground for appeal. This, however, is more a legal question, and from it we pass. If the licence was not renewed, in spite of the fact that there were no reasonable grounds for inflicting the great loss which the refusal has caused to our correspondent, then the action of the majority of the justices seems to bear most hardly upon him. But there is a broader and a public ground for desiring a full inquiry into this case. It consists in the fact that cases of such kind would inevitably tend to lower the status of private asylums, to drive out of that line of professional work all the best of those engaged in it, leaving the positions to be occupied by others who, having less means and less reputation to lose, might be willing to run greater risks for small and doubtful advantages.

No reasons appear to have been assigned by the justices for their decision not to renew the licence. Simple justice would seem to require some definite reason to be assigned, although the statute apparently does not specifically require it.

Section 207, paragraphs (1) and (6) of the Lunacy Act, 1890, which relate to the renewal of licences of private lunatic asylums, are as follows:

(1) If the Commissioners, in the case of a house within their immediate jurisdiction, or in the case of a house licensed by justices, the justices, are of opinion that a house licensed for the reception of lunatics has been in all respects well-conducted by the licensee, the Commissioners or justices may, upon the expiration of the licence, renew the licence for that house to the former licensee, or any one or more of them, or to their successors in business.

(6) Save as in this section provided, no new licence shall be granted to any person for a house for the reception of lunatics, and no house in respect of which there is at the passing of this Act an existing licence shall be licensed for a greater number of lunatics than the number authorized by the existing licence.

In what we have written above we wish it to be clearly understood that we have no knowledge of the case beyond that which is disclosed in the communication received from Mr. Farmar-Bringhurst. The subject is one which seriously affects the interests of all persons engaged in private institutions for the insane, and of all patients under their care in such institutions. On the last-named ground alone we would insist that an endeavour should be made to have more light shed on this particular case. We also think that some measure of protection should be afforded to persons engaged in this important branch of professional activity.

CONTRACT MEDICAL PRACTICE.

NOTICE AS TO DISTRICTS IN WHICH DISPUTES EXIST.

A notice as to places in which disputes exist between members of the medical profession and various organizations for providing contract practice will be found among the advertisements, and medical men who may be thinking of applying for appointments in connexion with clubs or other forms of contract practice are requested to refer to the advertisement on page 87.

CURES FOR SNAKEBITE IN CEYLON.—A correspondent sends us some cuttings from Ceylon newspapers which record cases of apparent cure from the bite of venomous snakes by the administration of limejuice. The limejuice is administered internally, and is also thoroughly rubbed into the skin of every part of the body, the treatment being repeated at frequent intervals until the patient rallies. Cases are also recorded in which the local application of vinegar to the wound seems to have counteracted the effects of the poison.

(publications of Cornell University Medical College) recently issued, Latin abstracts of nearly all the articles are also given. These abstracts have been made by Dr. A. Avellanus, formerly editor of *Præco Latinus*, a Latin monthly magazine published at Philadelphia. They are, on the whole, very well done; but why is the Christian name of Dr. Charles L. Dana translated into the out-of-the-way form of "Charulus" when the civilized world has for centuries been content with "Carolus"? We note with satisfaction that the practice of prefixing Latin summaries to scientific papers is extending, and we hope that before long it will become general.

MEDICAL NEWS.

THE will of the late Sir William Mitchell Banks has been proved at the value of £23 527.

MR. ARTHUR H. TREVOR has been appointed secretary to the Commissioners in Lunacy in the place of Mr. L. L. Shadwell, appointed a Commissioner.

FRÄULEIN ELISABETH FOELLINGER, M.D., who has recently settled at Karlsruhe, is said to be the first female practitioner who has adopted the speciality of bath physician.

MEDICAL MAGISTRATES.—Dr. W. Watson Glenny, of Omeath, has been appointed to the magistracy of County Louth. Dr. John McFadyen was on November 4th elected a magistrate for Govan, and on the same day Dr. J. T. K. Thomson was reappointed to the magistracy for Kinning Park.

THE first ordinary meeting of the Royal Statistical Society for the present session will be held at the Society of Arts on Tuesday next at 5.30 p.m., when Sir Francis Sharp Powell, Bart., M.P., will deliver an inaugural address.

DR. FRANCISCO DE LOS COBOS, a well-known hospital physician of Buenos Aires, is now (we learn from the *Heraldo de Madrid*) in Spain as representative of the scientific societies of Argentina, seeking the support of the Spanish Government for the creation of a Hispano-American University.

THE annual dinner of the Harveian Society of London, will be held at the Monico Restaurant on Thursday, November 24th, at 7 for 7.30 p.m. The chair will be occupied by the President, Dr. O. Theodore Williams.

THE "Harben Lectures" of the Royal Institute of Public Health will be given in King's College, London, on Friday, November 25th, December 2nd, and December 9th, at 5 p.m., by Professor John McFadyen, M.B., B.Sc., Principal of the Royal Veterinary College, London, on Glanders. All persons interested are invited to be present.

MEDICAL MAYORS.—Among the list of mayors who took up office on November 9th we notice the following members of the medical profession: Dr. H. Grey-Edwards (Bangor), Dr. H. M. Leathes (Godalming), Dr. David Lloyd (Denbigh), re-elected; Dr. Allan Gaisayer Minns (Thetford), and Dr. R. B. Searle (Dartmouth), re-elected.

PRACTICAL HYGIENE FOR SCHOOL TEACHERS.—Principal E. H. Griffiths, F.R.S., delivered on November 5th, before an audience of about 100 teachers from the county of Glamorgan, the first of a course of lectures on practical hygiene. The course promises to be popular, and teachers will be afforded every opportunity of learning what, in the near future, they will be expected to teach.

A CONFERENCE to consider the possibility of establishing for England a national or central school for physical education on the lines of the Royal Central Institute of Sweden will be held in the London Education Offices, Victoria Embankment, on Wednesday next, at 5.30 p.m. The Bishop of Bristol will preside, and Miss Theodora Johnson, Principal of the Swedish Institute, Clifton, will describe the proposed scheme. A discussion will follow.

AT the general monthly meeting of the Royal Institution, held on November 7th, under the chairmanship of Sir James Crichton-Browne, Treasurer, it was announced that the entrances and exits to the lecture-room had been improved by the erection of two iron staircases and the widening of the doorway, and that the ceiling had been considerably raised. A Christmas course of lectures, illustrated by experiments and adapted to a juvenile audience, will be delivered by Mr. Henry Cunynghame, C.B., on ancient and modern methods of measuring time. The first lecture will be given on December 27th.

FRENCH MEDICAL CONGRESS.—The French Medical Congress will meet next year in Belgium, at Liège. Professor Lépine, of Lyons, has been elected President, and Professors Masius and Francotte, of Liège, Vice-Presidents. The following are the

questions proposed for discussion:—(1) General Pathology: the part played by pancreatic secretions on pathology. (2) Special Pathology: clinical forms of chronic rheumatism. Therapeutics: no-salt diet. Owing to the meeting of the International Medical Congress at Lisbon in 1906, the French Medical Congress will not be held in that year. The meeting in 1907 will take place in Paris.

ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC VACCINATORS.—The annual dinner of the Association of Public Vaccinators of England and Wales took place on October 28th at the Hotel Cecil, London, with Dr. E. C. Greenwood, President, in the chair. After the usual loyal toasts had been duly honoured, the Chairman proposed the toast of "The Association." He said that the chief object of the Association, which now numbered over 1,000 members, was to obtain fixity of tenure for the public vaccinators of England and Wales. They had consistently urged that claim, but so far their efforts had been unsuccessful. The Association had thoroughly justified its existence by having been officially recognized by the Local Government Board, who had invited it to give evidence before the Departmental Committee appointed to inquire into the question of fees for vaccination. The Association was also working hard to obtain a consensus of opinion among vaccinators for the purpose of demanding a high standard of excellence in regard to vaccination work. Public vaccinators should be allowed to carry on their work unhindered by Boards of Guardians, who in many cases were antagonistic to the duties of the vaccinators. Dr. A. E. Cope, in acknowledging the toast, said that members of the Association might regard themselves as the first line of defence against small-pox. What was required was the centralization of the vaccination machinery. Dr. Arthur Drury proposed the toast of "The Visitors." Sir Constantine Holman, in responding, said that some Boards of Guardians were extremely pig-headed. Still, if doctors were treated like reasonable beings they would behave like English gentlemen; so his advice was that they should not fall too foul of Boards of Guardians, because they were powerful bodies and had great influence. Dr. John Galton, who also responded for the toast, explained the aims and objects of the Imperial Vaccination League, and explained how the Association of Public Vaccinators of England and Wales could aid in the work. Dr. E. J. Stevens, who also replied, urged the necessity of the medical officers of health co-operating with the public vaccinators. Dr. R. Macartney, in proposing "The Officers of the Association," argued that better results were obtained when working with Boards of Guardians if they were treated with less subservience and a little more austerity. If the medical profession were sufficiently represented in Parliament their Association would be better supported. Mr. C. Greenwood, the Organizing Secretary, having responded, Dr. V. A. Jaynes proposed the health of the President, and that gentleman, having suitably replied, the proceedings terminated.

MEDICAL SICKNESS AND ACCIDENT SOCIETY.—The usual monthly meeting of the Executive Committee of the Medical Sickness, Annuity, and Life Assurance Society was held at 429, Strand, London, W.C., on October 28th. Dr. de Havilland Hall was in the chair. The records for the preceding month showed a marked improvement in the claim accounts. During the early part of the year an unusually large disbursement in respect of sickness claims was made, and until the end of June the amount paid out was appreciably in excess of the expectation. Since June the claim account has been sensibly diminished. Some of the recently-received claims seem likely to be chronic—that is, the members will have to continue to draw their sick pay of 100 guineas per annum; on the other hand, since January last several of those who were then on this list have passed away. The very satisfactory rate of increase in the number of new members shown in the records of the last two years has not been maintained. The Committee recognize that this is to some extent to be attributed to the general falling-off in the profits of nearly all businesses. But the Committee feel that if the existing members would assist them in bringing under the notice of their professional friends the solid advantages which membership in the Society secures, and in particular point out to them the large amount of invested funds, and the fact that the management is exclusively composed of medical men ensures sympathetic treatment to every member who is compelled to claim benefit, a large addition would be made to the numbers joining the Society. Prospectuses and all particulars on application to Mr. F. Addiscott, Secretary, Medical Sickness and Accident Society, 33, Chancery Lane, W.C.

had been vaccinated in infancy the disease was very slight; when he visited the hospital they were out playing with other convalescent boys; the remaining four had never been vaccinated, and of these one was already dead and the other three were in a very serious condition. Out of 130 cases of small-pox which had been in the Purdysburn Hospital not a single case of a revaccinated person had been admitted. There was only one safeguard, and that was revaccination.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND.

The lectures of the winter session commenced on November 1st, the prizes for the previous session being distributed on the same day by the President, Mr. Arthur Chance. The Barker Anatomical Prize of £31 10s. went to Mr. C. Cooper; the Mayne Scholarship of £15 to Mr. A. N. Crawford; the Carmichael Scholarship of £15 to Mr. J. Prendiville. To the latter gentleman went also the Stoney Memorial Gold Medal in Anatomy. The Gold Medal in Operative Surgery was awarded to Mr. J. S. Dunne, and the Silver Medals in the same subject to Messrs. P. D. Sullivan and J. C. Murphy (equal). Some thirteen or fourteen other medals were also distributed, together with a large number of certificates for special proficiency in various subjects.

MYSTICAL QUACKERY.

An action tried at great length on November 3rd, before the County Court Judge at Coleraine, brings into relief the strong belief of some of the people in mystical forms of treatment, and at the same time the remarkable ignorance of some of those who hold themselves out as capable of curing patients in such ways. The plaintiff, a retired weaver, held himself to be libelled by the *Coleraine Constitution*, which, in an article headed "Kilrea Notes," made strong comment upon the knavery of those who pretended to cure disease by charms. This cap the plaintiff fitted upon his own head, and brought an action for damages which was dismissed with costs. The case, as reported very fully in the *Coleraine Chronicle*, is in a certain sense amusing reading, much of the plaintiff's evidence being very curious. He had, he said, been receiving patients from all parts of the United Kingdom for thirty years; some paid him with a £1, and some with a blessing. He effected his cures by a prayer which he had learnt from his father when a wee lad. When he prayed over a case of erysipelas—a disease in the treatment of which he was particularly expert—the bones dried up, and the limb got strong or the bad bones dropped out. He had treated a case of mortification by spitting on the limb; but the doctors cut the leg off, and the man died. Although he licked, spat on, and rubbed his patients, that was only because it gave them temporary relief; the real cure was effected by the prayer which he had mentioned. He also cured cases of heart disease; he did not know much about the disease, but he could cure it, and used a green silk band. There was a great deal of the same kind of thing, and, reading over the evidence, it is difficult to decide whether the man was an ordinary impostor, or deceived himself as well as his patients.

REPRESENTATIVE OF ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, IRELAND, ON THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL.

Sir Charles Ball has intimated to the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland that he does not intend to seek re-election in February next as the representative of the College on the General Medical Council. Mr. H. R. Swanzy (Vice-President), and Sir Thomas Myles have notified their intention to present themselves for election.

MATER MISERICORDIAE HOSPITAL.

The address on the occasion of the opening of the winter session at the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin, was delivered on Wednesday last by Sir Christopher Nixon, Senior Physician. The Most Rev. Dr. Healy, Catholic Archbishop of Tuam, presided. Sir Christopher Nixon gave an interesting account of the work done in the hospital, and expressed the special satisfaction he felt in recording the opening of the new pathological department. He complained that the expectations aroused in connexion with the subject of Catholic University Education in Ireland had not been fulfilled. Other speakers were Rev. Dr. Delany, Mr. Serjeant Dodd, K.C., Mr. Charles O'Connor, K.C., Dr. D. Coffey, and the Chairman.

PROFESSOR BENNETT.

Dr. E. H. H. Bennett, who has occupied the Chair of Surgery in the School of Physic, Trinity College, for so many years, has at his own request been relieved from the active

duties of the office, and Dr. E. H. Taylor has been appointed his assistant. Professor Bennett will, however, devote some of his time to the curatorship of the pathological museum, and to the cataloguing of the specimens, so many of which he has collected. He will also continue to act as surgeon to the Patrick Dun's Hospital. It is gratifying to know that Dr. Bennett will still be associated with a school which he has done so much to develop and improve. His contributions on injuries to bones have been most valuable, and he has carried on, with great industry and success, especially in this department, the work which was begun by Robert W. Smith, and which has made both of them famous.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, BELFAST.

The appointment of Dr. Cecil Shaw to the Lectureship in Ophthalmology in Queen's College, Belfast, rendered vacant by the death of Dr. Alexander McKeown, has been received with much satisfaction in Belfast.

ASSOCIATION NOTICES.

ADJOURNED MEETING OF COUNCIL.

The Chairman of Council has arranged, by kind permission of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, that the Adjourned Meeting of the Council shall be held in the Board Room of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, on Wednesday, the 16th day of November, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The Metropolitan Asylums Board is situated on the Victoria Embankment at the corner of Carmelite Street, close to Blackfriars Bridge.

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS OF COUNCIL FOR 1905.

MEETINGS of the Council will be held on Wednesdays, January 18th, April 19th, July 5th and October 18th, in the Council Room of the British Medical Association, 429, Strand, London, W.C.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

ANY candidate for election should forward his application upon a form, which will be furnished by the General Secretary of the Association, 429, Strand. Applications for membership should be sent to the General Secretary not less than thirty-five days prior to the date of a meeting of the Council.

LIBRARY OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

MEMBERS are reminded that the Library and Writing Rooms of the Association are fitted up for the accommodation of the members in commodious apartments, at the office of the Association, 429, Strand. The rooms are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Members can have their letters addressed to them at the office.

GUY ELLISTON, *General Secretary*.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

EDINBURGH BRANCH: SOUTH-EASTERN COUNTIES DIVISION.—A dinner will be held in the King's Arms Hotel, Melrose, on the evening of Tuesday, November 22nd, at 6 o'clock, Dr. Carlyle Johnstone, Chairman of Division, presiding, in the event of a sufficient number of members notifying the Secretary of their intention to be present. Dinner ticket, 5s.—W. HALL CALVERT, Honorary Secretary.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: CITY DIVISION.—A general meeting will be held on Thursday, November 17th, at 4 p.m., at Manor House, Upper Clapton Road, N.E. (by the kind invitation of H. E. Powell, Esq.). Agenda: (1) Minutes. (2) Letters. (3) Report of Subcommittee on Alteration of Rules of the Branch. (4) Report of the Representative on the meeting at Oxford. (5) Report on Parliamentary matters affecting the profession referred from the last business meeting, see SUPPLEMENT to BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, May 28th, p. 125. (6) Report of Medico-Political Committee on the desirability of consultation between medical

witnesses (see SUPPLEMENT to BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, July 23rd, p. 77). (7) Any other business.—E. W. GOODALL, M.D., Honorary Secretary.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: WANDSWORTH DIVISION.—An ordinary meeting of this Division will be held at Crichton Restaurant, Clapham Junction, on Thursday, November 24th, at 8.45 p.m. Agenda: (1) Minutes. (2) Correspondence. (3) Questions. (4) Resolutions for Representative Meeting at Leicester, referring to co-opted and elected members of the Central Council, and the duration of their holding office. (5) Paper by G. F. McCleary, M.O.H., on the Milk Supply of Copenhagen: A Study in Clean Milk Production. (6) Address on Vaccination and Revaccination, by Mrs. E. Garrett Anderson, M.D. The President of the Branch (Dr. Radcliffe Crocker), the Editor of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL (Dr. Dawson Williams), and possibly Mr. Andrew Clark (Chairman of the Central Council) will be present. Members of the Branch and their medical friends are invited to attend.—E. ROWLAND FOTHERGILL, Torquay House, Southfields, S.W., Honorary Secretary.

NORTH WALES BRANCH: NORTH CARNARVONSHIRE AND ANGLESEY DIVISION.—A meeting of this Division will be held at the British Hotel, Bangor, on Wednesday, November 16th, at 2 p.m. Agenda: (1) To read the minutes of the last meeting of the Division. (2) To read letters of apology. (3) To introduce the Chairman-elect. (4) To receive the Report of the Annual Representative Meeting held at Oxford. (5) Dr. E. J. Lloyd (Bangor) will read notes of a case of Mastoiditis and the Value of 1 in. Trepphine in Opening up the Mastoid Antrum. (6) Dr. Emyr O. Price (Bangor) will open a discussion on Diphtheria.—H. JONES ROBERTS, Penygroes, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH.—A conjoint meeting of the three Divisions of Eastbourne, Hastings, and Tunbridge Wells will take place on Thursday, November 17th, at the Sackville Hotel, Bexhill, at 4.45 p.m. Dinner at 7 p.m.; charge 6s. exclusive of wine. All members of the South-Eastern Branch are entitled to attend, and to introduce professional friends. Members intending to be present at the meeting and dinner would much facilitate arrangements if they would inform Dr. Merry of their intention by post-card. Agenda: (1) Mr. Beck will show three cases of Colles's fracture treated by massage from the third day, illustrated by Roentgen-ray photographs. (2) Discussion on Dr. Larking's proposal to divide the South-Eastern Branch. (3) Contract practice. (4) Reports of Representative Meeting at Oxford, by the Divisional Representatives, and any other business that may arise.—G. V. HEWLAND, St. Leonards, W. J. C. MERRY, Eastbourne, and E. A. STARLING, Tunbridge Wells, Honorary Secretaries.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: BRIGHTON DIVISION.—A meeting of this Division will be held at the Brighton Dispensary, 113, Queen's Road, Brighton, on Wednesday, November 23rd, at 4.30 p.m. Agenda: To consider the advisability of dividing the South-Eastern Branch. To consider a memorandum from the Exeter Division. To discuss a report from the Medico-Political and Ethical Committees. To amend the Rules of the Division. Other business.—RYDING MARSH, 49, Sackville Road, Hove, Brighton, Honorary Secretary.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: MAIDSTONE DIVISION.—The next meeting of this Division will be held at the West Kent Hospital, Maidstone, on Friday, November 18th, at 4 p.m. Agenda: Minutes of last meeting. To receive from Representative (Dr. Douglas) report of Annual Representative Meeting. To consider reports by the Medico-Political Committee on (a) Contract Practice, (b) Fees for Life Insurance Examination, (c) Parliamentary Matters affecting the Profession, (d) National Deposit Friendly Society. To consider the proposed division of the South-Eastern Branch. To transact any other business. J. A. GIBB, M.B., will read a paper on Nasal Obstruction. All members of the South-Eastern Branch are invited to attend and to introduce professional friends. Dinner at the Royal Star Hotel at 6.30 p.m., tickets 6s. Members wishing to dine will kindly notify the Honorary Secretary not later than Tuesday, November 15th.—A. T. FALWASSER, Sussex Place, Maidstone, Honorary Secretary.

STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH.—A meeting of this Branch will be held at the North Stafford Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent, on Thursday, November 24th, when the chair will be taken by Dr. E. Deanesly, the President. Papers will be read by Mr. W. D. Spanton, Dr. Menzies, and Mr. H. H. Folker.—G. PETGRAVE JOHNSON, Honorary General Secretary.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

VIENNA.

Contract Medical Practice in Austria.—Opening of the Winter Semester.—A Wholesome Milk Supply for Infants.—A New Lunatic Asylum.

THERE has for some years been a difference of opinion between the Government and the "Vienna Central Board of Medical Practitioners," relative to contract practice. By law all factory hands, shop assistants, generally all employés and persons who are in receipt of regular payment from business concerns, are obliged to become members of a "Krankencassa," which is nearly equivalent to a "friendly society." The "Krankencassa" provides in case of illness, free medical attendance, free medicines, and a daily allowance in proportion to the wages received during health. The expenses of these institutions are met partly by the regular monthly contributions by the employés, deducted from the wages and salaries, partly by contributions made by the employers. Professional help is obtained from the "Cassenarzt," a practitioner

appointed and paid by the "Krankencassa." The payment is very low, especially in large industrial centres, where as many as 2,000 or 3,000 members are allotted to one practitioner at a salary rarely exceeding £100 a year. Whilst giving to certain practitioners an increase of income, this system throws on them an excessive amount of work; it also makes it very difficult for young practitioners to gain a footing, as a large part of the paying population is in employment, and is therefore bound to seek help from the "Cassenarzt." This grievance has often been the subject of resolutions and petitions of professional bodies, but without any appreciable result. Now several other classes of the population, such as bankers' assistants, agents, grocers, general dealers, shopkeepers, and the like, have formed societies with a view to appoint medical men under similar conditions. Such a measure obviously engenders the existence of the large majority of practitioners. The Board of Practitioners therefore passed resolutions to the effect "that it is contrary to medical ethics to accept a post as 'Cassenarzt' to any of these friendly societies of well-to-do people, because it is harmful to the profession, and that any practitioner doing so should be summoned before the Council of the Board to explain his dishonourable action." The Government prohibited the promulgation of this resolution, but the Board is determined to have it enforced, and has threatened to resign unless its wish be respected. As the last Board also resigned owing to a conflict with the Government, the latter naturally desires a peaceful solution of the present dispute. It is probable that both sides will take the opportunity of settling at the same time the hospital question, which constitutes another medical grievance. Large numbers of patients, well-to-do people, have found medical aid in public institutions intended only for the poor.

The winter semester began on October 27th. Among the courses and lectures to be delivered during the winter the following are worth mentioning: Haematology, by Docent Dr. Türk and Docent Weiss; Otolaryngology and Surgery of the Ear, by Politzer and Urbantschitsch; Surgery of the Uropoietic System, by Docent Zuckerkandl. Special courses on typical and atypical surgery and gynaecological operations will be held from time to time, each course lasting five to six weeks. The fee varies between £2 2s. and £4 4s. Radiology, including demonstrations and practical work with x rays, n rays, and radium-salts, is a new feature in the list of lectures. Of course, the regular clinical lectures on surgery, internal disease, gynaecology, ophthalmology, and dermatology will be continued by the professors of the various clinics. It may be noted that Professor Finger will give a special course on blennorrhoea and syphilis in English, as there are some ninety English-speaking doctors now in Vienna.

The committee of the Society for the Diminution of the Death-rate of Infants some time ago recommended the supply of pure and wholesome milk to mothers. By the munificence of the Archduchess Frederic, a near relation to the Emperor, the necessary quantity of milk has been placed at the disposal of the committee, and the society recently opened within the precincts of the Children's Hospital—the largest hospital of its kind in Vienna—a dépôt for the distribution of modified and sterilized milk to mothers who could produce a ticket from the hospital authorities. No charge is made, the institution being supported partly by the hospital and partly by voluntary contributions. On the day the dépôt was opened there were 216 applicants. A few simple directions printed on a leaflet are handed at the same time to the mother to enable her the better to feed and nurse the infant. Arrangements have been made for the weekly weighing of the infants. The milk, which comes from the Archducal farms not far from the capital, is derived from selected cows, and every precaution is taken to ensure the best quality, so that the results, which will be published monthly, may be expected to be very good.

In presence of an illustrious gathering, the Emperor recently laid the foundation-stone of an enormous new lunatic asylum. The grounds cover not less than 1,800,000 square yards. More than 700,000 square yards will be used for building purposes, 400,000 for a public garden, whilst an equal area will consist of gardens, with gates and fences, for the use of patients who must be under constant supervision. The hospital is planned on the pavilion system, and sixty pavilions, buildings, and offices are to be erected. In the centre of the whole there will be a church, with accommodation for 500 persons. The institution will consist of three separate groups of buildings: (1) a hospital for persons mentally diseased, with or without hope of recovery; (2) a nursing home, chiefly for patients who require constant nursing on account of bodily or mental disablement;

OBITUARY.

HERBERT WILLIAM ALLINGHAM, F.R.C.S.,

Senior Assistant Surgeon, St. George's Hospital.

THE sudden death at Marseilles, on November 4th, of Mr. Herbert William Allingham, at the early age of 42, removes from the ranks of English surgery one of its most brilliant exponents and from many friends a man whose generosity and thoughtfulness for others they will never forget.

At the time of his death Mr. Allingham was Surgeon to His Majesty's Household, Surgeon in Ordinary to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Senior Assistant Surgeon and Lecturer on Operative Surgery to St. George's Hospital, Honorary Surgeon to King Edward VII Hospital for Officers, and to the Osborne Home for Officers. Amongst other appointments which he had held may be mentioned that of Surgeon to the Great Northern Hospital, Assistant Surgeon to St. Mark's Hospital, and Surgeon to the Surgical Aid Society.

He was the eldest son of Mr. William Allingham, F.R.C.S., and was born in 1862. His schooldays were spent at Chatham House, Ramsgate, and at University College School, London. At the latter institution he left no particular name for scholarship, but a high reputation for athletic prowess. This he increased at St. George's Hospital, where he was one of the most valued of an exceptionally powerful football team. At the Medical School, however, studies of a more serious nature appealed to Allingham in a way which the more purely academic pursuits of preliminary education never had. Anatomy in the dissecting room occupied his keenest attention, and partly, no doubt, owing to the wise promptings of his father, partly owing to the essentially practical bent of his own mind, he studied anatomy always with a view to the surgical application of the facts with which he was confronted. In the same way he seized with avidity upon all that his teachers could tell him or show him in physiology or anatomy, in medicine or in surgery, which appealed to him by having a practical bearing upon what he had already recognized as the aim and object of his life—the practice of surgery. The result was that Allingham, as a house-surgeon, made an impression upon all with whom he came into contact, that is still fresh in the minds of his contemporaries. He seemed already an expert, and a friend of those days was wont to speak of him as having been born “with a scalpel in his hand.” It is not surprising that, when a little later the posts of Assistant-Surgeon to the Great Northern, and to St. Mark's Hospitals gave ample scope for practice, Allingham developed a skill and confidence in operating which is very rarely to be found in a man so young as he then was. He had, in an exceptional degree, the qualities most important for a successful operator. He was always perfectly cool, quick to decide, and extraordinarily quick to carry out. He was absolutely without fear in operating, but at the same time never lacked restraint or allowed his judgement to be warped by enthusiasm for a daring undertaking. The practical bearing of his mind prevented anything of this sort. His thought was always of what would actually be for the patient's actual advantage, and just as in life he detested ceremony and useless tattle, so in the operating theatre he had no sympathy with merely pretty operations or any steps but those that were of real benefit. In the same way he disliked a large number of instruments or many assistants, and believed in always achieving his ends by the simplest possible means. This simplicity, and his own natural facility, made Allingham an extremely rapid operator. He never appeared to hurry, yet his operations occupied an extraordinarily short space of time; time within which, however, nothing had been overlooked or improperly performed. His rapidity and simplicity of method gave an appearance of ease to any operation which he did. This was so much the case that any one not himself a surgeon would have believed the performance to be as easy as it looked, and such a man has been heard to remark at the close of a colotomy in a very fat subject which had taken Allingham less than ten minutes, “Well, I do not think much of that.” If the operator had been half an hour manipulating the gut to make up his mind whether it was large or small, and had given vent to one or two platitudes in the meanwhile, no doubt the spectator would have been more impressed.

His contributions to medical literature were numerous. Perhaps the best known are the work on *Diseases of the Rectum*, originally written by his father, and the more recent work on *Operative Surgery*. In all his writings, as in his work, Allingham was essentially practical, simple, and modest.

As a man, Allingham had qualities resembling those which characterized his surgery. He had simple tastes and a warm disposition. He hated sham; and though he was invariably courteous to all, yet he was a man who liked and disliked strongly. To those whom he liked he let it be known by a helpfulness and a generosity which, however much he may desire it, it is rarely in the power of so young a man to show. He took the greatest interest in all with whom he worked, and had very great powers of judging a younger man's ability. Moreover, he used to form an exact idea of what such a man should do, and would think no trouble too great to secure his success along the line mapped out. Having given one man a helping hand in this way Allingham would turn his attention to another, and not a few of those who got their medical education at St. George's Hospital realize that with Allingham they have lost their earliest and best professional friend. He was unselfish, not only in the trouble he took for others, but also in the way in which he sought to make the least of troubles of his own. Thus it was only to a few intimates that it was known that last year he wounded his finger while operating upon a puzzling rectal condition in a patient who later showed unequivocal signs of an obstinate mania. The disease thus acquired, though made light of with characteristic courage, added to the terrible strain which domestic worry had imposed upon Allingham's crowded life. The tragic result of his complicated trials has removed one whose fine natural gifts and generous sympathetic nature leave in the hearts of his friends a tender memory that will never be effaced.

J. B.

BRANFORD EDWARDS, L.R.C.P. LOND., M.R.C.S. ENG.,

Consulting Surgeon, East Suffolk and Ipswich Hospital.

MR. BRANFORD EDWARDS, one of the oldest and most respected of the medical practitioners of Ipswich, has recently died, after a few days' illness from peritonitis, in his 60th year. He was the son of the late Mr. George Cordy Edwards, who also practised in Ipswich.

Mr. Branford Edwards commenced life as an engineer, but his mind turned to medical pursuits, and a little later he entered Guy's Hospital as a medical student, and eventually became House-Surgeon and Resident Accoucheur. He returned to his native town on resigning these posts and commenced practice with his father, having acquired in 1868 the diplomas of L.R.C.P. Lond. and M.R.C.S. Eng. He soon gained and held for over thirty-five years the high esteem of his professional brethren and the great regard of his patients.

For upwards of twenty-five years he was Honorary Surgeon to the East Suffolk and Ipswich Hospital, and at the time of his death was Consulting Surgeon to that institution. Outside his strictly professional duties he occupied an important place in the life of the town; for many years he was one of the most active members of its Scientific Society, and for quite twenty-five years he was associated with every important musical movement in the place. He was attracted by astronomy in particular and by art generally and antiquities. His modesty, geniality, and sterling character made him a highly-valued colleague and townsman. He was a member of the South Suffolk Division of the East Anglian Branch of the British Medical Association. His death is deeply mourned by a large circle of friends and fellow townsmen.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

THE Vice-Chancellor has appointed Edwin Ray Lankester, M.A., Honorary Fellow of Exeter College, Director of the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, to be Romanes Lecturer for 1905.

Sir John Burdon-Sanderson, Bart., D.M., F.R.S., Honorary Fellow of Magdalen College, late Regius Professor of Medicine, has been constituted a perpetual Delegate of the University Museum.

Thanks to the Oxford Division of the British Medical Association.

Convocation on November 8th passed a cordial vote of thanks to the Oxford Division of the British Medical Association for their gift of an installation of the electric light at the Pitt Rivers Museum in acknowledgement of the generous hospitality of the University during the meeting of the Association in July last. It was agreed to place a suitable record of the occasion in the museum.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

Mr. W. H. R. Rivers, M.A., M.D., St. John's, has been appointed a Manager of the Arnold Gerstenberg Studentship in Natural Science and Moral Philosophy.

Mr. J. C. Willis, Caius, Director of the Peradeniya Botanic Gardens, has been approved for the degree of Doctor of Science.

The following have been appointed Examiners in State Medicine: Mr. J. E. Purvis, Dr. Nuttall, F.R.S., Dr. Tatham, Dr. Lane Nettler, and Dr. Sweeting.

The following have been appointed Examiners in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene: Dr. Nuttall, F.R.S., Sir Patrick Manson, F.R.S., and Major Ronald Ross, F.R.S.

The Master of Gonville and Caius (Dr. Keynes) and Mr. A. E. Shipley, F.R.S., have been elected members of the Council of the Senate.

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.

AUTUMN GRADUATION CEREMONY.

THE usual autumn graduation ceremony at Glasgow University was held on the afternoon of November 3rd in the Bute Hall. Principal Story presided, and there was a large attendance of the public and of the students. The latter, unfortunately, behaved in a more than usually boisterous manner. The following medical degrees were conferred:

M.D.—H. E. Brown, *E. P. Calhcart, **I. Findlay, **J. D. Lickley, **A. Love, **M. Macdonald, **W. L. Thomson, Daisy A. Bennett (Mrs. M. Gregor), A. Binning, J. Crawford, J. Divine, A. Donald, W. W. Fyfe, E. W. R. Jones, F. J. Lochraue, D. S. MacColl, J. Paton, A. T. Ross, R. Taylor, C. P. Thomson, W. B. Thomson, J. Wilson, J. J. T. Young.

M.B., Ch.B.—**D. J. McLeish, Annie M. Black, D. L. Graham, D. J. G. Grant, Margaret Hardy, R. T. Leiper, R. C. McGuire, Jane H. M'Ilroy, M.A., B.Sc., C. G. Mackay, R. Macleod, D. S. Richmond, J. W. Richmond, R. T. C. Robertson, J. Stewart, J. Unsworth, Janet G. Waddell, G. Wilson.

* With honours. ** With commendation.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

UNIVERSITY'S MISSION TO CENTRAL AFRICA.

THE Universities' Mission to Central Africa, which owes its existence to Dr. Livingstone, has not hitherto possessed an organization in the University of London, although that University has given to the mission two bishops, one of whom—Bishop J. E. Hine, M.D.—is now Bishop of Zanzibar. A London University Committee has now been formed, with Sir Thomas Stevenson, M.D., F.R.C.P., as chairman, and among other medical members are Dr. J. H. E. Brock, Dr. Vawdrey Lush, Dr. E. Symes-Thompson, and Mrs. Scharlieb, M.D. Further information can be obtained from Mr. E. C. Hudson, B.A., 140, Friern Road, Dulwich, S.E., or Mr. F. H. C. Brock, B.A., 24, Dartmouth Park Hill, N.W.

ROYAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND.

THE Dublin *Gazette* announces that the King on the recommendation of the Lord Lieutenant has issued his Royal Warrant appointing Sir William Thomson, C.B., F.R.C.S.I.; Lord Killanin, and Dr. B. C. Windle, F.R.S., the new President of Queen's College, Cork, to be members of the Senate of the Royal University of Ireland.

CONJOINT BOARD IN SCOTLAND.

THE examinations concluded on November and have resulted in the success of the following candidates:

Second Examination.—Ethel A. Orchard, A. G. Jenner, O. D. Gunasékara, C. Nyhan, K. J. L. Bannerman, M. A. Vijayakar, W. R. Ellis, N. McLeod, L. Murphy, H. Millar, E. T. Evans, Ada C. Boyllette, T. A. Gregg, Mary D. Hancock, J. B. Engineer, C. I. McFarlane.

Third Examination.—Nena B. Ievers, H. R. Morehead, D. Kennedy, G. H. Powell, L. Patchett, C. C. Fitzgerald, A. H. Bloxsome, P. R. Eskell, J. Clarke, R. N. Coorlawala (with distinction), W. C. Mann, T. M. R. Waddell, J. L. Power, K. W. Dani, N. McLeod, G. W. Meade, D. T. H. Croly, T. E. Filcroft, E. P. Dawes, J. P. Bamboat, L. H. Gill, J. S. Macdonald, R. R. Chambal.

Final Examination.—J. van S. Taylor, H. L. Ludovici, J. R. Byers, S. Evans, W. Murray, J. B. C. Mulligan, J. F. O'Mahony, E. T. Curran, T. Cassels, J. P. Barry, G. G. Bartholomew, C. T. Möller, J. M. Moriarty, S. M. Lyon, J. E. Lawther, D. B. Mandible, M. P. Kerrawalla, C. Garner, Lillian Mary Grandlin, J. Harvie, J. P. Tolmie, H. McKay, A. C. Videll, E. N. Coorlawala, R. W. Simpson, J. J. Egan, M. E. Suif, R. H. Harris, H. Bentley, W. Dick, J. D. Staley, T. A. W. Walker, E. H. Freeze, T. Archdeacon, J. W. McEwan, W. Longley, K. V. Amin, J. B. Moffatt.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

THE following gentlemen passed the Preliminary Science Examination in Chemistry of the Royal College of Surgeons of England at the quarterly meeting of the Examiners for the licence in Dental Surgery:

E. L. Brown, G. L. Davies, D. G. Gibb, S. F. Glassington, R. A. Glendon, G. F. C. Harvey, J. P. Leeming, A. Pusey, H. V. Sharp, and H. M. Shefford.

HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY MANAGEMENT.

HOSPITAL REFORM.

A. W. writes that at a provincial hospital the Committee has suggested that the following rule should be adopted:

All in-patient recommendations should be countersigned by the medical man in attendance as a safeguard against the admission of unsuitable cases.

The rules of the hospital prohibit the admission of chronic heart cases, phthisis, syphilis, etc. It was thought that, should the case requiring an in-patient recommendation not be sufficiently ill to be actually under medical supervision, such a case should receive an out-patient letter and its merits be decided by the house-surgeon. We are asked whether such a rule is in force at any other institution, and whether it is likely that its adoption would be at all detrimental to the interests of the hospital owing to subscribers objecting to not having an entirely free hand in their recommendations.

We have consulted Dr. Michael Beverley, the Chairman of the Hospitals Committee of the British Medical Association, and he informs us that at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital

the forms of recommendation were altered some years since in such a manner as to require the signature of a medical man. He adds that this has been found of great use and to be the means of preventing unsuitable cases being sent to the hospital. It was instituted after a sad tragedy in the hospital—the murder of some children by a man who came in for a slight surgical complaint, but was insane. The governors and subscribers have never objected to the present form of letter; on the contrary, they are glad to have the endorsement of the medical man. So long as the system of recommendation by subscriber's letter remains in force at a hospital such a medical endorsement presents many advantages, and is a safeguard against abuse.

PUBLIC HEALTH

AND

POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

ENGLISH URBAN MORTALITY IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1904. [SPECIALLY REPORTED FOR THE "BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL."]

THE vital statistics of the seventy-six large towns dealt with in the Registrar-General's weekly returns are summarized in the accompanying table. During the three months ending September last, 110,541 births were registered in these towns, equal to an annual rate of 29.0 per 1,000 of their aggregate population, estimated at 15,271,287 persons in the middle of the year; in the corresponding quarter of the preceding year the birth-rate had been 29.5 per 1,000. In London the rate last quarter was 27.6 per 1,000, while it averaged 29.6 in the seventy-five other large towns, and ranged from 16.8 in Bournemouth, 18.8 in Hastings, 19.3 in Halifax, 21.6 in Hornsey, 21.8 in Bradford, 22.2 in Northampton, 22.9 in Rochdale, and 23.4 in Bury, to 34.1 in Sunderland, 34.5 in Middlesbrough, 34.6 in South Shields, and in Lymington, 35.7 in St. Helens, 36.6 in Wigan, 36.7 in Merthyr Tydfil, and 40.0 in Rhondda.

During the quarter under notice 66,504 deaths were registered in these towns, corresponding to an annual rate of 17.5 per 1,000 living, against a rate of 15.1 in the third quarter of last year. In London the rate of mortality was 16.4 per 1,000; in the seventy-five other large towns it averaged 17.0 per 1,000, and ranged from 7.7 in Hornsey, 9.2 in King's Norton, 10.6 in Handsworth (Staffs), 10.9 in Smethwick, 12.0 in Willesden, 12.4 in Bournemouth and in Halifax, and 12.7 in Hastings, to 21.9 in Stockport, 22.0 in Rhondda, 22.8 in Hanley, 23.6 in St. Helens, 24.0 in Wigan and in Salford, 24.2 in Bootle, and 26.9 in Liverpool.

The 66,504 deaths from all causes in the seventy-six towns last quarter included 19,119 which were referred to the principal infectious diseases; of these, 48 resulted from small-pox, 1,440 from measles, 377 from scarlet fever, 614 from diphtheria, 1,003 from whooping-cough, 379 from fever (principally enteric), and 15,250 from diarrhoea. The death-rate from these diseases, which had been 2.66 per 1,000 in the third quarter of the preceding year, increased to 5.02 per 1,000 last quarter. In London this death-rate was equal to 4.24 per 1,000, while it averaged 5.37 per 1,000 in the seventy-five large provincial towns, among which the rates ranged from 1.02 in Kings Norton, 1.15 in Hastings, 1.17 in Bournemouth, 1.44 in Hornsey, 1.74 in West Hartlepool, 1.94 in Handsworth (Staffs), and 1.97 in Devonport, to 7.04 in Salford, 8.17 in West Ham, 8.22 in Hanley, 8.23 in Birkenhead, 8.30 in Hull, 10.95 in Bootle, and 11.04 in Liverpool. The 48 fatal cases of small-pox registered last quarter included 9 belonging to Stockport, 7 to Gateshead, 6 to Newcastle-on-Tyne, 5 to London, 4 to Oldham, and 3 each to Warrington, Manchester, and Salford. The 1,440 deaths from measles were equal to an annual rate of 0.38 per 1,000; in London the death-rate from this disease was 0.32 per 1,000, while it averaged 0.40 per 1,000 in the seventy-five other large towns, among which measles was proportionally most fatal in Hanley, Grimsby, Birkenhead, Liverpool, Bootle, St. Helens, Salford, and Huddersfield. The 377 fatal cases of scarlet fever corresponded to an annual rate of 0.10 per 1,000; in London the scarlet fever death-rate was only 0.08 per 1,000, while in the seventy-five large provincial towns it averaged 0.11 per 1,000, being highest in Northampton, Hanley, Aston Manor, Warrington, Salford, Rochdale, Barrow-in-Furness and York. The 614 deaths from diphtheria were equal to an annual rate of 0.16 per 1,000; in London the death-rate from this disease was 0.13 per 1,000, while it averaged 0.18 in the seventy-five other large towns, among which diphtheria was proportionally most fatal in Tottenham, Portsmouth, Hanley, Salford, Oldham, Bradford, and West Hartlepool. The 1,003 fatal cases of whooping-cough showed an annual rate of 0.26 per 1,000; in London the rate of mortality from whooping-cough was 0.21 per 1,000, while it averaged 0.22 in the seventy-five other large provincial towns, among which the highest death-rates from this disease were recorded in Great Yarmouth, Norwich, Burton-on-Trent, Grimsby, Birkenhead, Warrington, and Blackburn. The 379 deaths referred to different forms of "fever" were equal to an annual rate of 0.10 per 1,000; in London the "fever" death-rate was 0.08 per 1,000, while in the seventy-five other large towns the rate averaged 0.11 per 1,000, the highest rates being recorded in Norwich, Nottingham, St. Helens, Salford, Rotherham, Hull, Middlesbrough, and Rhondda. The 15,250 deaths from diarrhoea corresponded to an annual rate of 4.01 per 1,000; in London the rate of mortality from this disease was 4.26 per 1,000, while it averaged 4.26 in the seventy-five large provincial towns, among which diarrhoea was proportionally most fatal in West Ham, East Ham, Leyton, Hanley, Aston Manor, Stockport, Liverpool, Bootle, Burnley, York, and Hull.

Infant mortality, measured by the proportion of deaths among children under 1 year of age to registered births, was equal to 220 per 1,000 last quarter, against 159 in the corresponding period of the preceding year. In London the rate of infant mortality was 211 per 1,000, while it averaged 236 per 1,000 in the seventy-five other large towns, and ranged from 101 in King's Norton, 110 in Hornsey, 112 in Halifax, 122 in Hastings, 125 in Bournemouth, 128 in West Hartlepool, 129 in South Shields, and 130 in Burton-on-Trent, to 298 in Rhondda, 305 in Burnley, 306 in Bootle, 316 in York, 320 in Liverpool, 321 in Aston Manor, 323 in Hanley, and 339 in Stockport.

The causes of 579, or 0.9 per cent., of the deaths registered in the

MEDICAL VACANCIES AND APPOINTMENTS.

VACANCIES.

This list of vacancies is compiled from our advertisement columns, where full particulars will be found. To ensure notice in this column advertisements must be received not later than the first post on Wednesday morning.

- BRIGHTON: SUSSEX COUNTY HOSPITAL.**—House-Physician, resident. Salary, £70 per annum.
- BELGRAVE HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN.** Clapham Road, S.W.—Senior and Junior Resident Medical Officers. Honorarium at the rate of £20 and £10 per annum respectively.
- BERMONDSEY PARISH INFIRMARY.**—First Assistant Medical Officer; resident. Salary, £150 per annum.
- BIRMINGHAM: QUEEN'S HOSPITAL.**—House-Physician; resident. Salary, £50 per annum.
- BIRMINGHAM: GENERAL HOSPITAL.**—House-Surgeon; resident. Salary at the rate of £50 per annum.
- BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY.**—Professor of Anatomy. Stipend, £800 per annum.
- BIRMINGHAM: ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN AND WOMEN.**—Assistant House-Surgeon; resident. Salary at the rate of £50 per annum.
- BURTON-ON-TRENT INFIRMARY.**—House-Surgeon; resident. Salary, £120 for first twelve months, £140 afterwards.
- EAST LONDON HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN.** Shadwell.—House-Physician; resident. Honorarium, £25 for six months.
- GLOUCESTER GENERAL INFIRMARY AND EYE INSTITUTION.**—House-Surgeon; resident. Salary, £100 per annum.
- GRIMSBY AND DISTRICT HOSPITAL.**—Resident House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum.
- LEICESTER INFIRMARY.**—House-Surgeon; resident. Salary, £100 per annum.
- LIMCORN: BRACEBRIDGE ASYLUM.**—Junior Assistant Medical Officer resident. Salary, £25 per annum.
- MACOLESFIELD GENERAL INFIRMARY.**—Senior House-Surgeon; resident. Salary for first year, £100.
- MANCHESTER CORPORATION.**—Medical Officer under the Midwives Act. Salary, £250 per annum.
- MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY.**—Resident Surgical Officer. Salary, £120 per annum.
- NORTH-EASTERN HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN.** Hackney Road, E.—(1) House-Surgeon; (2) House-Physician. Appointments for six months. Salary at the rate of £50 per annum each.
- NORTH WEST LONDON HOSPITAL.** Kentish Town Road, N.W.—(1) Resident Medical Officer; (2) Assistant Resident Medical Officer. Salary at the rate of £30 per annum each.
- READING: ROYAL BERKSHIRE HOSPITAL.**—House-Physician. Appointment for four months. Salary at the rate of £80 per annum.
- ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL.** King William Street, W.C.—Clinical Appointments. Appointments for six months.
- WEST LONDON HOSPITAL.** Hammersmith Road.—House-Physician; resident. Appointment for six months.
- VIRGINIA WATER: HOLLOWAY SANATORIUM.**—Junior Assistant Medical Officer (Lady); resident. Salary, £150, rising to £200 per annum.
- WOLVERHAMPTON AND MIDLAND COUNTIES EYE INFIRMARY.**—House-Surgeon, resident. Salary, £70 per annum.

APPOINTMENTS.

- AARONS, S. Jervols, M.D. Edin., M.R.C.P. Lond.,** Pathologist and Curator of the Museum Hospital for Women, Soho Square, W.
- BARNES, Frank, M.B., B.S. Lond., F.R.C.S. Eng.,** Honorary Surgeon to the Royal Orthopaedic and Spinal Hospital, Birmingham, vice Augustus Clay, resigned.
- BRADSHAW, Thomas R., R.A., M.D. Duhi., F.R.C.P. Lond.,** Physician to the Liverpool Royal Infirmary, appointed Lecturer in Medicine in the University of London, vice Sir Isambard Owen, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P., resigned.
- COOGAN, T. M.B., Ch.B. Vict.,** Junior Resident Assistant Medical Officer, Chorlton Union Workhouse.
- DAVIS, William Henry, M.B., B.Ch. E.U.I.,** House-Surgeon to the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast.
- DAVIES, D. L., M.D.,** Medical Officer of Health, Wisbech Rural District.
- FLEMING, Arthur L., M.R.C.P., M.R.O.S.,** Anaesthetist, Royal Infirmary, Bristol, vice E. Mountjoy Pearce, M.B. U.S., L.R.C.P., resigned.
- GIFFORD, George T., M.D. Durh., M.R.C.S. Eng.,** Honorary Assistant-Surgeon to the Blackburn and East Lancashire Infirmary.
- IRWIN, S. T., B.A., M.B., Ch.B.,** Surgical Registrar to the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast.
- LETT, Hugh, M.B., Ch.B. Vict., F.R.C.S.,** Assistant-Surgeon to the Belgrave Hospital for Children.
- LOGAN, Frederic T. B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,** Medical Officer to Post Office (Bishopsworth Division), and Medical Officer under Elementary School Teachers (Superannuation) Act, 1886.
- LYONS, M. M., M.B.,** Health Officer for the Shire of Tungamah, Victoria.
- MARGARRY, F. W. A., M.D. Syd.,** Honorary Assistant-Surgeon to the Adelaide Hospital.
- MOIR, William, M.B.,** Health Officer for the Shire of Mirboo, Victoria.
- MOSS, M. K., M.B., B.S. Melb.,** Junior Resident Medical Officer, Perth Public Hospital, West Australia.
- NAYLOR, Arthur G. E., L.R.C.P.,** Health Officer for the Shire of South Gippsland, Victoria.
- OGILVY-RAMSAY, M., M.D., F.R.C.S.,** Surgeon to the Cumberland Infirmary, vice R. MacLaren, M.D. Edin., resigned.
- SHAW, Cecil E., M.D., M.Ch. R.U.I.,** Lecturer in Ophthalmology in Queen's College, Belfast, vice Wm. Alexander McKeown, M.D. R.U.I., deceased.
- TAYLOR, Gerard C., M.D. Cantab., D.P.H.,** County Medical Officer of Health for Berkshire.
- THOMSON, J., M.B., Ch.B. Aberd.,** Medical Officer, Earlswood Asylum, Redhill.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is 3s 6d., which sum should be forwarded in post-office orders or stamps with the notice not later than Wednesday morning, in order to ensure insertion in the current issue.

BIRTHS.

- BLUMER.**—On November 4th, at St. Mary's Grove, Stafford, the wife of F. Milnes Blumer, M.B., of a son.
- MARSHALL.**—On October 19th, at Candilli, Constantinople, the wife of William E. Marshall, Staff Surgeon, H.M.S. "Bedford," of a son.
- STRATON.**—At Agra, India, on October 16th, 1904, the wife of Captain C. H. Stratton, Royal Army Medical Corps, of a son.

DEATH.

- CHALDECOTT.**—At Parkside, Dorking, on the 5th inst. Charles William Chaldecott, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., aged 75.

DIARY FOR NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.

Medical Society of London. 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., 8.30 p.m.—Clinical Evening.

TUESDAY.

Pathological Society of London. 5 p.m.—Laboratory Demonstration at the Medical College, London Hospital.

THURSDAY.

Royal College of Surgeons. Lincoln's Inn Fields, 3 p.m.—Annual General Meeting of Fellows and Members.

FRIDAY.

Society for the Study of Disease in Children. 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., 5.30 p.m.—Clinical Cases and Pathological Specimens.

POST-GRADUATE COURSES AND LECTURES.

Samaritan Free Hospital for Women. Marylebone Road, N.W.—Thursday, 3 p.m., The Management of Cases of Abdominal Surgery.

Mount Vernon Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest. Central Out-patient Department, 7, Fitzroy Square, W.—Thursday, 5 p.m., Climate and Health Resorts in the Treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

North-East London Post-Graduate College. Tottenham Hospital, N.—Wednesday, 2.30 p.m. (North-Eastern Fever Hospital, St. Ann's Road). Demonstration on Fevers. Thursday, 4.30 p.m., Clinical Medicine.

Hospital for Sick Children. Great Ormond Street, W.C.—Thursday, 4 p.m., The Treatment of some Common Nervous Affections in Children.

Charing Cross Hospital.—Thursday, 4 p.m., Medical Cases.

Post-Graduate College. West London Hospital, Hammersmith Road, W., at 5 p.m. each day.—Monday, Rheumatism in Children; Tuesday, Anaesthetics; Wednesday, Practical Medicine; Thursday, Injuries of Upper Extremity; Friday, Surgical Cases.

Medical Graduates' College and Polytechnic. 22, Chancery Street, W.C.—The following clinical demonstrations have been arranged for next week at 4 p.m. each day: Monday, Skin; Tuesday, Medical; Wednesday, Surgical; Thursday, Surgical; Friday, Eyes. Lectures at 5.15 p.m. each day will be given as follows: Monday, The Diagnosis of Tumours of the Breast; Wednesday, Injuries to a d. Diseases of Joints; Thursday, The Principles of Treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COMMUNICATIONS respecting Editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor, 2, Ave-Street, Strand, W.C., London; these concerning business matters, advertisements, non-delivery of the JOURNAL, etc., should be addressed to the Manager, at the Office, 429, Strand, W.C., London.

ORIGINAL ARTICLES and LETTERS forwarded for publication are understood to be offered to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL alone, unless the contrary be stated.

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL are requested to communicate with the Manager, 429, Strand, W.C., on receipt of proof.

CORRESPONDENTS who wish notice to be taken of their communications should authenticate them with their names—of course not necessarily for publication.

CORRESPONDENTS not answered are requested to look at the Notices to Correspondents of the following week.

MANUSCRIPTS FORWARDED TO THE OFFICE OF THIS JOURNAL CANNOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES BE RETURNED.

In order to avoid delay, it is particularly requested that ALL letters on the editorial business of the JOURNAL be addressed to the Editor at the Office of the JOURNAL, and not at his private house.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS.—The telegraphic address of the EDITOR of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL is *Aitiology, London*. The telegraphic address of the MANAGER of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL is *Articulate, London*.

TELEPHONE (National).—EDITOR, 2631, Gerrard. GENERAL SECRETARY AND MANAGER, 2630, Gerrard.

Queries, answers, and communications relating to subjects to which special departments of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL are devoted will be found under their respective headings.

QUERIES.

Dr. E. MOZURELLIS (Mandamados, Mytilin) asks for advice in the treatment of a case of tabes spasmodica in which electricity, baths, hyocyanus, ergotine, silver salts, and other remedies usually recommended have failed.

GLYCOSURIA AND LIFE INSURANCE.

J. H. asks for information as to what would be the present attitude taken by important life insurance offices, on the question of accepting at ordinary rates a person who appears in normal health, but occasionally passes small quantities of sugar (maximum whilst under observation for a year being 1.82 gr. per oz.). For the last six months he has been on ordinary diet, and this has not aggravated the condition; the case appears to be one of glycosuria and not diabetes.

* * * Speaking generally, a first-class life insurance office would decline such a case. Insurance at enhanced rates might be allowed, if all the circumstances were taken into consideration, such as the family history, age, and general condition. Moreover, it might be possible to determine the cause of the transient attacks of glycosuria: for example, they may depend upon a temporary over-dose of sugar, starchy food or alcohol, by the avoidance of which they might be prevented.

PROTRACTED PREGNANCY.

D. R. D. (M.D., F.R.C.S.) and **M. J. (M.B., C.M.)** write: A case which we have at present under observation is very interesting to the medical profession. We state absolute facts. The last menstrual period started on December 24th, 1903, and ended on December 31st. A single coitus took place on January 14th, 1904. The menstrual period next due was in abeyance, and symptoms of morning sickness appeared towards the end of the month. We are assured that no further connexion took place during February, and the lady was convinced that she was pregnant. According to her, movement was first felt on April 20th, which increased as time went on. In the usual course the probable date of birth was given as October 16th, and arrangements were accordingly made. Up to the present date (November 8th) there are no signs of labour. We should be pleased if any of your readers who have had similar instances of apparent, protracted pregnancy will throw some light on the causes and reasons of this delay. We are under the impression that it was the ovum due to be shed in the ordinary course in the latter part of the month of January which was impregnated, and that the ovum of December was inert.