

in reducing the blood pressure, as may be noticed from the accompanying chart (Fig. 6), but there was very

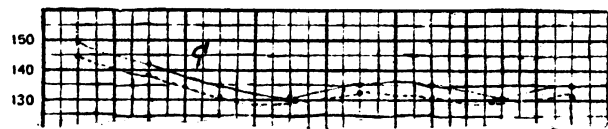


Fig. 6.

marked relief of pain in almost every instance where such symptom was a prominent feature at the commencement of the treatment.

Conclusions.

1. The blood pressure in aneurysm is usually about normal.
2. In about 65 per cent. of cases there is a difference in the pressure in both arms. In 30 per cent. of cases this difference is very marked, and is a valuable aid to diagnosis.
3. Reduction of the blood pressure is a great relief to the patient and helps towards the cure.
4. Potassium iodide does not reduce the blood pressure in aneurysms, but it is of great value in the relief of the pain.
5. The lower the pressure, providing the pulse is regular and of normal rate, the better the prognosis.

For the opportunity of studying these cases I have to express my best thanks to the medical staff of the Seamen's and St. Mary's Hospitals, and also to Drs. Joscelyne, Thackeray, and H. P. Potter, for seeing cases under their charge

Memoranda:

MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

TREATMENT OF METAL BURNS.

THE following method of treating small metallic burns offers a simple and at the same time a satisfactory means of dealing with what often turn out to be very tedious sores.

A burn produced by a piece of hot metal is generally very slow to heal on account of the fact that in its passage to the skin the metal passes through dirty clothes, the infectiveness of which it is not able to destroy because it becomes rapidly cooled; its effect on the skin also is only partially destructive, leaving a large area of semi-destroyed cells and enzymes, which offer suitable pabulum for the micro-organisms transferred from the clothes by the passage of the hot metal, for while it may destroy some of these micro-organisms, it acts on the others as a stimulant, with the result that we invariably find an infected wound.

Any method which will at once interfere with and terminate the existence of the partially destroyed cells and enzymes on the one hand, and also make the conditions of life for the organisms too irksome on the other, must result in the production of a surgically clean aseptic wound.

At my suggestion one or two of the local works have adopted the following plan whenever a slight metallic burn occurs: As soon as the wound has been cleared of all macroscopic dirt a small quantity of petrol is sprayed on to the wound, which is eventually dressed with a dry dressing of iodoform gauze or a gauze with iodoform powder.

The idea underlying this method of treatment is that the petrol so alters the surface tension as to prevent the freed enzymes acting on the exposed cells and thereby giving rise to autotoxaemia; in addition, the petrol acts on the micro-organisms and so interferes with their surface tension as to prevent movement, subdivision and multiplication—in other words, growth.

Such conditions make for a clean, healthy healing surface, which is likely to heal up quickly, in contradistinction to the usually dirty septic ulcers that heal slowly.

Swansea.

G. ARBOUR STEPHENS, M.D.Lond.

TEST FOR SACCHARINE SUBSTANCES IN URINE.

THIS test is performed on 5 c.cm. of urine containing sugar, with 25 c.cm. of sodium hypobromite in Gerrard's ureameter. The latter was so modified that a known quantity of urine could be added by means of a burette, the nozzle of which was passed through a second hole in the rubber cork of the bottle holding the hypobromite solution.¹ A thermometer is also inserted through a third hole in the rubber stopper. (1) In the absence of sugar the bottle just gets sensibly warm to the hand. (2) In the presence of sugar the bottle gets perceptibly hot. (3) The colour of the mixture in the bottle remains yellow in the case of non-diabetic urines, but in the presence of sugar its colour becomes distinctly paler or even quite white.² (4) In the absence of sugar the rise of temperature varies between 7° to 24° F., while in the presence of sugar the temperature may go up to 72° F. (5) In the presence of sugar to an amount of 0.25 per cent. and upwards a white crystalline precipitate is obtained after the liquid in the bottle has cooled to room temperature. The precipitate obtained is proportional to the amount of sugar present in the urine up to about 7 per cent. Under the microscope the crystals appeared in the form of needles about half an inch long, either separate or arranged in clusters in the form of double sheaves, single sheaves, brushes, stars, fans, etc. In quantities smaller than 0.25 per cent. no precipitate was obtained until the solution had stood for twelve hours or so, and then the form taken is that of opaque irregular masses, most of them round or triangular, with an internal striation commencing at the centre and radiating to the periphery, or even beyond the same at times. The precipitate obtained in such cases is very scanty, and in the form of isolated white minute points; it consists of an oxalate of soda, produced by oxidation of sugar by the hypobromite. (6) Similar results are also obtained in urine containing glycerine from 0.25 per cent. and upwards. This test has the great advantage of not requiring any additional apparatus or chemicals, and it can be performed at the same time as the routine method for the estimation of urea as at present carried out, with practically no extra trouble.

A. K. TURNER, L.M. and S.,
Second Assistant Chemical Analyst to
Government, Government Laboratory,
Byculla, Bombay.

Reports

MEDICAL AND SURGICAL PRACTICE IN HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, GREAT ORMOND STREET, LONDON.

APPENDICITIS CAUSING PELVIC CELLULITIS IN A CHILD.

(Under the care of Mr. TYRRELL GRAY.)

[Reported by THOMAS T. HIGGINS, M.B., Ch.B.Vict.,
F.R.C.S.Eng., House-Surgeon.]

A MALE child aged 3½ years was admitted on July 27th, 1912, complaining of abdominal pain and the passage of blood and "matter" from the rectum.

The history given was as follows: Six months previously the patient had passed by the rectum a large quantity of blood and slime; since that time his general condition had been unsatisfactory. He had lost weight; had no appetite, and the bowels had become increasingly constipated. On July 24th he became worse, complaining of abdominal pain. Following the administration of a purgative, the bowels moved, and immediately afterwards a large quantity of blood and "matter" was passed. There had been no vomiting at any time, and no definite attacks of the ordinary appendicular type, though he had complained of "stomach-ache" at times.

His general condition on admission was fairly good; the temperature 103.6° F., and the pulse 160. The tongue

¹ The solution of hypobromite is made by adding 2.2 c.cml. of bromine to 23 c.cml. of a solution of soda made by mixing 100 grams of NaHO with 250 c.cml. of H₂O.

² The colour of the hypobromite is completely discharged when urine contains about 7 per cent. of sugar.

Universities and Colleges.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

Matriculation.

THE Senate recently adopted two resolutions with regard to the acceptance of examinations as exempting from the London matriculation examination. On and after September 1st, 1914, the senior grade certificate of the Intermediate Education Board for Ireland will not be recognized. In and after this year the regulations for the acceptance of the Oxford senior local certificate have been altered, and require that the student must have passed at one and the same examination in English composition, including essay, general literature, and grammar, and must have obtained or reached the standard of honours in the first or second class at that examination.

Advanced Lectures in Medicine.

The following courses of lectures have been arranged at the institutions indicated for the session 1913-14:

Royal Army Medical College.—Major S. Lyle Cummins, M.B., B.S.: Three lectures during the first term on enteric fever.

Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street.—Dr. S. A. K. Wilson: One lecture during the second term on apraxia, its clinical and localizing values.

Middlesex Hospital.—Dr. H. Beckton: One lecture during the second term on the action of radium upon animal cells.

London Hospital.—Dr. H. L. Tidy: Two lectures during the second term on the pathological excretion of nitrogen by the skin and the resulting changes in the urine.

University College.—Dr. Charles Bolton: One lecture during the third term on recent observations on ulcers of the stomach, *St. Thomas's Hospital.*—Dr. H. MacLean: Three lectures during the third term on carbohydrate metabolism in health and diabetes.

The lectures, to which admission is free, are addressed to advanced students of the University and to others interested in the subjects dealt with.

Advanced Lectures in Physiology.

The following lectures will be delivered during the first term of the session 1913-14:

Guy's Hospital.—Eight lectures on the physiological significance of acidosis, by Drs. E. L. Kennaway and E. P. Poulton, on Thursdays, at 4 p.m., beginning on October 9th.

King's College.—Four lectures on the cerebro-spinal fluid, by Professor W. D. Halliburton, F.R.S., and Professor W. E. Dixon, F.R.S., on Mondays, at 4.30 p.m., commencing on November 3rd.

Lectures on Protozoology.

A course of from twelve to fifteen lectures on the protozoa parasitic in man will be given by Professor Minchin, F.R.S., at the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine, at 5 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays during the second term. The lectures, which are free by ticket, will be addressed to Honours B.Sc. students and to medical men, and will be followed by exhibits of preparations as occasion requires.

Chadwick Lectures in Hygiene.

A course of three lectures under the Chadwick Trust, illustrated by diagrams and lantern slides, on the place of the open-air school in preventive medicine will be given by Sir George Newman at the University, at 5 p.m., on November 4th, 11th, and 18th. The lectures are free and are addressed to advanced students of the University and to others interested in the subject.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

Dr. W. C. McC. Lewis having been appointed to the chair of physical chemistry in the University of Liverpool, is succeeded by Dr. R. E. Slade as assistant to the Department of Chemistry.

Dr. A. J. Clark, assistant in the Department of Pharmacology at University College, has been appointed lecturer on pharmacology at Guy's Hospital Medical School.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.

The entrance scholarships at the medical school have been awarded as follows: The two *University Scholarships* (value 50 guineas each), Mr. S. C. Dyke, B.A., Exeter College, Oxford, and Mr. W. H. Thomas, University College, Cardiff; the two *Open Scholarships* in natural science (value £75 each), Mr. A. J. Cokkinia, International College, Smyrna, and Mr. G. W. Davies, Epsom College; the *Palmer Scholarship* (value 25 guineas), Mr. G. MacAlaway, Mount St. Mary's College, Chesterfield; the *Epsom College Scholarship*, Mr. B. Thomas.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.

The competitions for entrance scholarships at the Medical School have resulted in the following awards: The two Senior Scholarships in Natural Science (value £75 each) to Mr. G. K. Bowes, Christ Church, Oxford, and Mr. R. A. Mansell, Emmanuel College, Cambridge; the Junior Scholarship in the same subject (value £150) to Mr. J. P. Ross, of the Preliminary Science Department of the School; and the Jeaffresson Exhibition in Arts to Mr. R. J. Perkins of the Bedford Modern School. The second scholarship in Arts (value £100) was divided between Mr. J. Dick, of Epsom College, and Mr. L. D. Porteous, of Huddersfield College, whose papers were adjudged of equal merit.

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER.

THE following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

FIRST M.B. (*Part I. Inorganic Chemistry and Physics*).—J. C. T. Fiddes. (*Part II. Elementary Biology*).—J. Charnley, J. C. T. Fiddes, T. E. Forshaw, J. B. Higgins, J. Yates.

CONJOINT BOARD IN ENGLAND.

THE following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

FIRST COLLEGE (*Part I. Chemistry; and Part II. Physics*).—*W. B. S. Andrew, †H. C. Apperly, E. R. Batho, †J. R. S. Bowker, †G. W. Coombes, *A. Faig, *N. E. Fasken, †J. C. Higgins, †J. Hollings, †M. Ibrahim, S. L. Izpinger, R. L. Laver, A. M. Mishad, W. P. Nelson, C. B. Phillips, C. G. J. Rayner, J. S. L. Roberts, †C. W. Tomkinson, *E. F. Wheeler, G. Winter, S. Yahilevitz. (*Part III. Elementary Biology*).—E. H. Bryant, R. Calvo, J. Hollings, C. H. Macklin, W. P. Nelson, M. A. Tewick, C. W. Tomkinson, H. P. Warren, E. M. Webster, S. B. Winnick, S. Yahilevitz.

* Passed in Part I only.

† Passed in Part II only.

Obituary.

E. E. GOLDMANN, M.D.,

EXTRAORDINARY PROFESSOR OF SURGERY IN FREIBURG.

DR. EDWIN E. GOLDMANN, of whose researches on the vital staining of the central nervous system Dr. Mott has enabled us to give some account on another page, was the son of Mr. B. N. Goldmann, and was born at Burgersdorf, South Africa, on November 12th, 1862. He received his early education at the Albert Academy at that place, but at the age of 14 returned with his parents to Europe and was put to school at Breslau, where he showed special capabilities, especially in music and mathematics. His medical education was received at the University of Freiburg, and he afterwards worked at microscopic anatomy under Professor Weigert at Frankfurt-on-Main. Later he became assistant in the surgical clinic at Freiburg, and in 1891 qualified as privat-docent. In 1895 he was appointed extraordinary professor and became surgeon to the Deaconess's Hospital in Freiburg.

Goldmann gave himself up at an early stage of his career to biological chemistry, and worked under Professor Ehrlich in the Institute for Experimental Therapeutics at Frankfurt, of which he was named an associate. He was attracted by the possibility of staining the tissues during life, and made many investigations to ascertain what stains might best be used for this purpose. Eventually he discovered that animals injected with pyrrhol blue and isamine blue retained their health, although the dyes had been taken up by certain granular cells in various organs. He found that the behaviour of the cells to the stains was a guide to the determination of their functions in reference both to the normal products of metabolism and to their reaction to pathogenic substances. Cells which took up the stain were found also to take up fat, glycogen, and iron. He showed also that in the placenta certain granular cells have the power of taking up neutral material from the maternal blood and storing them for a time before they are passed on to the fetal circulation. He described his results in memoirs published in the *Beiträge zur klinischen Chirurgie* and in separate publications issued in 1911 and 1912. With regard to this work, Professor Ehrlich said in an article published in the *Times* on the day following Goldmann's death: "He reached the summit of his work in the last few years, during which he prosecuted his studies, which must be regarded as classical, in the staining of living tissues. Goldmann recognized clearly that if we desire to know and study the functions of the living cell the staining of living tissues offers the most profitable means. There were previously only a few works dating from an older generation, such as those on methylene blue, but they, corresponding to their own time, followed an incomplete technique. Here came in Goldmann's work. He succeeded in discovering a method of carrying out an exact pursuit of *intra vitam* staining in microscopic sections. The staining material, pyrrhol blue, possesses the peculiarity of colouring a very special kind of cells which are found in the connective tissue and of making them visible to the eye, while the dye allows certain

round granules contained in these cells to show up distinctly, and in an intensive blue. Now Goldmann was able with the help of his method completely to clear up the great significance of the function of these cells, and to show that both in normal functions, as for example in digestion, and also in the majority of disease derangements, as in the case of tuberculosis and carcinoma, they play a very important part. His last important work also, *Über die Vitalfärbung am Centralnervensystem*, dealt with that method and arrived at important conclusions concerning the nutrition of the central nervous system and the circulation of the cerebro-spinal fluid." It is of this research that an account is given by Dr. Mott in the article published at page 871.

Goldmann was actually engaged in this fruitful line of work and had formed projects for extending it in various directions when he became the victim of cancer. He accepted his fate with resignation and bore his physical sufferings with fortitude. But the sacrifice of the hopes he had formed of carrying on his investigations to the solution of various problems which had presented themselves to him was a bitter disappointment. He went on with his work as long as his strength permitted him. His death at the age of 51 is a great loss to science.

Professor Goldmann married, in 1906, the daughter of Mr. Bosworth-Smith, of Bingham's Melcombe, Dorset, and is survived by his widow and two children. Professor Goldmann spent some time in study in London, and was a Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine. He was a brother of Mr. C. S. Goldmann, M.P. for Penryn and Falmouth, and had many friends in England.

GAVIN PATERSON TENNENT, M.D., F.R.F.P.S.G.,
CONSULTING PHYSICIAN, WESTERN INFIRMARY, GLASGOW.

DR. GAVIN P. TENNENT died at his Glasgow residence on September 13th, at the age of 67. He was the son of Mr. James Tennent, of Strathaven, and received his early education at Crosshill School, in that parish. He graduated M.B., C.M. in the University of Glasgow with high commendation before he was 21 years of age, and took the degree of M.D. in 1870. After studying in Berlin, he was appointed resident assistant surgeon to the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, and there came under the influence of Lister and Gairdner. He was afterwards resident physician to Glasgow City Fever Hospital, where he worked with the late Dr. J. B. Russell.

In 1872 he commenced private practice, and acted as assistant to the late Professor Leishman; from 1868 to 1880 he assisted the late Professor Cowan in the materia medica department of the university. When the Western Infirmary was opened he became physician to the outdoor department, and in 1881 was elected a full physician in charge of wards, on the opening of the Freeland wing. He resigned in 1896 after twenty-two years' service, and was appointed the first honorary consulting physician—an honour of which he was justly proud. Dr. Tennent was unmarried, and was the last survivor of his own immediate family. He was in practice as a consulting physician until the beginning of the present year, when the death of his only remaining sister proved a shock from which he never recovered. He was a popular teacher during his period of work at the Western Infirmary, and relinquished general practice when appointed to the staff. His lectures were always very carefully prepared, and as a clinical teacher at the bedside he was held in high esteem by his students. His name will always be revered by those who had the privilege of listening to his teaching.

By his will Dr. Tennent bequeathed £25,000 to the University of Glasgow, to be applied for such objects or object in connexion with the Faculty of Medicine as the trustees may determine. He bequeathed the residue of his estate to the Western Infirmary, the Royal Infirmary, the Victoria Infirmary, and the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow.

A FAMILIAR figure will be missed in the south side of Glasgow by the death of Dr. JAMES PROVAN, who became a Licentiate of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, in 1864, and took the M.D. of Glasgow the same year. He was for many years an officer of the First Lanark Artillery

Volunteers, and retired ten years ago with the rank of Surgeon-Colonel. He was an enthusiastic collector of pictures and curios, his house being a veritable museum. He is survived by his wife.

DR. ARCHIBALD PEARSON, another south-side practitioner in Glasgow, died within a few days of Dr. Provan. Dr. Pearson had been in practice for fifty years, and was a student under the late Lord Lister, being one of his dressers at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary. He began his professional career in the Scottish Highlands, but settled in Glasgow more than forty years ago. He was J.P. for the County of Inverness, but took no other part in public life. He is survived by a widow and grown-up family, one of his sons, a medical man, having been associated with his father in practice.

AT Cromarty on September 21st the prolonged illness of ROBERT CRERAR, M.B., came to an end. He had been ailing for some considerable time from chronic cardiac affection, and in spite of several periods of complete rest from work he became gradually weaker and lost ground. Dr. Crerar was a native of Perthshire and a graduate of Edinburgh University (1879). His early professional life was spent on the west coast of Scotland, and during his arduous work there he was the victim of an accident to his right ankle, which caused him permanent stiffness and was a hindrance to free locomotion. He was a man of marked ability, was well read in general literature, and was a keen angler. He was a delightful companion, full of a quiet humour, kind-hearted, and withal shrewd. He will be greatly missed in the circle in which he has worked for so many years. Dr. Crerar was unmarried, and is survived by his sisters.

Medical News.

MR. W. D. CARÖE has been elected Master of the Plumbers' Company in succession to Sir T. Vezey Strong, and Dr. F. J. Waldo and Mr. Edmond Knight have been elected Wardens.

THE United Services Medical Society will hold its first meeting for the session 1913-14 on October 9th, when the presidential address will be delivered by Colonel B. M. Skinner, M.V.O., A.M.S.

THE annual dinner of past and present students of the London School of Tropical Medicine will be held at Prince's Restaurant, Piccadilly, on Friday, October 24th, when the chair will be taken by Dr. F. M. Sandwith.

A PRACTICAL course on growth in children will be given at the Institut J. J. Rousseau, Geneva, by Dr. Paul Godin, from October 6th to 16th. The subscription to the course is 40 francs. Particulars can be obtained from the Director of the Institute, 5 Place de la Taconnerie, Geneva.

THE late Mr. Lancelot Foster bequeathed £1,000 to the York Charity Commissioners, with instructions that they should make gifts to aged women who were unsuccessful applicants for the benefits of hospitals in York. He also bequeathed £1,000 to the York Lunatic Asylum, and a further £1,000 to the York County Hospital for the maintenance of two children's cots.

THE honorary secretaries of the Section of Odontology of the Royal Society of Medicine have issued a notice with regard to grants in aid of scientific research in connexion with dentistry which the committee of that Section is enabled to make. Particulars can be obtained on application to the honorary secretaries of the Section at the house of the Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, London, W.

WE are asked to state that in response to numerous requests it has been decided to defer the closing of the Historical Medical Museum at 54A, Wigmore Street, until October 31st. During October it will remain open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays. After this date it will be closed for a few months for rearrangement as a permanent museum. It is proposed to reopen the museum in its permanent form in the spring of next year.

A PROVINCIAL sessional meeting of the Royal Sanitary Institute will be held at Newcastle-upon-Tyne on October 17th, when two discussions will take place. The first, on some points in the relationship of human to bovine tuberculosis, will be opened by Professor H. J. Hutchens, bacteriologist to the Corporation of Newcastle, and the other, on housing problems in a northern industrial town, by Dr. S. J. Clegg, Assistant M.O.H., and Mr. William Hudspeth, Chief Inspector of Nuisances, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

ST. ANDREW'S HOSPITAL, Dollis Hill, which was opened by the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs on September 26th, at present, provides accommodation for 50 patients, but the number of beds will eventually be raised to 100. A French Roman Catholic lady placed a sum of money at the disposal of Cardinal Bourne for the erection of the hospital, but there is at present a debt of £10,000 upon it. An inclusive charge of 2½ guineas a week will be made. The hospital was described in the JOURNAL of November 30th, 1912, p. 1574.

AN evening performance for the joint benefit of Charing Cross and the French hospitals is to take place at the Coliseum on Saturday, October 11th, in the presence of the King and Queen. The large number of distinguished artists who have agreed to contribute items to the programme includes Madame Sarah Bernhardt and Miss Ellen Terry. Sir Alexander Mackenzie will conduct his overture, "Britannia," and Sir Henry Wood the "Marseillaise," with which the performance will conclude.

THE clinical lectures and demonstrations for the winter term at the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, Queen Square, W.C., will begin on Tuesday next, October 7th, when Dr. Gordon Holmes will give the first of two lectures on regional diagnosis. Other lectures of the course, which will continue at 3.30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays until December 12th, will be given by Drs. James Collier, Frederick Batten, Aldren Turner, James Taylor, Farquhar Buzzard, Risien Russell, Howard Tooth, Hinds Howell, Grainger Stewart, Kinneir Wilson, and Mr. Percy Sargent.

THE ninth quinquennial festival of the Royal Albert Institution, Lancaster, will be celebrated on October 21st. After the annual general meeting the Countess of Derby will open the new building of the farm colony, when an address will be delivered by Mr. Arthur Hill Trevor, Commissioner in Lunacy. In the afternoon a public meeting will be held under the presidency of the Earl of Derby, and after speeches by him and Lord Richard Cavendish, Chairman of the Central Committee, addresses will be given by Sir T. Clifford Allbutt on the feeble-minded (an historical retrospect), by Sir James Crichton-Browne on the future of the Royal Albert Institution, and by Dr. C. Hubert Bond, Commissioner in Lunacy, on the after-care of the feeble-minded.

AT the first meeting of the session of the Medical Society of London, at 8.30 p.m. on Monday, October 13th, the incoming President (Sir David Ferrier) will deliver an opening address, and Dr. Farquhar Buzzard will read a paper on varieties of facial spasm and their treatment. At 8 p.m. on the same day a general meeting will be held for the transaction of business. A discussion on visceral complications met with in hysterectomy for fibroids and the best method of dealing with them will be introduced by Sir John Bland-Sutton on October 27th, and on November 10th Dr. J. S. Risien Russell will open a discussion on the treatment of neurasthenia. The Lettsomian lectures will be delivered in February and March by Dr. F. M. Sandwith, who has chosen dysentery as the subject for the course. The anniversary dinner of the Society will take place at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, on March 4th, 1914.

AS many as eighteen Chadwick lectures are in view this autumn; the first three, which dealt with the practical problems of housing reform, were delivered this week in Glasgow, by Mr. W. E. Riley, the superintending architect of the London County Council. The three lectures at Bristol will be delivered by Dr. Leonard Hill, who will deal in turn with the quality of expired air and air in crowded and confined places, radiant and convected heat, and the influence of open air and exercise on health. In London Sir George Newman, as announced elsewhere, will discuss the place of the open-air school in preventive medicine in three lectures; while Dr. Killick Millard, whose lectures will not be delivered until January, will consider vaccination in the light of modern experience. Military hygiene and the history of physical efficiency in the army is the general subject of the three lectures to be delivered in November at Southampton by Surgeon-General Evatt.

Letters, Notes, and Answers.

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

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

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

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

TELEPHONE (National):—

2631, Gerrard, EDITOR, BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

2630, Gerrard, BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

2634, Gerrard, MEDICAL SECRETARY.

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.

E. asks for advice in the treatment of a case in which vomiting has persisted for four months after gastro-enterostomy. The patient, who brings up large quantities of bile, has been treated by soda, washing out the stomach, and sleeping propped up, but to no purpose. There is no other symptom beyond vomiting.

FLOORS OF OPERATING THEATRES.

A HOSPITAL COMMITTEEMAN inquires as to the best material for the construction of the floor of a hospital operating theatre. He finds mentioned in a current encyclopaedia various materials consisting of finely ground sawdust and magnesium chloride with or without an admixture of asbestos. He desires to know whether these are satisfactory, and whether they can be laid and repaired without employing highly skilled special workmen.

* * The question raises an important point, and we are glad to be able to publish the following notes by a hospital superintendent of large experience. He writes: Dolomite (and other similar patent floors) costs something like 5s. a square yard. I have tried several, but none of them, in my opinion, are suitable for hospital floors. Both the laying and repairing of these materials require the employment of highly skilled workmen, and they cannot be compared with terrazzo, which costs 8s. a square yard. This is probably the best material, when properly laid, for an operating theatre; and for wards nothing can be compared with a teak floor, either laid in 3 in. boards or as parquetry.

INCOME TAX.

B. AND G. have equal shares in the receipts of a practice, each paying certain expenses, such as motor upkeep expenses. It is asked whether the surveyor of taxes is correct in assessing them to the income tax as a firm, and, if so, how the total duty payable is to be apportioned between the partners.

* * B. and G. appear to be carrying on the practice "in common with a view to profit," and therefore must be regarded as being in partnership. The Finance Act of 1907 abolished the former right of separate assessment of partners' shares in a firm's profits, but Section 20 of that Act provides that the income of an individual partner may be "treated separately for the purpose of exemption, relief, or abatement." Accordingly it appears that the surveyor of taxes is correct in assessing the profits of the firm in one sum, but that this method of assessment must not be allowed to affect the partners' claim to relief, etc. The notice of assessment which is usually issued shortly after the assessments are made would show the total amount of abatements, children's allowances, etc., made from the firm's assessment, and Messrs. B. and G. could doubtless calculate their respective shares from that information, but the surveyor of taxes would probably furnish the full details at once if requested.

ANSWERS.

H. J. T. writes to recommend "Senex" to cleanse the mouth with Barff's boro-glyceride, as much as will lie on a sixpence, dissolved in a quarter of a tumbler of water, several times a day, and take 10 grains of calomel three times a day.

SCOLIOSIS.

DR. J. P. BOLTON (Nottingham) writes: "Inquirer" will find an excellent paper on this subject in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of August 30th, p. 536, by A. Mackenzie Forbes.