

times the skill and knowledge. The scale of fees for visits was fixed when travelling was by means of post-horses, and though travelling is now immensely cheaper and immensely more rapid, the increase in the cost of living, and the increase in the time and labour needed to acquire the skill of a consultant fairly compensate for the difference. For journeys of some distance the fees are adequate, but for visits near home they are not. It may take as long to get from one part of London to another as to travel from London to Brighton, but the fee for the one visit may be only the tenth of the fee for the other. The whole scale is in need of revision.—I am, etc.,

Parkstone, Dorset, Nov. 12th.

CHARLES A. MERCIER.

THE POSSIBLE FUNCTIONS OF THE CEREBRO-SPINAL FLUID AND OPTIC NEURITIS.

SIR,—The importance of Professor Halliburton's address on the possible functions of the cerebro-spinal fluid must be patent to every one interested in the subject of optic neuritis. I was very pleased to see that so great an authority has produced recent physiological evidence in support of and reaffirmed the facts:

1. That the cerebro-spinal fluid pressure is not dependent on blood pressure.
2. That the cerebro-spinal fluid is secreted by the choroid gland.
3. That the exit of the fluid is by the blood stream (venous sinuses).
4. That the perivascular lymphatic spaces are continuous with the subarachnoid space.
5. That dyes added to the cerebro-spinal fluid travel along the course of certain cranial nerves.

In a paper (written in collaboration with Mr. W. J. Smith), published in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* (April 8th, 1911), on the mechanical etiology of optic neuritis, I advanced the view that the arrest of or marked interference with the cerebral venous return is the predominant factor in producing increased intracranial pressure and that papilloedema is produced by the resulting rise of fluid pressure in the optic nerve sheath, and also that in every case of optic neuritis from whatever cause the patency of the veins is obliterated or the flow of their contents obstructed by blockage, anywhere in the superior longitudinal jugular path, or the perivascular spaces are destroyed by disease (syphilis) of the lymphatic sheaths.

Professor Halliburton's address, and the reports that have appeared recently in army medical literature of cases of laceration of the superior longitudinal sinus with optic neuritis, lend strong support to my view of the mechanical etiology of papilloedema.—I am, etc.,

M. MAMOURIAN, F.R.C.S.E.

Ashton-under-Lyne, Nov. 12th.

SIR,—Like Dr. Harry Campbell, I am unable to accept Professor Halliburton's view that the cerebro-spinal fluid is the lymph of the brain, having always regarded it as purely mechanical in function.

In an article written in collaboration with Dr. Fildes, and published in *Brain* three years ago under the title "A comparison of the lesions of syphilis and parasyphilis, together with evidence in favour of the identity of these two conditions," while commenting on the effects of treatment on syphilis of the nervous system, we wrote:

As is well known, no arsenic is normally found in the cerebro-spinal fluid after an intravenous injection of salvarsan, and it is often stated that this is the explanation of the absence of arsenic from the brain. It is supposed that the cerebro-spinal fluid functions as a lymph of the brain, and that substances which enter this organ must do so by way of the choroid plexus and the cerebro-spinal fluid. In our opinion, however, this explanation is incorrect. In the course of our investigations we have frequently introduced drugs into the brain substance by the intravenous route, and have never found these drugs to be present in the cerebro-spinal fluid. On the other hand, we have met with drugs which, like arsenic, will not enter the brain or cerebro-spinal fluid, although other organs of the body have contained large quantities. We have therefore been led to the conclusion that salvarsan, after intravenous injection, will not enter the brain substance, because of some peculiarity of the cerebral vessels in relation to the drug.

In another article in the forthcoming number of *Brain* we show that certain aniline dyes on intravenous injection can stain practically instantaneously the whole of the grey matter of the brain, and yet no dye be demonstrable in the cerebro-spinal fluid.

The above results seem quite at variance with the

contention that the cerebro-spinal fluid is the lymph of the brain, while, in addition, there is good histological evidence to show that the brain possesses an independent system of lymphatics which is normally quite shut off from the cerebro-spinal fluid.—I am, etc.,

London, E., Nov. 14th.

JAMES MCINTOSH, M.D.

VENEREAL DISEASES IN THE ARMY.

SIR,—I am afraid it would hardly be expedient that the actual figures and facts on which I based my statement that there was a very large amount of venereal disease both at home and at the front should be published, as desired by Dr. Barrs. I spoke as to the state of affairs at home on evidence which was sufficiently convincing to me, evidence which had been brought under my notice during the last two years while I have been lecturing on the subject of these diseases to soldiers in camps and barracks in all parts of the country. With regard to the condition of things at the fronts and bases abroad, my information was derived from numerous reports which I have received at frequent intervals from officers on leave, both medical and combatant. If Dr. Barrs would apply to me I would put him in the way of getting most of these figures for his private information.—I am, etc.,

E. B. TURNER, F.R.C.S.,
Chairman of Representative Meetings,
British Medical Association.

London, W., Nov. 14th.

Universities and Colleges.

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.

At a meeting of the University Court on November 9th it was resolved, the approval of the Senate having been obtained, to notify the Royal and Western Infirmaries that the Court was prepared to establish lectureships in electrical diagnosis and therapeutics on the foundation of the Merchants' House, and asking the Governors to submit nominations for suitable persons who would have proper facilities for giving instruction to students in the subjects.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

An Ordinary Council was held on November 9th, 1916, when Sir Watson Cheyne, President, was in the chair.

Diplomas of Membership.

Diplomas were granted to eighty-nine candidates found qualified at the recent examination.

Loan Fund for Medical Men on Military Service.

A letter, dated October 26th, was read from the Financial Secretary and Business Manager of the British Medical Association reporting that, at a meeting of the Council of the British Medical Association on October 25th attention was called to the heavy financial sacrifice made by many medical men who have joined the army and navy, and the sacrifice anticipated by those who are liable for service, and stating that the Council of the Association will be pleased if the Royal College of Surgeons will nominate a representative to serve on a committee to review the whole position, and, if possible, formulate a scheme whereby those deserving of assistance through patriotic service may be assisted.

The Council of the College appointed Mr. H. J. Waring to serve on the committee.

Bradshaw Lecture.

This lecture will be given by Colonel Charters J. Symonds, C.B., A.M.S., on Friday, December 15th, the subject being gunshot injuries of the spinal cord.

CONJOINT BOARD IN ENGLAND.

The diplomas of L.R.C.P. and M.R.C.S. have been conferred upon the following eighty-nine candidates, who were successful at the final examination in medicine, surgery, and midwifery:

J. A. M. Alcock, I. Aubrey, A. R. Balmain, H. E. Bamford, J. R. Banks, F. A. Benner, J. A. Berry, J. F. C. Braine, W. S. Brown, J. Brumwell, C. N. Carter, Hetty E. Claremont, W. J. Colborne, L. Cunningham, Stephanie P. L. H. T. Daniel, A. W. A. Davies, G. Day, M. J. de Lemos, J. E. E. de Robillard, A. F. R. Dove, A. B. Dummere, H. J. Duske, H. A. Faulkner, Susan A. Finch, Marjorie E. Franklin, H. D. Gardner, P. O. Goldsmith, T. S. Greenaway, L. Grey, J. M. Harrison, B. Haskins, R. B. Hawes, J. F. Haynes, G. W. Heckels, W. B. Heywood-Waddington, E. B. Hickson, J. A. Hill, C. G. Hitchcock, L. S. Holmwood, C. H. Hopwood, G. J. P. Huddleston, O. C. L. Hughes, J. W. Hyst, S. R. Johnston, P. T. Jones, G. M. Kendall, E. P. Lazarus, D. L. Loes, E. A. Lewis, R. T. Lewis, E. I. Lloyd, P. McGibbon, O. S. Martin, A. Morford, R. Moser, B. Mountain, N. S. Nairne, C. J. Odum, M. A. Omar, Margaret S. Palmer, A. B. Pastel, W. D. Pearman, Enid M. Pfeil, B. H. Pidcock, C. N. Ratcliffe, A. H. Richardson, P. R. Riggall, C. Y. Roberts, A. Rodd, J. E. Scanlan, Elisabeth H. Schwab, B. R. Scott, S. N. Scott, F. N. Sidebotham, G. E. L. Simons, R. O. Simpson, J. F. Smith, J. W. G. Stoll, H. Sterne-Howitt, N. B. Taylor, C. H. Terry, R. N. Vakil, Anna P. van Heerden, F. H. Vey, R. Vidal, O. Williams, T. P. Williams, G. S. Wilson, W. Yeoman, C. Young.

* Under the Medical Act, 1875.

strong men he was silent and reserved, and though a delightful and interesting companion he was not a talker. His opinions when expressed seemed to be the result of deep thought, and so were the more valuable. He appeared absolutely to ignore criticism of himself, and followed his own course quite regardless of the opinions that others expressed about him. This characteristic is well exemplified in the early history of the Orthopaedic Hospital. In order to attract public support for the hospital in its early days considerable publicity was given to the work done in it, and the public was made fully aware of the excellent results that followed the treatment of the patients. This procedure aroused active opposition, and Swan was accused of blatant advertisement of his work. His opponents, however, were unable to provoke Swan to reply, or to make him modify his course, and from want of opposition the attack soon died away. We are quite satisfied that it was the hospital and not himself that Swan desired to advertise, and later, when the position of the hospital was fully assured, he resented strongly any public laudation of himself or of his work. While ignoring criticism of himself he was sparing of his criticism of others. When he did criticize the opinions of others he confined his remarks to those opinions, and never attacked the persons who expressed the opinions. After an intimate acquaintance of many years we cannot recall any instance in which he attacked or vilified an individual. To the very last Swan retained that receptiveness of mind which is so commonly lost with advancing age, and he was always ready to assimilate a new idea. In his later years he was a great traveller, and visited many countries. He rarely returned home without bringing with him some new idea for his work which he had learnt while away.

As a friend he was loyal and true, always ready with assistance and advice, an advice founded on his wide experience of men and matters. Though he never sought popularity, or appeared to value it in the least, he won the respect and love of his pupils and friends by his sterling worth and his invariable courteousness. Dublin is the poorer to-day by the death of Robert Swan, and for some of us at least his place can never be filled.

He married in 1868 the widow of Judge Teed, who predeceased him by several years, leaving an only son, Lieutenant-Colonel John Stewart Swan, Indian army.

DR. JAMES VAUGHAN HUGHES, who died at Hemel Hempstead, after a very short illness, on October 25th, at the age of 95, was born in the Vale of Clwyd, North Wales. He served in the Crimea under Sir John Hall, and was for a time in charge of the Balaklava Hospital. In S. M. Mitra's life of Hall the name of Dr. Hughes is mentioned in connexion with the case of Mr. Stowe, distributor of the *Times* Fund for the Sick and Wounded, who was said to have been neglected by the army doctors. A refutation of the charge is found in a letter from Miss Wear to Sir John Hall, where she says: "I became much alarmed and wrote off to Dr. Hughes, who was confined to bed on board the *Walmer Castle*. . . . Poor Dr. Hughes left his bed, and, to my surprise, made his appearance looking more dead than alive, and nearly paid with his life for this last act of attention to Mr. Stowe. . . . Dr. Hughes never left the house until all was over." Hughes was associated with Florence Nightingale in her work, and attended her through an attack of camp fever. Later he fell ill of cholera, and was nursed back to health by Miss Nightingale. He tells the story in his book, *Seventy Years of Life in the Victorian Era*, in which he recorded his reminiscences. Dr. Hughes had lived for many years at Hemel Hempstead, taking the keenest interest in local affairs. He was a governor of the West Herts Hospital and a Commissioner of Taxes; he was formerly a member of the board of guardians. Notwithstanding his great age, he was often to be seen driving a carriage and pair or riding; only a year or two ago he took up motoring, and drove his own car till a few months before the end.

DR. ANDRÉS GARCÍA SANTIAGO, author of the scheme of reform of the Medical Faculty of Havana, died recently in the United States, whither he had gone in search of health. He was a member of the Cuban Chamber of Deputies, and, although much absorbed in politics, never lost an opportunity of furthering the interests of his profession.

The Services.

EXCHANGES.

LIEUTENANT (R.A.M.C.) at the front desires to exchange with another R.A.M.C. officer attached to a base hospital. Address No. 4350, BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL Office, 429, Strand, W.C.

Regimental Medical Officer attached to Camp, Eastern Command, Woolwich District, wishes to exchange with Medical Officer attached London Command (hospital preferred). Address No. 4449, BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL Office, 429, Strand, W.C.

A Captain R.A.M.C.(T.F.), having been in France over two years, now a Radiologist at a base hospital, would like to exchange with a Radiologist on home service. The apparatus here is a presentation one. Address No. 4549, BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL Office, 429, Strand, W.C.

Medical News.

THE Queen's Hospital for Children, Hackney Road, desires to appoint clinical assistants to help the physicians in seeing out-patients.

DR. THOMAS JAMES WALKER of Peterborough left £33,720. He bequeathed a collection of local antiquities to the corporation.

FIVE lectures will be given at the Royal College of Surgeons of England in December by Dr. E. Mellanby, Acting Superintendent of the Brown Animal Sanatory Institution, on the part played in disease by water, salts, and other simple substances.

DR. HENRY HEAD, F.R.S., Physician to the London Hospital and editor of *Brain*, has been added to the Government Committee which, under the chairmanship of Sir J. J. Thomson, President of the Royal Society, is inquiring into the position occupied by natural science in the educational system of Great Britain, especially in secondary schools and universities.

At the meeting of the Harveian Society of London on Thursday next at the Stafford Room, Tichborne Street, Edgware Road, W., at 8.30 p.m., a discussion on the treatment of fractures will be opened by Mr. Robert Jones, and continued by Mr. Jackson Clarke, Mr. Kellock, Mr. Romer, Mr. Laming Evans, and others. Any members of the medical profession besides the society's own members are cordially invited to be present.

THE Automobile Association and Motor Union offers to advise motorists who are in difficulties with regard to lighting regulations or petrol licences. Applications may be made to the head office, Farnum House, Whitcomb Street, London, W., or to any of the branch offices. The association issues lamp dimming discs, and has revised its pamphlets relating to the lighting laws in England, Wales, and Scotland.

At the annual meeting of the State Children's Association on November 8th Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P., said that the Local Government Board had promised that all children should be out of workhouses by September next, and that the allowances made for children boarded out should be increased. The Earl of Lytton, who presided, said that the association had worked for years for the benefit of delinquent children. It held that to correct moral defects of character punishment and discipline were out of place.

THE Cross of the Legion of Honour has been conferred on Madame Tscherning, wife of the professor of ophthalmology in the University of Copenhagen, for her work in aid of the French wounded. On August 10th, 1914, she formed, with her husband, a Danish committee, which sent nurses to La Panne in Belgium. In April, 1915, she joined her husband at Tréport, where he had founded a Danish hospital. At the end of the summer of 1915 this hospital was removed to Paris, where the French Government placed at its disposal a fine building in the middle of the Bois de Boulogne with accommodation for a hundred wounded.

MENTION was recently made of the fact that the London and Edinburgh Medical Missionary Association and the S.P.C.K. employ medical missionaries; and the Church Missionary Society asks us to state that it also has medical missionaries. They number at present eighty, working in about forty hospitals and dealing with about 35,000 in-patients yearly. It offers to give information to doctors or nurses, members of the Church of England, who address a letter to the secretary at Salisbury Square, London, E.C.4. We assume that these societies do not now employ doctors of military age, and that they act in the same spirit with regard to nurses.

THE Royal Society has conferred a Royal Medal on Dr. John Scott Haldane, F.R.S., for his services to chemical physiology, more especially in reference to the chemical changes of respiration. Among the members of the council proposed for election on November 30th are Professor J. G. Adams, M.D., Professor A. R. Cushny, M.D., Dr. Henry Head, and Professor C. S. Sherrington.

THE following members of the profession are among those elected mayors on November 9th for the ensuing year: *Dr. B. Baron (Bristol), *Dr. A. Macgregor Sinclair (Burnley), *Dr. R. A. Bremner (Canterbury), *Dr. P. A. Roden (Droitwich), *Dr. S. R. Alexander (Faversham), *Dr. W. F. Thompson (Launceston), *Dr. M. C. Atkinson (Leamington), Alderman Dr. G. J. Maguire (Richmond, Surrey), *Dr. J. P. Atkinson (Saffron Walden), *Alderman Dr. H. B. Bates (St. Helens), Dr. J. Harris (Shaftesbury). Those marked with an asterisk have been re-elected. Dr. A. Macgregor Sinclair, who has been re-elected for Burnley for the second time, is a native of Caithness shire, and graduated M.B., C.M.Aberd. in 1890. He is honorary surgeon to the Victoria Hospital, Burnley.

THE Board of Pensions Bill has been printed. Its scope was explained by Mr. Henderon in introducing it on November 14th. It consists of eight clauses. Clause 4 defines the advisory position of the Statutory Committee in relation to the Board of Pensions, and authorizes the board to delegate to the committee any powers and duties. Clause 7 provides that the president and one of the secretaries of the board shall not by reason of their offices be incapable of sitting in the House of Commons. Clause 8 provides for the transfer to the Board of Pensions of persons employed under the Chelsea Commissioners, the War Office, or the Statutory Committee. Clause 3 transfers to the Admiralty the powers and duties of the Statutory Committee under the Naval and Military War Pensions Act, 1915, so far as they relate to the supplementation of pensions and grants out of funds provided by Parliament.

THE Central Midwives Board held a penal session on November 8th, when Sir Francis Champneys presided. Final and interim reports on eight women from local supervising authorities were satisfactory. It was decided to take no action in four instances, and adjourn the others for further reports. Various charges, including neglect of ophthalmia neonatorum, general ignorance, and disregard of the rules, were considered. At the monthly meeting of the Board on November 9th letters were read from the Board of Education on certain proposed grants in aid of the training of midwives, and on a draft form of regulations for grants for the training of midwives. The secretary submitted the report on the work of the Board for the year ending March 31st, and it was agreed to forward a copy to the Privy Council.

Letters, Notes, and Answers.

THE telegraphic addresses of the BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION and JOURNALS are: (1) EDITOR of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, *Aitiology, Westrand, London*; telephone, 2631, Gerrard. (2) FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND BUSINESS MANAGER, *Advertisements, etc., Aitiology, Westrand, London*; telephone, 2630, Gerrard. (3) MEDICAL SECRETARY, *Medisecra, Westrand, London*; telephone, 2634, Gerrard. The address of the Irish Office of the British Medical Association is 16, South Frederick Street, Dublin.

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.

ANSWERS.

INCOME TAX.

W. G. P.—The cost of living of the locumtenent is as much an expense of the principal's practice as the payment of the salary, and is admissible as a deduction in the same way, notwithstanding the fact that the locumtenent is not chargeable to income tax on the value of the board and residence provided for him. As to what "would be an equivalent salary exclusive of board and lodging," that question depends too much on local and individual circumstances to permit of a definite answer. We can only say that the figure to be aimed at is the amount of the additional expense incurred by the principal in respect of the presence of the locumtenent. Perhaps an estimate of £104 per annum would be found convenient, and we imagine that the income tax authorities would not cavil at that sum.

As "V. M. L." is a member of the existing firm, and that is the successor of the old firm, he is liable to assessment as such—not separately—on the firm's average profits in the past three years. On the other hand, if the profits of the new firm fall short after the succession "from some specific

cause," then a claim may be lodged under Rule IV of Cases I and II, Schedule D, for the firm to be assessed on the profits of the year itself instead of on the average. If our correspondent can establish the existence of a specific cause, we advise that an intimation should be sent to the surveyor of taxes to the effect that a claim for adjustment will be made in due course. Possibly some arrangement could be made to have the claim in abeyance until the July, 1917, instalment of the tax becomes due. We do not think that a claim can be made in respect of the insurance premiums or furnishing, as they appear to represent an investment of capital in the practice rather than professional expenses chargeable against profit.

M.D.—Persons serving "in any work abroad of the British Red Cross Society or St John Ambulance Association" are entitled: (1) For the year 1914-15 to assessment for civil earnings on the actual profit of the year instead of on an average. . . Finance Act, 1914 (Session 2), 13 (1). (2) For the year 1915-16, as above, and, if his total income does not exceed £300, to the pre-war rates of tax and scale of abatement. (3) For the year 1916-17, to No. (1) as above, and to the reduced (that is, army) rate of tax on "his pay in connexion with such service." The other question asked by our correspondent is one upon which a solicitor should be consulted.

RECLUS ANTISEPTIC POMADE.

A. J. A.—Several preparations seem to go by the name of "Reclus antiseptic pomade," but all apparently contain iodoform and antipyrin. We are indebted to Mr. W. H. Martindale for the following formulae extracted from the sources indicated:

1. Iodoform 1 gram, boric acid 5 grams, antipyrin 5 grams, vaseline 50 grams.—*Bouchardat's Formulaire*.

2. Antipyrin 1 drachm, salol $\frac{1}{2}$ drachm, boric acid $\frac{1}{2}$ drachm, iodoform 15 grains, carbolic acid 15 grains, mercury perchloride 2 grains, vaseline 7 grains.—*Chemist and Druggist*, October 14th, 1905, p. 627.

3. Antipyrin 5 grams, iodoform or iodol 1 gram, carbolic acid 1 gram, salol 3 grams, boric acid 3 grams, mercury perchloride 0.1 gram, vaseline 2.0 to 4.0 grams.—*Gene's Coter*.

4. Corrosive sublimate 0.03 gram, phenol in crystals 0.30 gram, salol 1 gram, iodoform 0.50 gram, antipyrin 5 grams, boric acid 5 grams, sterile petrolatum 40 grams.—*Nigay: Journal de Médecine de Paris*, April, 1916.

LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

DR. S. V. S. BOYD (Fenton, Staffs) has addressed a letter to the President of the Local Government Board stating that, having kept notes of the number of attendances at his surgery for treatment by persons suffering from venereal infections, he found that in spite of the most pointed and careful warnings, 90 per cent. attended an insufficient number of times, and 65 per cent. only three times, or less often.

A WARNING: SPARKING PLUGS.

WE have on several occasions published, at the request of practitioners who have had unsatisfactory experience, a warning against buying sparking plugs from persons who call representing themselves to be agents for manufacturers. Oddly enough, the north of England seems to be the hunting ground of these persons, for another correspondent in that part of the country tells us that he has recently paid for some plugs on a seven days' trial; his experience was unfortunate, and his letter claiming return has been returned from the post office marked "Not known."

DR. WILLIAM DERHAM.

DR. GEORGE HAMILTON is compiling a biographical memoir of William Derham, rector of Upminster, Essex (born 1653, died at Upminster 1735), who was the writer of *Astro-theology* and *Christo-theology*, and editor of John Ray's works. Dr. Hamilton asks for the loan of any book, MSS., or printed, that would throw any light upon the subject. Dr. Hamilton is, on his mother's side, great-great-grandson of Robert Derham of Dolphinhall, or Lancaster, and the name can be traced to Elias de Derham, a famous architect in the time of King John, 1199-1216. Any documents or valuable MSS. entrusted to Dr. Hamilton at Canute House, Old Fishbourne, would be carefully kept and duly returned to the owners. The Rev. B. Hamilton, his father (late vicar of Fewcott, Bicester, Oxon.), is acting as editorial secretary, and to him all correspondence should be addressed.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

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Advertisements should be delivered, addressed to the Manager, 429, Strand, London, not later than the first post on Wednesday morning preceding publication, and, if not paid for at the time, should be accompanied by a reference.

NOTE.—It is against the rules of the Post Office to receive *postes restantes* letters addressed either in initials or numbers.