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progressive adaptation is substantially correct was, he urged, strongly supported by the long-continued and admirable studies of Professor Victor C. Vaughan of the University of Michigan, and the later work of Abderhalden of Berlin and his pupils. These observations and their significance were discussed in some detail.

Colonel Adami next attacked the prevalent conception of the Mendelians that the parental unit-properties remain segregated in the germ cells. In the zygote, the fertilized germ cell, and in all the tissue cells derived therefrom, it is inconceivable that two orders of biophores or active living molecules can exist floating in a common nuclear sap, undergoing growth, building up side-chains and radicles, discharging certain of these or undergoing dissociation from time to time, without the two reacting upon each other and without a certain amount of interchange, without the one having a greater affinity for side-chains elaborated by the other, and building these into its system. There must be this interaction, and at a slower rate, due to their more latent state, this same interchange must take place in the germ cells. Along these lines it is still possible to interpret the facts of Mendelism, and indeed interpret not a few phenomena which by the hypothesis of determinants fail to obtain explanation.

Briefly, each species must be regarded as having for its essential living matter a distinct organic compound—a compound as distinct as any inorganic salt, but differing from that simpler salt in that whereas the central ring or chain is to be regarded as having a relatively fixed constitution, the radicles composing that ring or chain are to be regarded as capable of attracting and then reproducing a series of side-chains which may vary in constitution, so that within the species there may be various strains, just as we may speak of various strains of crystalline haemoglobin obtained from different samples of human blood.

It is possible to replace an impossible hypothesis based upon supposititious, independent, and transposable determinants by one based upon our present knowledge of the composition and properties of the main and outstanding constituent of living matter—the proteins. To one who regards life, not from the morphological point of view, in terms of form, but from the physiological, in terms of function, who regards life as a moving equilibrium, who regards it as in essence “a state of persistent and incomplete recurrent satisfaction and dissatisfaction of certain proteinogenous molecules” and metabolism as the primary and basal characteristic of living matter—for such a one Professor Bateson’s stumbling-block does not exist.

The Batesonian hypothesis of a backward evolution by the progressive removal of inhibitory factors, like the baseless fabric of a vision, fades into nothingness once it is confronted by the proof that direct positive acquisitions can be brought about experimentally. It enters into the limbo of the past as an example of the Spencerian tragedy—that of a deduction destroyed by a fact.

## Memoranda:

### MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

#### X-RAY TREATMENT IN LICHEN PLANUS.

In the following case the immediate relief and rapid disappearance of intense itching, the prompt subsidence of the eruption, and the restoration of healthy circulation in the hands under x-ray treatment, as evidenced by the freedom from cold hands, swollen fingers, chilblains, and frost bites during the past exceptionally severe winter, are worthy of notice.

The patient was a girl aged 12 years, of delicate constitution, subject to cold hands and swollen fingers even in the summer, and to very severe chilblains and frostbites in mild winter even. She was given galvanic and faradic Schnee baths on September 19th, 23rd, 27th, and 30th, October 7th and 20th last, with the view of improving the feeble circulation in the hands. On October 7th the patient complained of slight pain and smarting at the séance. On October 20th the pain and smarting were worse, and on careful examination a few scattered papules were noticed on the hands and more on the forearms. The swollen condition of the fingers and the cold feeling in the hands improved under galvanic and faradic treatment. By October 28th the eruption had extended to all the fingers of both the hands and more up the forearms, becoming confluent in most places. It was very itchy, and consisted of slightly elevated

violaceous papules of the size of pinheads, with flattened glistening top, slight central depression, and dry rough surface. There was a return of the swelling of the fingers. No more Schnee baths were given.

In spite of ointments and internal medicine there was a rapid extension of the eruption, and a decided aggravation of the itching and other symptoms. The itching was so troublesome as to interfere with proper sleep.

A mild stimulating dose of x rays was given on November 15th. This was followed by marked relief of the itching, which disappeared altogether in about a week. There was no further extension of the eruption, which looked darker and flatter. A second dose was given on November 22nd. The patient was now quite free from the troublesome itching, and there was a retrogression of the eruption. By December 4th, when a third treatment was given, the eruption had almost disappeared from the right hand and forearm, and only a little was left on the other side. The swelling of the fingers had also subsided. The last x-ray treatment was given on December 18th. Desquamation commenced soon after and continued till about December 31st. The remnants of the eruption and every trace of the complaint had altogether disappeared by that time.

Note.—The patient, it appears, had some spots on the forearms for a couple of months before the Schnee baths were given. Apparently the baths, instead of acting beneficially, aggravated the complaint.

CHARLES E. DE SILVA, M.B., B.S.Durh.,  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond.

London, S.W.

#### PREVENTION OF CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

COLONEL PARKES’S communication<sup>1</sup> with reference to this subject is most interesting and instructive, especially to any one connected with soldiers. Last winter somewhat the same procedure was carried out by me in the battalion of which I am medical officer. I used three ounces of formalin to the gallon of water in a “Killgerm” sprayer. I had no opportunity to have the sick with infective throats examined bacteriologically, but all sick with any “catarrhs” were sent each morning to a large room in a billet, and whilst this was being sprayed the men were kept in it for twenty minutes. We had not the success of the New Zealanders in eradicating the disease. Out of a battalion whose strength at that time averaged 2,500 men, three cases of cerebro-spinal fever developed in the season.

The same treatment has been used again this season. The sprayer is set going in a large room each morning, and all “catarrhal sick” are put there for twenty minutes. I have varied the solution, sometimes using formalin and at others “pacolol,” which is really Pearson’s lysol. The latter is less irritating, and much preferred by the men. We have had so far one case of cerebro-spinal fever whose history is somewhat instructive. In the case of this patient there was no question of overcrowding. His room was on the sea front, containing 1,680 cubic feet, and there were four men in it.

Pte. N., after eleven weeks’ service, was passed fit for draft leave, January 31st to February 5th, 1917. On February 8th he reported sick, with eighteen of the same company, with sore throats and the usual catarrhal symptoms. He had no fever. Was ordered “medicine and no duty” on this and the following day; and “medicine and light duty” on February 10th. From the 10th to the 15th he went on duty and was apparently perfectly well.

On February 15th, at sick parade (7 a.m.), he reported ill, with diarrhoea and sickness. He was ordered “medicine and no duty.” At 2 p.m. he again reported, as directed; his temperature was then 103°, and he was dazed and almost collapsed. He was sent to hospital, and next day cerebro-spinal fever was diagnosed.

As a means of attacking the nasopharynx the steam sprayer is very well worth trial. I intend to use the 1 per cent. sulphate of zinc solution to see if there is any virtue in this drug.

AMB. ATKINSON,  
Lieutenant R.A.M.C.

<sup>1</sup> BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, February 24th, 1917, p. 262.

ACCORDING to the *Med. Klin.*, medical practitioners in Vienna are experiencing increasing difficulties in getting to and from their patients, owing to the shortage of vehicles and motor power. There are only a few motor cars and cabs available, and their proprietors refuse all but short journeys. For several months the electric trams have enabled practitioners to carry on, but, owing to the shortage of coal, this service has had to be greatly restricted. It is therefore proposed that doctors with patients in distant parts of the town should communicate over the telephone with colleagues living in these parts and get them to attend to the distant patient.

have since been printed. Birdwood arranged the exhibition of the presents received by King Edward VII when, as Prince of Wales, he visited India, and in 1878 he organized the Indian Section of the Paris Exhibition of that year; he wrote a *Handbook* for the section, and later on handbooks to *The Industrial Arts of India*, and *The Arts of India*. He contributed many articles to learned societies, but his real work as a writer was to explain India to the rest of the British empire, and perhaps a little to itself.

He received the C.S.I. when Queen Victoria was proclaimed Empress of India (January 1st, 1877), and the K.C.I.E. in 1881; Cambridge gave him the honorary LL.D. in 1886.

#### EDGAR ATHELSTONE BROWNE, F.R.C.S. EDIN.,

M.Ch. LIVERPOOL,

CONSULTING SURGEON TO THE EYE AND EAR INFIRMARY; LATE LECTURER IN OPHTHALMOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL.

It is with great regret that we have to record the death of Mr. Edgar A. Browne, which took place on June 27th at West Kirby, where he lived after retiring from practice over a year ago. He had been declining for some months, and his end was not unexpected, having reached his seventy-sixth year. The loss of this distinguished member of our profession is a severe one; many of his friends had hoped that his relinquishing active practice would herald for him a serene old age, and have preserved him to us for many a year. Mr. Browne's father, Hablot K. Browne, was "Phiz," the artist who illustrated some of Dickens's earlier works. Of Huguenot extraction, Mr. Edgar A. Browne was born in London, educated at a school of which the father of the celebrated Rowland Hill was principal. Mr. Browne met many famous Victorian writers at his father's house, and his recollections and impressions were published in a work under the title *Phiz and Dickens* in 1913. He began the study of medicine at St. Thomas's Hospital, took the diplomas of M.R.C.S. and L.M. in 1864, of L.S.A. in 1865, and shortly afterwards settled in general practice in Liverpool. He was a demonstrator of anatomy with Dr. T. R. Glynn at the School of Medicine, and was appointed surgeon to St. George's Hospital for Skin Diseases and assistant surgeon to the Eye and Ear Infirmary. At that time it would appear that there was nothing incongruous in a young man devoting his energies to more than one speciality. Evidence of his ability and powers of accurate observation is to be found in papers published in 1870 in the *Liverpool Medical and Surgical Reports* on eczema and on early stages of syphilis as affecting the skin. When the new Liverpool Eye and Ear Infirmary was built, Mr. Browne's energies were wholly devoted to the diseases of the eye, and he held the post of honorary surgeon for many years, and in 1884 succeeded Mr. Shadford Walker as lecturer on ophthalmology at the university, and only a few months ago resigned the post. In 1886 he became F.R.C.S. Edin., and as a recognition of his academic worth he received in 1907 from the University of Liverpool M.Ch. *honoris causa*. Mr. Browne contributed many papers on eye diseases to the *Liverpool Medico-Chirurgical Journal*. He wrote an excellent practical book, entitled *How to Use the Ophthalmoscope*, which has run through many editions, and, in conjunction with Dr. Hope, published a *Manual of School Hygiene*. Mr. Browne was a member of the Ophthalmological Society and of the Société Française d'Ophthalmologie, and many of his writings are to be found in the transactions of these societies. He was president of the Dickens Fellowship (Liverpool Branch), and those who heard him speak at the meetings or read extracts from the great author's works thoroughly enjoyed the experience. He was president of the Liverpool Medical Institution 1900-2, and delivered two addresses during his period of office—"Theory and Science" and "Intellectual Aspects of Medical Knowledge," which attracted a good deal of attention outside medical circles. In March, 1916, he celebrated his jubilee of membership of the Medical Institution, and numerous friends were present to honour him.

Mr. Edgar A. Browne was a lovable man; he attracted by his personal worth men famous in literature, art, and science. In literature and art his opinion was gladly sought by those whose high aim is to foster these amenities of life in a large commercial centre like Liverpool. He enjoyed life as a spectator, appreciated alike the good

points of man and his foibles, which he often caricatured with his ever ready pencil. His humour was of the brilliant type never sardonic, and if sometimes tinged with irony it was never mordant. All his intimate friends must have at one time or another realized that he could detect and humorously exhibit their little weaknesses in caricature. As a lecturer not only did he make his subject matter live, but he embroidered it with ornaments of speech, and gave it finishing touches of humour.

Mr. Browne was twice married, and by his first marriage had four sons and two daughters. Of these three sons survive; the eldest, Hablot J. M. Browne, is a well-known practitioner in Hoylake. His second wife survives him. A representative gathering of medical men, friends, university colleagues, members of literary and artistic circles were present at the funeral service held at St. Margaret's, Prince's Road, on June 30th.

We regret to record the death of Dr. C. T. EWART, who was temporarily appointed last September to the post of medical superintendent of the London County Council's Asylum at Claybury, of which he had been senior assistant medical officer. After studying at the Universities of Aberdeen and Edinburgh he graduated M.B. and C.M. Aberd. in 1878, and proceeded to the M.D. degree in 1892. His career was bound up with asylum work, for which he had in a high degree the special qualities of mind and disposition which make the successful medical officer to a large institution. In spite of a philosophical tendency of mind, which found expression in a number of contributions to serious reviews, he was one of the earliest to draw practical attention to the value of special industrial colonies for the epileptic, and may be correctly described as the originator of the scheme adopted later by the London County Council when the colony for the insane epileptic was founded at Epsom. He was the first to institute the training of nurses in the London asylums on the basis of the syllabus of the St. John Ambulance Association. He took the greatest interest in physical drill for mental patients, many of whom in asylums need encouragement to perform muscular movements, especially those of a general, orderly, and sustained kind. He was deeply interested in all things pertaining to the welfare and comfort of the insane. In his dealings with the patients he showed unfailing sympathy and kindness, never turning a deaf ear to the most trivial or unreasonable complaint. He was an ardent naturalist, and skilled in many branches of athletics. In private life he was greatly loved by colleagues and friends, from one of whom we have received a glowing account of the charm and sincerity of his character. Dr. Ewart married, whilst at Claybury, the daughter of the late Mr. Abraham Flint, who, with one daughter, survives him.

## Universities and Colleges.

### UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER.

THE following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

FINAL M.B., CH.B.—Mercy D. Barber, W. T. G. Boul, Hilda K. Brade, Frances G. Bullough, Kathleen L. Cass, Ruth E. Conway, J. Holker, \*N. Kletz, E. N. P. Martland, A. B. Platt, J. Shlosberg, †D. M. Sutherland, H. Taylor.  
Medicine.—C. F. J. Carruthers, Elizabeth C. Powell.  
Surgery.—Elizabeth C. Powell.  
Obstetrics.—C. F. J. Carruthers, J. C. T. Fiddes, R. S. Paterson.  
Forensic Medicine and Toxicology.—T. H. Almond, Sybil Bailey, Mary G. Cardwell, J. Charnley, J. C. T. Fiddes, F. L. Heap, J. Mills, Kathleen O'Donnell, M. C. Paterson, Harriet R. L. Reid, Norah H. Schuster, L. J. Schwartz, V. T. Smith, Marie Wardman.

\* Recommended for distinction in Medicine and Surgery.  
† Recommended for distinction in Medicine.

### UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD.

THE following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

FINAL M.B., CH.B.—Winifred H. Wells (with first-class honours and distinction in medicine and surgery), Annie Clark, Ethel M. Mathews.

The Kaye scholarship has been awarded to Dorothy E. Mathews, and the Clinical Gold Medal to Winifred H. Wells.

## UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS.

At a meeting of the General Council of the University of St. Andrews on June 30th a report was received from a committee recommending the institution of a degree in commerce, and urging the establishment of a chair or lectureship on colonial and imperial history, and arrangements for teaching Italian, Spanish, and Russian. The committee also recommended that it should have powers to urge the claims of the university to subsidies from the Government or any other body for the development of research work, now hindered by the reduction of the Government grant. The Council referred the report to the University Court for its favourable consideration. At the same meeting Dr. W. Barrie Dow (Dunfermline) was re-elected an assessor on the University Court, and it was announced that the following had completed all the examinations for the degrees of M.B., Ch.B.:

Sheila Bridgeford, Annie R. Campbell, F. J. Carlton, Mary I. S. Cuthbert, J. Irvine, J. Kinnear, A. M. MacGillivray, Flora M. Macdonald.

## UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM.

At the convocation held on June 26th the following degrees were conferred:

M.D.—W. Hudson, N. F. Rowstron.

M.D. (*For Practitioners of Fifteen Years' Standing*).—J. V. Arkle, E. Down.

M.B. AND B.S.—P. V. Anderson, G. A. Clark, W. Duncan, E. C. Dunlop, M. J. Hilton, R. Hunter, C. G. Irwin, H. M. Leete, Phyllis Marriott, Freda Newman, T. W. Shaw, Sadek Abdel Shehid.

D.P.H.—W. E. R. Saunders.

## The Services.

## INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

*Promotion in India.*

A CORRESPONDENT calls attention to the circumstance that a recent order with reference to the promotion of officers of the Indian army, sanctioning the promotion of a second lieutenant to lieutenant after one year's service, the promotion of a lieutenant to a captaincy after four years' service, and of a captain to a majority after fifteen years' service for promotion, does not apply to the Indian Medical Service. Previous to this order an officer in the Indian army received his majority after eighteen years' service for promotion and an officer in the Indian Medical Service after twelve years' service for promotion, because the latter was allowed an average of six years' study as an undergraduate. As a result of this order and the refusal of its application to the members of the Indian Medical Service, it follows that a combatant officer with eleven years' service as a captain becomes senior to an I.M.S. man who previous to the order was senior to him.

## Medical News.

SIR GEORGE NEWMAN, Chief Medical Officer of the Board of Education, has joined the committee appointed by the President of the Board of Agriculture to investigate the production and distribution of milk.

SIR MALCOLM MORRIS has been elected president of the Institute of Hygiene in succession to Sir William Bennett, who has held the post for the past ten years, and will continue his association with the institute as vice-president.

AMONG the civil list pensions granted in 1916-17 are awards to Mrs. Charlton Bastian of £100, in consideration of the services to science of her late husband, Dr. Charlton Bastian, and of her straitened circumstances; and to Mrs. Minchin of £75, in consideration of the scientific work of her late husband, Professor E. A. Minchin, and of her straitened circumstances.

THE Harben gold medal of the Royal Institute of Public Health, given every third year for eminent services rendered to the public health, has been awarded this year to Surgeon-General Sir Alfred Keogh, G.C.B., Director-General A.M.S., and the gold medal for conspicuous services rendered to the cause of preventive medicine to Dr. E. W. Hope, M.O.H. for the city and port of Liverpool, and professor of public health in the university.

At the meeting of the court of the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on June 28th, it was announced that on the occasion of his retiring from the office of honorary surgeon under the age limit, Colonel J. V. W. Rutherford had presented the institution with the sum of £1,000 to endow a bed in memory of his father, who had taken a deep and active interest in the infirmary when it was on the old site. Colonel Rutherford was at the same meeting appointed consulting surgeon to the infirmary.

AN American Association for the Control of Syphilis has been formed to disseminate knowledge of syphilis among medical men, medical institutions, boards of health, hospital boards, dispensary attendants, and boards and other organizations having the care and treatment of syphilis. It is hoped to collect standardized statistics from the various institutions now treating syphilis; to further the establishment of free clinics and dispensaries for the diagnosis and treatment of syphilis, and to encourage the more comprehensive teaching of syphilis in medical schools.

## Letters, Notes, and Answers.

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

The address of the Central Medical War Committee for England and Wales is 429, Strand, London, W.C.2; that of the Reference Committee of the Royal Colleges in London is the Examination Hall, 8, Queen Square, Bloomsbury, W.C.1; and that of the Scottish Medical Service Emergency Committee is Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh.

## QUERIES.

T. W. A. asks for information as to the treatment of gastroptosis, especially in regard to diet, prognosis, value, and form of electric treatment, drugs, lavage, and the best fluid for use, and any references to literature dealing with the subject.

## MEDICAL MANAGEMENT OF CHILDREN'S HOMES.

M.R.C.S. would be glad to know of any books bearing upon the medical management of children's cottage homes, orphan asylums, and such institutions.

\* \* We cannot hear of any work specifically on this subject, but the inquirer might find something serviceable in Dr. A. D. Edwards's article on the medical examination of children under the Poor Law and in orphanages, in Dr. Kelynack's *Medical Examination of Schools and Scholars* (Westminster: P. S. King, 1910.).

## LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

## THE "MEDICAL DIRECTORY."

THE Editors of the *Medical Directory*, 7, Great Marlborough Street, London, W.) write: The annual circular asking for information for the *Medical Directory* for 1918, was posted to members of the profession on July 3rd. We are anxious that these forms be returned to us as promptly as possible. If in any cases the circular has not been received a duplicate will be sent on application. It is especially desirable that those practitioners whose addresses are included in the London postal district should return the new district numbers.

## CINNAMON AS A PROPHYLACTIC IN MEASLES AND GERMAN MEASLES.

DR. J. R. S. ROBERTSON (Hayling Island) writes with reference to Dr. W. B. Drummond's note on this subject on June 9th to say that he has recently made use of the suggestion in a V.A. hospital of fifty beds established in that island. A patient who had been admitted some days previously developed the typical rash of German measles while mixing freely with the other men. He was isolated as far as it was possible to do so, and all the patients and nursing staff were put on two daily doses of pulv. cinnamomi, as much as would lie on a shilling. At the end of four weeks there was no other case of German measles.

## ERRATUM.

In the announcement last week of two medical calls to the Bar, the name of Major Hugh Neville Adam Taylor was incorrectly given as Major Hugh Neville Adam.

## SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

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

THE  
**British Medical Journal.**

THE JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

**SUPPLEMENT**

CONTAINING

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

MEETINGS OF BRANCHES AND DIVISIONS

PROGRAMME OF ANNUAL MEETING

MEDICAL BILLS IN PARLIAMENT

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL

ETC.

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VOLUME II, 1917.

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THE  
**British Medical Journal.**

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OF

**Current Medical Literature.**

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READERS in search of a particular subject will find it useful to bear in mind that the references are in several cases distributed under two or more separate but nearly synonymous headings—such, for instance, as Brain and Cerebral; Heart and Cardiac; Liver and Hepatic; Renal and Kidney; Cancer and Carcinoma, Epithelioma, Malignant Disease, New Growth, Sarcoma, etc.; Child and Infant; Bronchocele, Goitre, and Thyroid; Diabetes, Glycosuria and Sugar; Eye, Ophthalmia, and Vision, etc.

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