

A NOTE ON THE "MAN VALUE" OF WORKING CLASS DIETS.

BY

MAJOR GREENWOOD, CAPTAIN R.A.M.C.(T.F.),
READER IN MEDICAL STATISTICS, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
(LISTER INSTITUTE),

AND

CECILY M. THOMPSON.

THE "man values" of diets consumed by various samples of working-class families were published in a recent report by one of us and Viscount Dunluce.¹ The reduction to "man values" was effected by the application of the coefficients used in America, and provisionally adopted by the Food Committee of the Royal Society. It was, however, pointed out in an appendix to the report (op. cit., pp. 40-41) that the only direct measurements of consumption available to us, those of Slosse and Waxweiler, suggested that the consuming power of children was seriously underestimated, and consequently the "man value" of a family diet overestimated, by the orthodox method of calculation. Further evidence has now been accumulated, and the results of Lusk and others make it probable that the indications afforded by Slosse and Waxweiler's measurements are correct. The Inter-Allied Food Commission has accordingly adopted a new standard (Table I). The change in the coefficient for women from 0.80 to 0.83—that is, of 3.75 per cent.—causes all the estimated man values of

TABLE I.

Attwater's Coefficients.		New Coefficients.	
Ages.	Man Value.	Ages.	Man Value.
0-5	0.4	0-5	0.5
6-9	0.5	6-10	0.7
10-13	0.6	11 and over:	
14-15:		Males	1.0
Males	0.8	Females	0.83
Females	0.7	All children, combined ages*	0.68
16 and over:			
Males	1.0		
Females	0.8		
All children, combined ages*	0.51		

* These values (for use when the ages of children are not specified) were obtained by multiplying the appropriate coefficient by the census population of children at the age to which the coefficient applied and dividing the sum of the products by the total population under 16.

TABLE II.—Energy Value of Various Dietsaries.

	Calories Calculated by Attwater's Coefficients.	Calories Calculated by New Coefficients.
Rowntree—York Families:		
Class I. Wages under 26s.	3,000	2,574
Class II. Wages over 26s.	4,102	3,390
Class III. Servant keeping	4,052	3,807
Board of Trade:		
I. Wages under 25s.	3,094	2,670
II. Wages 25s. to 30s.	3,348	2,879
III. Wages 30s. to 35s.	3,581	3,036
IV. Wages 35s. to 40s.	3,589	3,034
V. Wages over 40s.	4,013	3,330
British Agricultural Labourers:		
Northern Counties	3,654	3,085
Midland Counties	3,398	2,868
Eastern Counties	3,598	3,037
Southern and South-Western Counties	3,634	3,067

the diets taken by female munition workers to be slightly too high. For families including several children the difference is substantial, and we have thought it advisable to recalculate the figures for all the family samples. The results are shown in Table II. It will be seen that the original estimates were much too high.

REFERENCE.

¹ An Inquiry into the Composition of Dietaries, with Special Reference to the Dietaries of Munition Workers. Medical Research Committee Special Report Series, No. 13, London, 1918.

Memoranda:

MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

SEPTICAEMIA DUE TO MIXED INFECTION.

T., a man in good condition, was admitted to hospital in a typhoid state; the evening temperature on the day of admission was 104°. The history was that he had had for a few days before admission general catarrh and mild bronchitis. The pulmonary condition soon cleared up, but the temperature continued high, and he was thought to be suffering from enteric fever. With a view to establishing the diagnosis I made a blood culture and found in all the tubes *Bacillus septicus* and a staphylococcus. The culture was made on the tenth day of his illness, and the evening temperature had been 103° to 104° all this time. His condition was then critical, and, in fact, the medical officer in charge of the ward was of opinion that he could not live much longer. On the evening of the twelfth day of illness I gave him a mixed autogenous vaccine, the dose being 35 million of *B. septicus* and 50 million of the staphylococcus. The temperature almost immediately dropped to normal, which it had not reached previously during the illness, and his general condition was much improved; later it went up again to 101.8°; the next morning it was subnormal, but rose at night to 100°; the following day he had another similar dose of vaccine, and the temperature rapidly fell to normal, and so remained.

I consider a record of this case of importance for the following reasons:

1. I am unable to trace a record of any similar case, although the organisms found are extremely prevalent.

2. The autogenous vaccine apparently had an almost miraculous effect on the patient's temperature and general condition.

3. The case emphasizes the need for more frequent blood cultures in febrile conditions arising out of colds, bronchitis, etc.

4. Finally, the symbiosis present in the case is of interest; the presence of the staphylococci possibly augmented the virulence of the *B. septicus*.

B. HENRY SHAW, M.D.,
County Asylum, Stafford.

Reviews.

LIFE OF MISS SOPHIA JEX-BLAKE.

WITHIN a comparatively short time three books of great biographical interest have appeared, all dealing more or less with medical Edinburgh, and recalling "old, unhappy, far-off things and battles long ago." Mr. Miles's *Edinburgh School of Surgery before Lister*, reviewed on April 6th, is necessarily devoted solely to life and work in the northern Athens, whereas Sir Rickman Godlee's great biography of Lord Lister, already in its second edition, and the *Life of Sophia Jex-Blake*¹ now before us, deal fully with important events occurring in Edinburgh, which, however, was not the only scene of their subjects' activities.

As Lord Lister wished, his published life mainly tells the story of his surgical achievements, whereas Dr. MARGARET TODD has contributed a much more elaborate study of her friend's intimate life and character. A member of a Tory Norfolk family and the daughter of highly orthodox parents, Miss Jex-Blake's electric personality was rather a disturbing element in her family,

¹ *Life of Sophia Jex-Blake*. By Margaret Todd, M.D. (Graham Travers). London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd. 1918. (Pp. 574; 4 illustrations. 18s.)

and was informed, after communication with the Commissioners, that vaccines were not to be supplied to panel patients. Payment in Kent was *pro rata*. I do not dispense for the panel.

In October, 1917, I told a patient he could not get vaccines on the panel, but advised him to apply direct to his club (Foresters), giving him a letter fully stating his case. Again a direct refusal was received.

Comment is needless.—I am, etc.,

Windlesham, July 31st.

G. BAYNTON FORGE.

BROKEN SLEEP.

SIR,—Dr. Guthrie Rankin, in his paper on this subject (July 27th, p. 77), says, *inter alia*: "Electricity is said to be sometimes useful as a sedative agent, but its effects are uncertain, and may prove to be exciting rather than soothing." From considerable personal experience I have no hesitation in saying that the reverse is the case. Before mobilization, nearly four years ago, I treated in Glasgow during the previous fourteen years numerous cases of insomnia *per se* by means of high-frequency currents with scarcely a failure, and, when sleeplessness formed one of a group of symptoms in cases of neurasthenia, the good influence of these currents was most marked in restoring sleep.

The sleep produced differs materially from that obtained from drugs. It is a refreshing sleep; digestion is not upset, nor is an evil habit acquired. I have never seen any "exciting effects" from the application of high-frequency current, and these should never occur if the treatment is in skilled and qualified hands.—I am, etc.,

W. F. SOMERVILLE,

Lieut.-Colonel R.A.M.C.(T.).

1st Eastern General Hospital,
Cambridge, July 29th.

THE TRAVELLING MEDICAL BOARD.

SIR,—Called up on July 27th for examination and told to be punctual, I presented myself at the time fixed. Very little foresight was shown in the arrangements, and a good deal of valuable time was lost. My complaint, however, is that, stripped stark naked, I was fully exposed to the gaze of a clerk of perhaps sixteen years of age. To this I strongly object, as do others. An extra screen would have saved what I regard as an indignity to a man of my years. I hope that by this protest others may be spared what I regard as an unnecessary and degrading exposure.—I am, etc.,

G. P. NEWBOLT, F.R.C.S. Eng.,
Senior Surgeon, Royal Southern Hospital,
Liverpool.

August 3rd.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

Relations of Medical Practitioners and Midwives.

At the monthly meeting held on July 25th, when Sir Francis Champneys was in the chair, a letter was considered from the Medical Officer of Health for the county of Durham, asking:

(a) Whether any objection can be raised to a registered medical practitioner employing a certified midwife to attend his midwifery cases, the midwife being paid a fixed salary for her attendance, including the collecting the fees due to her employer and paying them over to him.

(b) Whether, in such a case, the midwife is bound to continue her attendance on the patient for ten days after the confinement, or can she hand over the conduct of the case during the lying-in period to her employer.

(c) What action should be taken by a county council desirous of appointing a subsidized midwife in a district not adequately provided with trained midwives, where the local medical practitioners object to her appointment unless they receive a guarantee for the payment by the county council of their fees when called in on the advice of the midwife, whether the patient can afford to pay the fee or not.

It was decided to reply as follows:

(a) That there is no objection to such an arrangement.

(b) That under the circumstances specified the midwife is bound to attend for the period of ten days after the labour.

(c) That as the county council subsidizes the midwife, it ought to hold itself responsible for the payment of the doctor when required.

Reciprocity with Scotland.

On the motion of the Chairman the following resolutions were unanimously adopted, to come into effect if and when Clause 10 of the Midwives Bill, 1918, became law:

(a) That having regard to the equivalent value of the standards of training and examination required by the Central Midwives Board for Scotland and by this board, it be an instruction to the secretary to admit to the Roll of Midwives, subject to compliance with the terms and conditions of Section 10 of the Midwives Act, 1918, any woman holding the certificate of the Central Midwives Board for Scotland in virtue of having passed the examination of that body, and to report his action to the board.

(b) That in the case of a woman applying to be certified under Section 10 of the Midwives Act, 1918, by reason of any qualification other than that of holding the certificate of the Central Midwives Board for Scotland in virtue of having passed the examination of that body, the secretary do report thereon for such action to be taken as the board may deem expedient.

Universities and Colleges.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

At a meeting of the Senate on July 31st a resolution was adopted expressing the gratification with which it had learnt of the proposals made by the authorities of University College Hospital for co-operation with other hospitals and for the admission of women to their medical school as from October 1st next.

Examiners.—The following were reappointed to act as examiners for the second examination for medical degrees: Part II, for internal and external students in the session 1918-19—Anatomy: Professor J. E. S. Frazer (St. Mary's Hospital Medical School), together with the external examiner, Professor R. W. Reid (Chairman). Pharmacology: Dr. E. Mellanby (King's College for Women), Chairman, together with the external examiner, Dr. H. J. Campbell. Physiology: Dr. J. Mellanby (St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School), together with the external examiner, Professor D. N. Paton (Chairman).

The following were appointed to act as additional examiners (Part II, for internal and external students) at any examination held in the session 1918-19 at which the number of candidates exceeds seventy. Anatomy: Professor T. W. Jones (London School of Medicine for Women), together with the additional external examiner (Mr. A. Macphail). Pharmacology: Mr. P. P. Laidlaw (Guy's Hospital Medical School), together with the additional external examiner (Dr. F. Ransom). Physiology: Dr. F. A. Bainbridge (St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical School), together with the additional external examiner (Professor E. H. Starling).

Chairmen of Committees.—The following chairmen of committees of the Senate have been elected for 1918-19:—Council for External Students: Dr. S. Russell Walls. Committee of Medical Members: Sir Alfred Pearce Gould, K.C.V.O., M.S.

Parliamentary Register.—Any graduate who is not at present on the register of parliamentary electors for the University, and who desires to be placed thereon, is required to make a claim and to pay a fee of £1. Application for the form of claim should be marked "Parliamentary Register," and addressed to the Vice-Chancellor at the University.

CONJOINT BOARD IN ENGLAND.

THE diplomas of L.R.C.P. and M.R.C.S. have been conferred upon the following candidates who have passed the final examination in medicine, surgery, and midwifery of the Conjoint Examining Board:

A. Abel-on, J. F. Adams, Kaiku Ardesahir Anklesaria, B. F. W. Armitage, C. H. Backus, Annie H. Banks, *F. G. Banting, G. Blurton, M. V. Boucaud, M. C. Breese, J. D. Byrd, F. Cavens, E. A. Clegg, A. W. Cocking, Kathleen M. Cogan, T. Colley, N. C. Cooper, C. C. H. Cuff, Pares Chandra Datta, E. S. Davies, S. R. E. Davies, T. M. Davies, F. S. Drew, C. B. Dyson, A. Eidinow, Saad El Din Ahmed El Daab, F. K. Escriff, Lucie Gainsford, Shanasar Galstaun Galstaun, E. S. Gawne, C. Gill-Carey, S. V. Goldhurst, L. Handy, F. T. Harrington, G. G. Havers, W. A. Hawes, S. N. Hayes, W. E. Heath, W. S. Herman, T. C. Higgins, C. P. Hines, J. Joffe, A. K. I. Jones, *E. Ek Dun Lau, A. S. Lawson, N. H. Little, A. W. Lloyd-Davies, G. B. Lowe, Edith M. P. Morris, K. Mullen, R. A. Olphert, Irene G. Parsons, B. J. Perkins, G. F. Peters, Mary M. Prior, P. G. Quinton, †Constance A. Randall, C. G. J. Rayner, Frances E. Rendel, N. Rumbold, J. A. A. P. Scott, A. G. M. Severn, W. H. Simmons, B. L. Slater, V. A. T. Spong, G. S. Swan, A. D. Symons, M. S. Thomson, †Agnes E. Towers, †Elsie M. Visick, Yik Shing Wan, J. Whittingdale, V. D. Wyborn.

* Diploma of M.R.C.S. conferred on July 11th, 1918.

† Under the Medical Act, 1876.

CONJOINT BOARD IN SCOTLAND.

THE following candidates, having passed the final examination, have been admitted L.R.C.P.E., L.R.C.S.E., L.R.F.P. and S.G.:

J. K. C. Megahy, H. G. Anderson, A. I. Meek, W. H. Duff, R. J. Patchett, Mahmoud Abdel Kadar Mofrah, G. H. T. N. Clarke, J. L. West, L. W. Nott, J. Bowd, H. Lyth, S. G. Evans, J. J. Van Niekerk, A. P. M'Leod.

His great knowledge of the world and of the needs of the profession impressed him deeply with the necessity of a protecting association, and nothing to him appeared so amazing as that a member resigned because of some supposed failure of the Association on some particular phase of its work, forgetful of the enormous conquests it has won for every section of the profession. As a physician he was alert, resourceful, and tender; consciousness of success in well-doing was the award he counted highest.

Dr. Moorhead was twice married. He leaves a wife, two sons, and four daughters to mourn his loss. About three years ago he removed from London to Bournemouth. His remains were interred in the Bournemouth Cemetery on July 26th.

The writer of this notice has known Dr. Moorhead for over thirty years. He deeply deplores the loss of such a friend, at once guileless, faithful, cultivated, and a very gentleman indeed.

DR. THOMAS J. DABELL of Nottingham, who died after a short illness on July 14th in his 55th year, received his medical education at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where he gained the Treasurer's prize in anatomy. He took the diploma of M.R.C.S.Eng. in 1887, and soon after began practice in Nottingham. He served for many years on the City Council, both as elected representative and alderman. In 1904 he was made a sheriff and appointed to the Commission of the Peace. He was a member of the Nottingham Division of the British Medical Association, and in 1905 was president of the Nottingham Medico-Chirurgical Society. Dr. Dabell leaves a widow and three daughters.

Medical News.

THE Under Secretary of State for War stated that the correct designation of the medal issued to the troops engaged in the retreat from Mons is the "1914 Star."

GENERAL SIR ARTHUR SLOGGETT, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., has joined the Board of Bovril Limited.

THE KING has awarded the bronze medal for gallantry in saving life at sea to Surgeon Eric Alfred Fiddian, R.N., in recognition of services in rescuing a shipwrecked British crew in January last in the White Sea.

THE Cheshire Local Medical and Panel Committee is summoning a meeting of the medical officers of health, medical officers of child welfare centres, and members of the committees of the centres in Cheshire to hear an address by Dr. Truby King on the work of the centres. The meeting will be held at the Crewe Arms Hotel, Crewe, on Saturday, September 14th.

THE sum of nearly half a million sterling was contributed to the British Red Cross and the Order of St. John on Our Day in Canada last October. The final payment of nearly £180,000 was made on August 2nd. The total sum the joint committee has received from all sources now exceeds eleven millions sterling.

AT a meeting at the London Mansion House on August 1st, attended by numerous representatives of literature, science, and politics of the City of London and of the University of Cambridge, an influential committee was appointed to establish a Chair of French as a potent means of maintaining and increasing the intellectual sympathy between the two nations.

THE late Surgeon A. L. Pearce Gould, R.N., youngest son of Colonel Sir Alfred Pearce Gould, K.C.V.O., who was killed in action on May 19th, had by his will provided that in the event of his dying on active service £1,000 Five Per Cent. War Stock should go to His Majesty the King for the reduction of the National Debt. A number of bequests are also made to religious and philanthropic institutions.

Reveille (price 2s. 6d. net) is a new quarterly which succeeds *Recalled to Life*. It differs from its predecessor inasmuch as its editor, Mr. John Galsworthy, has enlisted the help of many writers, including Mr. Rudyard Kipling, Mr. Joseph Conrad, and Sir J. M. Barrie, to lighten its pages. But it will continue to publish many articles on the methods of alleviating the lot of disabled sailors and soldiers.

THE Joint War Committee of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John has, after consultation with General Goodwin, D.G., A.M.S., established a commission for service with the Allied Forces landed in North Russia. The principal medical officer with these forces

will act as British Red Cross Commissioner for the joint societies. Some of our readers may be glad to have their attention called to a paper by Dr. W. T. Grenfell of Labrador, on clothing against cold, published in the JOURNAL of January 15th, 1916.

AT the twenty-ninth meeting of the Medical Society of the Canadian Army Medical Corps, Shorncliffe, on August 12th, Colonel Adami, C.A.M.C., F.R.S. (professor of pathology McGill University), will give a lecture on the Canadian Army Medical Corps and medical progress. Sir William Osler will lecture at the following meeting in September on the future of the medical profession in Canada. Medical men not members of the society who would like to be present at either lecture should communicate with the secretary, Major A. H. Pirie, No. XI Canadian General Hospital, Shorncliffe.

IN order to prevent any delay in issuing an infant's ration book, Food Control Committees have been instructed by the Ministry of Food to issue an emergency card in cases where registration of birth is unavoidably delayed. This card will bear enough coupons to provide the infant's weekly ration during the probable interval between birth and date of registration. Such card should be exchanged for an infant's ration book as soon as the birth certificate is obtained. Application for the emergency card should be made on Form N. 30, suitably modified, and must be countersigned by the doctor or midwife in charge of the case. The form can be obtained from any local food office, and, after being duly filled in, can be presented by any one acting on behalf of the parents.

IN giving judgement in a recent case at the Tenterden County Court, in which a medical practitioner sued a patient for fees for medical attendance, the judge ruled that a medical man could not legally claim increased fees due to war conditions unless a fresh contract had been made. We believe that in many areas of the country public announcement has been made of the intention of the medical men in the district to charge increased fees in future. In some areas medical men have themselves made the announcement by way of a circular, or by a notice hung up in their surgeries. In any district where this has not been done the local Division of the British Medical Association might appropriately take the matter up and issue a notification to the public.

DURING the summer school, Cambridge, Sir William Osler on August 7th gave a sketch of the evolution of scientific medicine in the United States, illustrated by lantern slides. He divided the story into four periods. The first, British, to 1820, concerned with medicine among the early colonists, tracing the influence of Edinburgh and of John Hunter, and coming down to the New England group illustrated by Jacob Bigelow and James Jackson. The second, French, period extended from 1820 to 1860, when the influence of Laënnec and Louis was supreme; of the third, German, period extended from 1860 to 1890, the main features were specialism at the Vienna school, the teaching of Virchow and Koch, and the work of Traube in experimental medicine. The fourth period is the American, from 1890 to the present day, its chief features being the reorganization of hospitals as integral parts of the university system, and unit and team-work illustrated in the clinics of Cushing, Halsted, and the Mayo brothers.

THE report of the Kashmir Medical Mission of the Church Missionary Society for 1917 gives an account of the work of the hospital at Srinagar by Dr. Ernest F. Neve and his colleagues during that year. The hospital contains 150 beds, including 40 for women, and from 10 to 20 are usually occupied by children. The following is a summary of the medical and surgical work: New out-patients, 16,158; total attendances, 38,934; in-patients, 1,719 (1,345 surgical and 374 medical). The surgical operations numbered 4,143, with 28 deaths. There were 23 deaths from medical diseases. Of 938 major operations, about 200 were on the eye, including 96 for cataract. The number of cases operated on for epithelioma was 104, almost all of the Kangri burn type. In 1917 the Durbar made a grant of 4,000 rupees, which was particularly acceptable as a mark of state recognition of the work of the hospital. In the Kashmir State Leper Asylum there were 106 patients at the beginning of 1917; during the year 110 new cases were admitted, making a total of 216 (161 men and 55 women). Sodium gynocardate is in regular use; of eight cases treated for eight months, there were signs of improvement in five. Three patients who had been in the hospital for some years under various treatment, including nastine, were pronounced to be definitely cured. The value of the work of medical missionaries in India is great. While labouring faithfully in their Master's vineyard they bring the blessings of scientific medicine to fellow-creatures peculiarly in need of such succour.