

Thymol was administered in cachets, but the whole dose, apparently, was at once returned by vomiting. On the next day the patient became comatose with a scarcely palpable pulse. Under treatment with stimulants he regained his previous condition in the course of a day or two and no more thymol was given, but a week later a similar attack of collapse ended fatally. The duration of the illness was, in all, three months.

Post-mortem Examination.—Contrary to expectation, only one mature ankylostome was found in the intestine, and little or no change was seen in the lining mucous membrane. The increase in the number of lymphocytes had suggested the possibility of tuberculosis, and, in view of the history of fainting attacks, headache, and vomiting, it was thought that a tuberculous mass might be found in the cerebellum. The brain was found to be normal, but extensive tuberculous disease, with marked caseation, was found in both suprarenal bodies, and the symptoms were doubtless due chiefly to this condition.

The patient had never been out of England, nor had he visited Cornwall or any other mining district; he had not, in fact, travelled farther from London than Dover. The boy had, however, associated to a considerable extent with soldiers who had been abroad, and it is possible that he acquired the ankylostoma infection in this manner. The case is put on record on account of the clinical interest attaching to its rarity and obscurity. Whether as a result of the war ankylostomiasis will become somewhat less restricted in its incidence remains to be seen.

Memoranda:

MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

THE CONE DIAPHRAGM IN X-RAY WORK.

THE localization of foreign bodies in the orbit by most of the ordinary methods is tedious and not always accurate. While in France I set about designing a new form of localizer. I was anxious to obtain the sharpest possible shadows and therefore investigated the question of diaphragms in x-ray work. I knew that the results obtained normally with a plane diaphragm were inferior to those obtained with the aid of a cylinder cone or tube diaphragm. The usual explanations of this phenomenon did not appear to me to satisfy all the facts, and I therefore carried out some experiments. From the results I obtained I convinced myself and several others who have repeated the work that

1. Most, if not all, of the general fog and blurring of the shadow of a foreign body in an x-ray negative is due to secondary rays set up in the tissues by primary rays arising from the anti-cathode.
2. The usual plane diaphragm is not opaque to all the hard rays from the A.C.
3. The tube cone or cylinder diaphragm is superior to the plane diaphragm only in so far as it is opaque to these primary rays owing to its greater thickness.
4. With a plane diaphragm of lead 6 mm. thick one obtains as good results as with any cone diaphragm.

Further, the amount of secondary rays set up in aluminium is less than that set up in human tissues, and therefore thin aluminium sheets may possibly be placed with advantage between the patient and the plate to filter off some of these softer fogging secondary rays with resulting greater contrast. An account of the experiments will shortly appear in the *Archives of Radiology and Electro-Therapeutics*.

B. T. LANG, B.Ch., F.R.C.S.,

London, W. Assistant Surgeon, Western Ophthalmic Hospital.

PURULENT MENINGITIS WITH RECOVERY.

ON March 23rd, 1919, a man was admitted to a casualty clearing station suffering from a lacerated scalp the result of a fall from his horse two days previously. The wound had been cleaned and sutured at the field ambulance. He complained of severe headache, and gave a history of having been unconscious for a short time after the accident. Temperature, pulse, and reflexes were normal. There was slight tenderness and suppuration around the wound, and the stitches were removed. Some hæmorrhage under the conjunctiva of the right eye externally came apparently from behind the orbit. The following day the temperature was 101.2°. He complained of headache, and pain radiating down the spine; the head was retracted, the pupils equal, the knee-jerks

brisk, and Kernig's sign was present. Under an anaesthetic lumbar puncture was performed. The fluid was under considerable pressure and opalescent; about one ounce was withdrawn. The pathological report showed "polymorphs abundant, and lymph cells; no organisms seen." The man's condition steadily improved from that time onwards. Urotropin was given, gr. x every eight hours. He was evacuated on April 5th, apparently perfectly well.

T. W. HANCOCK, Major R.A.M.C.(T.),
Surgical Specialist.

Rebels.

IN FLANDERS FIELDS.

It is very meet and our bounden duty in these days of rejoicing to think of those who made victory possible, being mindful, not alone of their deeds and sacrifices, but of the spirit that impelled them—a spirit shared then by the nations of which they were the champions. Already it has become difficult to recapture the spirit of 1915, when all knew that the war would be long, though the fighting men were sure of the final result if only the civilians held firm. To those into whose hands shall fall a small volume, *In Flanders Fields*,¹ the memory of the spirit of 1915 will return, for John McCrae's poem, "born of fire and blood in the hottest part of the second battle of Ypres," gave "expression to a mood which at the time was universal, and will remain as a permanent record when the mood is passed." To a collection of some thirty of McCrae's poems Sir ANDREW MACPHAIL has added, not a formal biography, but "an essay in character," and vivid is his picture of the sterling qualities and lovable disposition of John McCrae. On one side of him he was a type of the physician of the twentieth century; beginning with pathology, he went on to be lecturer in medicine at McGill, working unceasingly in clinic, hospital, laboratory, and class-room, and with his pen. But he found time to make friends among all sorts and conditions of men, and the friends he made he did not lose. Through it all, like many another young physician, he found relief and solace in good books, and knew the rarer joy of creation. The poem that gives its title to this book was not his first, nor was it the first in a form which, as he devised and used it, has a haunting melody; all his early verses were contributed to the *University Magazine of Canada*, and Sir Andrew Macphail, who was its editor, writes that when he brought his work it "was finished to the last point." In July, 1914, McCrae completed the heavy task of revising for a new edition the *Textbook of Pathology* he had written with Professor Adami. He never doubted where his duty lay. But he went into the war without illusion, for he had served in South Africa and knew that this war would be terrible. His first experience of what it could be was with the artillery in the second battle of Ypres—"at the end of the first day if any one had told us we had to spend seventeen days there, we would have folded our hands and said it could not be done." General Morrison describes the circumstances: "My headquarters were in a trench on the top of the bank of Ypres Canal, and John had his dressing station in a hole dug in the foot of the bank. During periods in the battle men who were shot actually rolled down the bank into his dressing station." It was in this dug-out, a square hole, 8 by 8, roofed over with remnants to keep out the rain, and having a little sandbag parapet at the back to keep out pieces of back-kick shells, that he wrote the appealing piece of verse that was to stir so many hearts. It came straight from his heart, in its revolt, its doubt, and its hope. The effect it produced on both sides of the Atlantic is part of the history of the war.

Sir Andrew Macphail's essay is a joy and a consolation. He makes no attempt to impress his own estimate, but gradually, by a fine disdain of chronological order and seeming irrelevance of incident, he builds up in the reader's mind with cunning hand a conception of McCrae the more convincing that the building has seemed devoid of art.

¹ *In Flanders Fields. And Other Poems.* By Lieut.-Colonel John McCrae, M.D. With an Essay in Character by Sir Andrew Macphail. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. London: Hodder and Stoughton. 1919. (Demy 8vo, pp. ix + 141; 4 illustrations. 6s. net.)

rates are the same as those laid down in Army Order 54. It appears, therefore, that in the case of Royal Army Medical Corps officers in India Office payment a certificate is required. Officers in Mesopotamia come under Indian rates of pay.

AUXILIARY ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS FUNDS. The usual quarterly committee meeting was held on July 4th. Twelve grants were made to cases in the Benevolent Branch for Officers, amounting to £398, and two grants in the Relief Branch for the rank and file, amounting to £86.

These funds are for the relief of widows and orphans of commissioned officers and non-commissioned officers and men of the rank and file of the Royal Army Medical Corps, Special Reserve, Territorial Force, and New Armies, and also for the relief of the children of those who have been so severely damaged in the present war that they need help for the education of children. Requests for relief should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary, Sir William Hale-White, at the offices of the funds at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W.1.

TERRITORIAL DINNER.

LIEUT.-COLONEL A. R. HENCHLEY, D.S.O., R.A.M.C.(T.F.), desires to say that the dinner of Territorial Force medical officers is intended to bring together all those officers, and is not limited to those resident in London. It will be held in London, and Colonel Henchley asks any officers resident in London willing to serve on the committee to write to him, care of Messrs. Holt and Co., 44, Charing Cross, London, W.C.

Universities and Colleges.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

DIPLOMA IN PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE.

The managing committee for the Cambridge diploma in psychological medicine desires to announce that it has been decided to recognize twelve months' clinical experience in a military neurological hospital as qualifying a candidate to enter for Part II of the examination for this diploma. Part I is open to all persons whose names are on the *Medical Register*.

A course in preparation for these examinations will be held at the Psychological Laboratory, Cambridge, during August next. Information may be obtained by writing to Dr. J. P. Lowson at the Psychological Laboratory, Cambridge.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

A MEETING of the Senate was held on June 25th, when Sir Cooper Perry was re-elected Vice-Chancellor for 1919-20.

Dr. T. Baillie Johnston has been appointed, as from September 1st, 1919, to be the first incumbent of the University Chair of Anatomy, tenable at Guy's Hospital Medical School, and Dr. Alfred Joseph Clark to the University Chair of Pharmacology, tenable at University College, as from September 1st, 1919.

An amended syllabus in human anatomy and morphology for the B.Sc. honours degree for internal students was approved to come into force for examinations in and after 1921; copies can be obtained from the Academic Registrar.

Mr. H. J. Waring has been elected Chairman of the Committee of Medical Members of the Senate and Sir Cooper Perry has, on the nomination of the Senate, been reappointed a Governor of the Battersea Polytechnic.

The annual report of the Physiological Laboratory Committee was presented. It gave a general account of the work carried on during the year.

A course of four lectures on the electrical examination of the nervous system was delivered by Professor A. D. Waller, F.R.S., and Miss M. D. Waller, and in the department of general physical physiology Dr. Waller has continued his work on the emotive responses of the nervous system and on the influence of muscular work on the output of carbon dioxide. In the department of chemical physiology, owing to the fact that Mr. Gardner's time was largely occupied in munitions work, the investigations were curtailed, but progress has been made with various researches previously instituted. The staff of the laboratory is still below pre-war strength, and the lecture room continues to be used by the university for clerical purposes. The Laboratory Committee urges the importance of restoring it to the laboratory before the commencement of the next academic year, when the advanced lectures, which have been in abeyance, ought to be resumed.

The annual report of the Brown Animal Sanatory Institution stated that 1,126 dogs, 885 cats, and 129 horses had been brought to the institution. At the request of the Medical Research Committee and Control Board (Liquor Traffic) the acting superintendent had continued in the laboratory his investigations on factors influencing alcoholic intoxication. The work was being published as a special report of the Medical Research Committee. The superintendent and an assistant had continued his work on ultramicroscopic viruses. The appointment of Mr. F. W. Twort as superintendent of the institution had been continued for one year from June 1st, 1919.

LONDON HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The following prizes and certificates were presented on July 14th to the successful students:

"Price" (£100) and Entrance Scholarships in Science (£50), Messrs. G. N. Golden, J. A. H. Andre, K. W. Todd (equal scholarships divided). Epsom Scholarship (for students of Epsom College),

Mr. G. L. Peskett. Prize in Clinical Medicine (£20), Mr. A. B. K. Watkins; Honorary Certificate, Mr. E. Sergeant. Prize in Clinical Surgery (£20), Messrs. E. L. Sergeant and A. B. K. Watkins (equal prize divided); Honorary Certificate, Mr. J. Fanning. Prize in Clinical Obstetrics and Gynaecology (£20), Mr. M. W. B. Bulman; Honorary Certificate, Mr. F. F. Langridge. "Duckworth Nelson" Prize in Practical Medicine and Surgery (£10), Mr. A. B. K. Watkins. "Lethaby" Prizes (£10, Organic Chemistry), Messrs. S. W. Eveson and G. N. Golden (equal prize divided). Prize in Anatomy and Physiology (£25), Mr. H. C. V. Joy; Honorary Certificates, Miss H. B. Ashton, Miss O. G. Potter. Prizes in Elementary Clinical Surgery (£5 each), Messrs. J. E. Zeitlin, F. H. W. Tozer, and Miss O. G. Potter; Honorary Certificates, Miss M. E. Kennedy and Mr. H. C. V. Joy. Prize in Practical Anatomy (£10), Miss H. B. Ashton; Messrs. D. Krestin, F. C. Hunt, T. C. Oliver (equal prize divided). "Anderson" Prizes in Elementary Clinical Medicine (value £3 each), Miss M. E. Kennedy, Miss D. W. Boughton, Mr. D. C. Williams; Honorary Certificates, Mrs. M. H. Burrows and Miss R. E. Pilgrim.

The "Buxton" Scholarship in Arts, the "Price" Entrance Scholarship in Anatomy and Physiology, and the "Arnold Thompson" Prize were not awarded.

Mr. Marlborough Pryor, after presenting the awards, referred to the fact that women students had been admitted on equal terms with men, and expressed his gratification at having had to present four prizes and five honorary certificates to women students. He appealed to women students to consider the claims and attractions of research, for he considered that in many ways, by their delicate sense of touch, their quick perception, and intuitive powers, they had an advantage over men. He also believed that they were more self-denying, and therefore more ready to devote themselves to such work, for which he hoped national or other funds would be available.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

At the University Court, on July 14th, Dr. J. C. Meakins, director of the department of experimental medicine, McGill University, Montreal, who has served in the Canadian Army Medical Corps both in this country and in France, was appointed professor of therapeutics; and Dr. Francis D. Boyd, university lecturer in clinical medicine, Moncrieff-Arnott professor of clinical medicine, in succession to Professor Russell.

The court resolved that in view of the exceptionally large number of medical students already entered, not more than 130 should be allowed to matriculate for the first time in October, 1919, with a view to study in the faculty of medicine.

Mr. William Wilson, M.A., LL.B., a distinguished graduate of the university, admitted an advocate in 1910, was appointed secretary of the university in succession to Sir Ludovic Grant (resigned).

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.

The following were among the degrees conferred on July 21st:

M.D.—*Elizabeth M. Sloan (Mrs. Chessier), J. Steele.
M.B., Ch.B.—*J. G. Coltart, *J. B. Morrison, Christine C. Abernethy, Helen F. Allison (Mrs. Lindsay), Grace R. Anderson, Susan S. Bryce, Emily L. Clow, H. L. Coulthard, R. MacL. Courtney, Veronica C. J. Davies, Louise Denil, A. D. Fraser, M. F. Gibson, J. F. Hamilton, D. W. Humble, J. Kirk, D. M. Lindsay, Margaret Logan, P. Y. Lyle, Alice McElwee, Alice McClashan, Evelyn C. McD. McGregor, Annie I. C. MacLardy, Mabel M. Maclean, Agnes H. Macwhirter, R. Mair, S. H. Meiring, J. W. Morton, Louisa E. Pigeon, Helen L. Ralston, Katherine O. Robertson, Eliza D. Sandison, W. Scott, P. M. Speed, J. Stewart, Elaine B. S. Stocquart, Jean B. Thomson, Marion Thomson, A. S. van Collier, Helen B. Wilson, S. Young.

* With commendation.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, BELFAST.

At the meeting of the Senate on July 16th the following appointments were made: Dr. Thomas Walmsley as professor of anatomy, in succession to Professor J. Symington, and Dr. J. W. C. Gunn as full-time lecturer in pharmacology in the vacancy created by the retirement of Sir William Whittle, M.P., and Dr. P. T. Crymble was reappointed lecturer in applied anatomy.

The following yearly appointments were also made: Mr. James A. Craig lecturer in ophthalmology and otology, Professor W. St. C. Symmers and Dr. T. Houston, joint lecturers in medical jurisprudence, Dr. John McLeish teacher in vaccination, Dr. H. W. Baillie lecturer in public health administration, Dr. John Morrow clinical lecturer in medicine, Mr. R. J. Johnstone clinical lecturer in midwifery, Mr. Andrew Fullerton, C.M.G., clinical lecturer in surgery, Mr. Haydn Mulholland clinical lecturer in ophthalmology.

The appointment of the following assistants and demonstrators in the Faculty of Medicine for the session 1919-20 was approved. *Demonstrators*: Clinical Pathology, Dr. Thomas Houston; Materia Medica and Pharmacy, Dr. V. G. L. Fielden. *Assistants*: Anatomy, Dr. R. J. McConnell and Dr. Amy C. McCallum; Medicine, Dr. S. I. Turkington; Midwifery, Dr. J. McLeish.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.

An extraordinary comitia of the Royal College of Physicians of London was held on Thursday, July 17th, at 5 p.m., the President, Sir Norman Moore, Bt., occupying the chair.

A letter was received from the Minister of Health dated July 4th, 1919, inviting the College to place before him the names of persons who, in the opinion of the College, are specially suitable

to serve upon the Consultative Council which will advise upon "medical and allied services." A provisional list was submitted to the College and approved.

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. S. M. Connell, R. B. Forgan, Poon Lip Loh, T. L. Edwards, J. K. Steel, J. F. Kerr, S. Stein, T. R. O'Keeffe, W. Gibb, D. A. Stegman, M. J. Woodberg, Jung Bahadur Singh.

Obituary.

THE death is announced of Dr. JOHN FRASER STEVEN, D.S.O., late Captain in the Royal Army Medical Corps, who had a distinguished career in the war. A pupil of Glasgow High School, he went to Glasgow University, where he graduated in Arts in 1903, and afterwards was a distinguished student in science and medicine, graduating in both faculties. Prior to the outbreak of hostilities he was in practice at 43, Lansdowne Crescent, and acted as assistant to the professor of physiology in Glasgow University. He resigned the latter position in 1915 to go on active service, and was attached to the 47th Field Ambulance, 15th Division. He was mentioned in the dispatches from Viscount French published at the beginning of 1916, and was awarded the D.S.O. for gallant conduct during one of the battles on the western front.

FLEET SURGEON JEREMIAH SUGRUE, R.N.(ret.), died in London on June 2nd, aged 62. He took the M.D. and M.Ch. of the Royal University of Ireland in 1881, after which he entered the navy, retiring as fleet surgeon on February 28th, 1900.

SURGEON COMMANDER FREDERICK FEDARB, R.N., whose death has recently been reported, was educated at Glasgow University, where he graduated M.B. and C.M. in 1887, after which he entered the navy as surgeon, attaining the rank of fleet surgeon on July 28th, 1906. He was posted to H.M.S. *Vernon*, the torpedo school ship at Portsmouth, on February 22nd last.

SURGEON LIEUTENANT COMMANDER QUINTIN HUME RICHARDSON, R.N., died on June 23rd, aged 34. He was the only son of Deputy Inspector-General Richardson, R.N.(ret.), was educated at Guy's Hospital, and took the diplomas of M.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P.Lond. in 1910. He entered the navy as surgeon soon after, and had recently been promoted to his late rank. He was posted to H.M.S. *Dragon* on August 7th, 1918.

DEPUTY SURGEON-GENERAL GEORGE WHITLA, R.A.M.C. (ret.), died at Hove, Sussex, on May 30th, aged 87. He took the diploma of L.R.C.S.I. in 1856, and entered the army as assistant surgeon on September 15th, 1857, over sixty years ago. He became surgeon on September 15th, 1869; surgeon-major on March 1st, 1873; and brigade-surgeon on October 8th, 1882, retiring with an honorary step in rank on February 1st, 1883. In the regimental days he served in the 99th Foot, now the 2nd Wiltshires, in the Royal Artillery, and in the 45th Foot, now the 1st Notts and Derby.

LIEUT.-COLONEL JAY GOULD, C.B.E., Bengal Medical Service, died at Aden of malaria on June 2nd. He was born on January 20th, 1867, and educated at University College, Liverpool, graduating M.B. and Ch.B. Victoria University in 1890. He entered the I.M.S. as surgeon-lieutenant on July 29th, 1893, and became lieutenant-colonel on July 29th, 1913. Before the war he held the post of Deputy Director-General of the I.M.S. He had seen much war service: North-West Frontier of India, Waziristan, 1894-95, medal with clasp; Chitral, 1895, relief of Chitral, medal with clasp; North-West Frontier of India, 1897-98, the Malakund, operations in Bajaur and in the Mamund country, Utman Khel, Buner, and action of the Tanga Pass, clasp; China, 1900, medal; Tibet, 1903-4, medal. He had also been on service, on various fronts, throughout the late war. He received the C.B.E. on August 25th, 1917, and was made a Knight of Grace of St. John on December 28th, 1917.

MAJOR CHARLES EDWARD BALDWIN SEAL, V.D., Indian Defence Force, Medical Branch, died at Darjiling, Bengal, on January 10th. He was educated at University College Hospital, and took the diplomas of M.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P. London in 1888. Some twenty years ago he took up a practice at Darjiling, the summer capital of Bengal. He took a commission as second lieutenant in the Northern Bengal Mounted Rifles (Volunteers) on July 21st, 1899, and attained the rank of lieutenant-colonel in that corps on September 16th, 1913. When the Indian Volunteer Corps was absorbed in the Indian Defence Force, during the late war, he transferred to the medical branch of that force, with the rank of major. He had received the Volunteer Decoration.

CAPTAIN WALTER SIDNEY SHEPPARD, R.A.M.C., died after an operation at Charing Cross Hospital on June 6th, aged 48. He was educated at Cambridge, where he graduated B.A. in the Natural Science tripos in 1892, and M.B. and B.C. in 1895, and at Charing Cross Hospital, and, after acting as resident obstetric physician in that hospital, joined the Colonial Medical Service, and served in the Straits Settlements, where he rose to be senior health officer of Singapore, and a Justice of the Peace. After retirement, he took a temporary commission as lieutenant in the R.A.M.C. on December 1st, 1916, and was promoted to captain after a year's service.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM S. R. STEVEN, R.A.M.C., who died on July 1st at the Military Hospital, Devonport, was the youngest son of the late John Steven, of Bay View, Sligo, Ireland, and grandson of the late Captain Caleb Robertson, 88th (Connaught Rangers), of Abbey View, Boyle, Ireland. A student of Queen's College, Belfast, he took the degrees of M.B., B.Ch. R.U.I., in 1909. After acting as resident clinical assistant at the Townsend Street Maternity Hospital, Belfast, and as a resident surgeon and physician at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast, he entered the Royal Army Medical Corps as lieutenant in January, 1911. He was appointed to the Eastern Command, and eventually proceeded to India early in 1913, being employed as malarial expert at Karachi. He was gazetted to the rank of captain in July, 1914. For the first eighteen months of the late war he acted, with great credit to himself, as radiologist to the Colaba War Hospital, Bombay; later he was employed in a similar capacity on a hospital ship plying between East Africa, Mesopotamia, and India for a period of close on two years. He was invalided from India at the beginning of the present year, and was at the time of his death, from appendicitis commanding the Military Hospital, Egguckland, Plymouth. Captain Steven was a man of charming personality, conspicuous ability, and the possessor of many friends, by whom his loss is greatly deplored. He was unmarried. By his untimely death, at the age of 34, the Royal Army Medical Corps loses the services of one of its most promising officers.

CAPTAIN GEORGE THOMAS WHYTE, R.A.M.C., of Loughbrickland, co. Down, died recently at Castlevalle, Rushbrooke. He took the diplomas of L.R.C.S. and P.I. in 1892, the F.R.C.S.I. in 1901, and the D.P.H. in 1903. He served as a civil medical officer in the Field Force in the South African war, and also in the West African Medical Staff, in North Nigeria. He took a temporary commission as lieutenant in the R.A.M.C. on September 1st, 1914, and was promoted to captain after a year's service.

DR. ABRAHAM JACOBI, one of the leading authorities on diseases of children, died recently in New York in his 90th year. He was born at Hartum-in-Minden, Westphalia, on May 6th, 1830, and studied at Greifswald, Göttingen, and Bonn, where he took his doctor's degree in 1851. Soon after graduation his political opinions brought him into conflict with the Prussian Government, and he was thrown into prison. On his release in 1853 he shook the dust of Germany off his feet and emigrated to America. He was professor of children's diseases in the New York Medical College from 1861 to 1864, and in the University Medical College from 1865 to 1870, when he was appointed to the chair of pediatrics in the College of Physicians and Surgeons. That position he continued to hold for many years. He contributed largely to the literature of his specialty, and some of his books have become classics. So great was

his reputation that the German Government sought to recapture him, and offered him a chair in the University of Berlin, which he declined. Owing to his love of liberty his sympathies in the late war were strongly anti-Prussian, and in 1918 he accepted the honorary presidency of the Friends of American Democracy, an association of Americans, mostly of German descent, opposed to the rule of the Hohenzollern dynasty. Dr. Jacobi, who was held in the highest respect in his adopted country, was the recipient of many academic and other honours.

Medical News.

THE house and library of the Royal Society of Medicine will be closed during the whole of August for repairs and cleaning.

DR. H. R. OSWALD, coroner for the South-Eastern district of London, has been appointed by the London County Council coroner for the Western district in succession to the late Mr. C. Luxmoore Drew.

MESSRS. H. K. LEWIS AND CO. have removed their publishing, wholesale, and advertisement departments to 28, Gower Place, W.C.1., opposite their old premises; in addition to enlarging the book shop, it is intended to provide a new reading room over the present library room.

DR. G. S. STANSFIELD, on resigning the office of medical superintendent to the Birkenhead Union Infirmary, after twenty-four years' connexion with the institution, has been presented by the staff with a silver tea set as a mark of their appreciation and esteem.

MESSRS. LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO. hope to publish Volume I of the *Official Naval History of the War*, by Sir Julian Corbett, in the autumn. It will end with the battle of the Falklands. It is hoped to complete the work in four, or possibly five, volumes.

THE eleventh congress of the Belgian Medical Federation was held at Antwerp on July 19th and 20th. The questions discussed were the relation of the medical profession to insurance societies, the dental art and general medicine, the organization of a medical co-operative purchase association, medical printing and medical co-operative societies.

SIR WILLIAM ARBUTHNOT LANE, Bt., C.B., F.R.C.S., has accepted the invitation of the committee of the French Hospital in London to act as senior surgeon. The following other appointments have been made: Physicians, Drs. J. Campbell McClure, F. G. Crookshank, Jean Brossy, Jean Braun (genito-urinary diseases); Surgeons, Mr. J. Cairns Forsyth, Mr. Robert M. Rowe; Ophthalmic Surgeon, Mr. James McHoul; Radiologist, Dr. F. Hernaman-Johnson.

A LETTER of thanks has been addressed by the Ministry of Health to Local Pensions Committees and Sub-committees for their work in connexion with the administration of the scheme of dependants' allowances, and particularly in connexion with the War Office Appeals Committee, by responding readily to requests for additional information in individual cases. The letter is signed by Sir Robert Morant, Secretary to the Ministry.

DR. T. JAYS has accepted the post of Vice-Principal of Livingstone College. In addition to helping the Principal, Dr. Wigram, he will give the lectures previously delivered by Colonel G. B. Price, M.D., C.M.G., who is taking up work under the Ministry of Pensions in connexion with the treatment of discharged soldiers suffering from tropical diseases. Before the college reopens on October 1st a course of fifteen lectures on personal care of health in the tropics will be given from September 22nd to 25th.

THE attendance at the victory meeting of the American Medical Association, recently held at Atlantic City, was the largest with the exception of two ever recorded. The number registered was 4,929. President Wilson cabled his congratulations from Paris to Surgeon-General Braisted on his election as president for 1920. At the closing meeting a resolution was adopted calling on Congress to allot at least £300,000 for the prevention of influenza epidemics, to be used in research work by the Public Health Service.

AN exhibition of chemical products, organized by the *British and Colonial Pharmacist*, was held at the Northampton Institute, Clerkenwell, last week, concurrently with the congress of the Society of Chemical Industry. The exhibition was the twentieth of its series, which was interrupted during the war, but has now been resumed with many features of fresh interest. Nearly a hundred firms contributed. Among the surgical dressings displayed was "Sanoplast," a dressing composed of gauze, with adhesive plaster edges, which does not require the use of

bandages or pins. Many pharmaceutical products, vaccines, antiseptics, and British equivalents for synthetic preparations previously obtained from abroad, were included.

A MEETING of the court of directors of the Society for Relief of Widows and Orphans of Medical Men was held on July 2nd, Sir Alfred Pearce Gould, president, in the chair. Twelve new members were elected, the largest number at any meeting since the centenary of the society in 1888. The death of one of the annuitants of the society was announced; she came on the funds in 1890; her late husband had paid in subscriptions £38 17s., and his widow and one child had received from the society the sum of £2,900; the child is still in receipt of a grant of £50 a year. This case, which is but one of many, is a striking example of the benefits of the society, for relief is only granted to the widows and orphans of deceased members. The sum of £2,036 5s. was voted for the payment of the half-yearly grants to the widows and orphans on the society's books (fifty widows and seven orphans). In addition the sum of £285 was voted as a special Peace Gift, each widow and orphan to receive £5. The invested capital of the society now stands at £140,000; this cannot by the by-laws be decreased, and only the income derived from it is used for the payment of grants and expenses. Membership is open to any medical practitioner who at the time of his election resides within a twenty-mile radius of Charing Cross. The annual subscription varies with the age of the member at the time of his election, and starts at £2 2s.; there are special terms for life membership. Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the secretary at the offices of the society, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W.1.

Letters, Notes, and Answers.

IN order to avoid delay, it is particularly requested that ALL letters on the editorial business of the JOURNAL be addressed to the Editor at the Office of the JOURNAL.

The postal address of the BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION and BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL is 429, Strand, London, W.C.2. The telegraphic addresses are:

1. EDITOR of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, *Atiology Westrand, London*; telephone, 2631, Gerrard.
2. ACTING FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND BUSINESS MANAGER (Advertisements, etc.), *Articulate, Westrand, London*; telephone, 2630, Gerrard.
3. MEDICAL SECRETARY, *Medisera, Westrand, London*; telephone, 2634, Gerrard. The address of the Irish Office of the British Medical Association is 16, South Frederick Street, Dublin.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

A DOCTOR in the western part of Ireland has a patient who suffers every winter from chilblains of the hands, but without itching; he desires to hear of some locality in the South of England with a climate in which he might hope to escape.

SULPHUR IN CHRONIC SEBORRHOEA OF THE SCALP.

"CALVUS" has under treatment a lady, aged 25, whose thin fine hair grows more scanty. Hair washes of many sorts have been used, and thyroid and calcium lactate internally. He inquires whether the colloidal sulphur would be useful.

* * We are informed by a leading dermatologist that collosol sulphur oil is of great use in chronic seborrhoea of the scalp. The sulphur is in a state of fine subdivision, and the application leaves no stickiness. Appropriate internal treatment is necessary in many cases, as seborrhoea is not entirely a local condition.

INCOME TAX.

H. V. B. inquires whether the assessment of professional earnings on the basis of the actual income of the year in the case of a practitioner who has served in the army in that year is compulsory or optional.

* * Undoubtedly optional. The legal basis of assessment is the average of three years, and that can be set aside only on the application of the person assessed for an adjustment of the change to the basis of the actual year. Our correspondent does not say how the average was computed by him, and we assume, of course, that the point in dispute is not the accuracy of the average figure but its applicability.

FEES FOR LIFE INSURANCE EXAMINATIONS.

"EXAMINER" writes: It has been the custom for many years, I believe, for the larger life insurance offices to pay a fee of 10s. 6d. for examinations of proposals under £300, and £1 1s. for those over. The same form is used for both, and the amount of work (urine testing, etc.) is identical. Is not the time now opportune for insisting upon £1 1s. in all cases? This sum appears to me to be on the lean side for the