

lactation requires confirmation; for although discharge of albuminous fluid from the male breast is fairly common, chemical analysis has so far failed to show the presence of milk. This is only what one would expect considering the scarcity of acini in the tissues examined. Pathological evidence, therefore, shows that the term gynaeomastia is really a misnomer. The position is admirably summed up by Stieda. He says: "The term gynaeomastia is only justified in so far as it applies to the external form and increase in volume of the male breast; it must not be understood to express a histological conception, nor any similarity between such a breast and the female breast which is capable of function."

Gynaeomastia, as has been indicated above, has many causes and cannot be considered as a true pathological entity. The term has already to a great extent fallen into disuse; it would save confusion to delete it altogether from our nomenclature.

In conclusion, I wish to thank Sir Crisp English and Mr. C. H. S. Frankau for kind permission to publish these cases, and Mrs. Hughes for the excellent drawing which is reproduced here. To Mr. Frankau also I am indebted for much valuable assistance in looking up records.

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Memoranda:

MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

ASPIRIN POISONING AND IDIOSYNCRASY.

In order to emphasize the constancy of the symptoms of aspirin poisoning I wish to record two cases, one of overdose and the other of idiosyncrasy.

CASE I.

Miss H., a highly neurotic young woman, suffered from facial neuralgia, and to stop the pain took fourteen to twenty 5-grain tablets of aspirin in two days. At night I received a message that she was choking. On arrival stertorous breathing was heard all over the house; the patient's eyes were watering, but there was no marked swelling of face, and no rash. I treated her for oedema of the glottis, applying poultices to neck, and giving hot coffee, castor oil, and brandy by the mouth. Next morning she was quite recovered.

CASE II.

On November 4th, 1919, Mrs. P. sent for me in the country at 1 a.m. for a swollen face. She had a sore throat, for which a neighbour prescribed one 5-grain aspirin tablet. The swelling of the face was almost instantaneous; there was great oedema of the eyelids and lips, together with lachrymation. The pulse was about 120. There was a slight urticarial rash on the face, but none on the body; there was no evidence of oedema of larynx. I prescribed coffee and castor oil (brandy had already been administered), together with hot cloths over the eyes. The patient was better the next morning, and most of the oedema had gone.

I am indebted to Dr. R. F. Bolt for his note in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for November 1st for the diagnosis, which otherwise would have completely baffled me.

Woolston, Hants.

G. H. PRIDHAM.

SUGGESTION DURING NATURAL SLEEP.

THE mother of a boy aged 4 years mentioned to me casually that he was terrified of motors, especially motor cycles. I use one myself, and she said he would often run away when he heard me coming, and disliked going to my house for the same reason. He became very frightened if a motor cycle passed him on the road. The fear even extended to a machine at rest.

On talking it over with his mother, I discovered that the cause of this fear was the action of a chauffeur about a year before, who had told the boy to put his ear to the trumpet of a Klaxon horn, and had then driven home the sounding rod forcibly. The child used to start up in sleep and cry out.

I had treated the mother by hypnosis for a nervous affection with success and had discussed her child's case with her at some length. A few days later I happened to go to her house to see her husband. The boy was asleep, so, after telling his mother what I proposed to do, I sat down by the bedside, laid my hand on his head, and told him that he would not wake up, but that he would hear what I was saying to him. In very simple language I related the original occurrence, and told him that his fear would go and that he would be able in future to face a motor cycle without any alarm. I talked in this strain for about ten minutes, repeating my suggestions in slightly varying form, then left the house.

His mother soon noticed that the fear had gone; in fact, a few days after the boy told her that he was no longer afraid. He did not know that I had been to see him until she informed him of it. The fear has left him completely, so much so that he will now touch and examine a motor cycle with interest.

I had read that the subconscious mind of a child can be approached during ordinary sleep, and I was glad to have the opportunity of proving it for myself. A few weeks after this I was consulted by an educated man about his son aged 5 years. The boy was continually handling his penis. I recommended his father to talk to him during sleep, which he did. Later on he told me that the result had been completely successful.

Henley-on-Thames.

THOMAS H. GANDY.

Reports of Societies.

SECONDARY DEPOSITS IN BONE.

At a meeting of the Section of Surgery of the Royal Society of Medicine held on November 5th, the President, Sir JOHN BLAND-SUTTON, in opening a discussion and exhibition of specimens of secondary deposits in bone mistaken for primary tumours, said that when secondary carcinoma grew in an organ not easily accessible to putrefactive micro-organisms the deposit might become big before attracting attention. This phenomenon had been particularly observed in connexion with the ovary. Large solid and semi-solid ovarian tumours had been removed under the impression that they were primary. The histology of such tumours had proved that the primary tumours arose in the breast, gall bladder, or gastro-intestinal tract, and the subsequent history of such patients had confirmed the histological findings. This was equally true of bone. Portions of long bones had been removed and limbs had been amputated for tumours regarded as primary, but the tumour tissue had contained epithelial elements. It was established that epithelial tumours did not arise primarily in bone.

Forty years ago the attention of surgeons was drawn to the occurrence of tumours in bone, regarded as primary, but which contained epithelium in shape and arrangement resembling the lining of the vesicles of the thyroid gland. Many examples had been recorded in which such tumours had been discovered and removed, or recorded in the belief that they were primary, but after a minute examination of the structure of the tumour the surgeon had re-examined the patient and found an enlarged thyroid body.

In recent years some remarkable bone tumours had been observed and removed in bones which, when examined, had been found to resemble the zona fasciculata of the adrenal. Subsequently a tumour of similar structure had been found in the kidney or in the adrenal. This matter was of clinical importance and well worthy the consideration of surgeons. He described a case which he had recorded in full at the opening meeting of the session of 1918.

A doctor, aged 45, had a swelling in the lower part of the right humerus. Clinically it furnished the usual signs of a myeloma, and it was excised under this impression. Two years later it recurred in the stump of the bone; this was excised within two inches of the humeral shaft. The patient remained well for five years, and died suddenly in hospital. After death a tumour was found in each adrenal and in the right kidney. The tumours in the humerus, and in the adrenals and in the kidney were so destroyed by extravasation of blood that the structure of the tumour could not be satisfactorily determined.

Universities and Colleges.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

At a congregation held on October 30th the degree of doctor of medicine was conferred on C. P. Symonds.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

At a congregation held on November 9th the following medical degrees were conferred:

M.D.—W. G. Parkinson.

M.B.—G. D. Sherwood.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

A MEETING of the Senate was held on October 22nd. It was reported that the Vice-Chancellor had appointed Dr. W. G. Savage and Dr. W. L. H. Duckworth to the external examiner-ship in forensic medicine and anatomy respectively.

Dr. Amand Routh has been appointed a representative on the County Secondary School, Bermondsey.

An additional second examination for medical degrees, Part II, will begin on December 2nd.

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.

The University Entrance Scholarship for 1919-20 (£50) has been awarded to G. D. C. Tracey of Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.

The following degrees were conferred on November 8th:

M.D.—*George Macleod, †H. Graeme Anderson, †George Fletcher, H. M. Calder, C. Lundie, D. McIntyre, A. B. MacLean, N. A. Macleod, S. J. Moore, B. H. Robertson, A. C. Sharp.

* With high commendation. † With commendation.

Medical News.

THE old students' dinner of the London Hospital Medical College, postponed on account of the railway strike, has now been cancelled.

A PRESENTATION, consisting of an illuminated address and a sum of money, was recently made to Dr. and Mrs. John Halliwell by the residents in and near Winchcombe, Gloucestershire. Dr. Halliwell, who has practised at Winchcombe for nearly thirty years, has retired owing to ill health, aggravated by his exertions at the local Red Cross hospitals during the war.

THE next session of the General Council of Medical Education and Registration will commence at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, November 25th, when the President, Sir Donald MacAlister, K.C.B., M.D., will take the chair and give an address. The Council will continue to sit from day to day until the termination of its business. The session, we understand, is likely to be unusually short.

AN order in Council has been laid before Parliament transferring to the Ministry of Health duties of the Home Office with regard to the Anatomy Act. The duties transferred include the appointment of inspectors and the regulation of their duties.

THE medical men of Southend-on-Sea and district entertained at dinner on October 21st those of their colleagues who had served with His Majesty's forces during the late war. Over thirty sat down to dinner, and a thoroughly enjoyable evening was spent under the chairmanship of Dr. Cleveland Smith.

THE Aberdeen University Club, London, will hold its sixty-second half-yearly dinner at the Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly Circus, London, W.1, on Thursday next, November 20th, at 7.30 p.m., when Professor Ashley Watson Mackintosh, M.D., will be in the chair. The annual general meeting will be held at 6.30. The secretaries will be glad to hear of any new members or of changes of address; communications should be addressed to Dr. W. A. Milligan, 11, Upper Brook Street, W.

INFLUENZA has again broken out in epidemic form in Spain. There is a rather severe outbreak in the Argentine Republic also.

AN announcement by the Ministry of Pensions in our advertisement columns states that the appointments of medical referees in the London region will be filled in December. Applications from boroughs north of the Thames must be received by November 30th, and from those south of the Thames by December 10th. Another announcement is to the effect that the Ministry can still give part-time employment to medical men on medical boards in some towns of Lancashire and Cheshire, especially Manchester; applications should be addressed to Dr. A. H. Williams, Commissioner of Medical Services, Ministry of Pensions, 13, Piccadilly, Manchester.

A POST-GRADUATE course will be held at the Victoria Hospital for Children, Tite Street, Chelsea, each week-day from Monday, November 24th, till Friday, December 5th, inclusive. The fee for the course is £1 ls., except for those taking the course in connexion with the Fellowship of Medicine.

So far as we have been able to ascertain the following is a complete list of the medical men who were elected mayors in England and Wales on November 9th: Kensington, Dr. A. J. Rice-Oxley; Droitwich, Dr. P. A. Roden; Faversham, Dr. S. R. Alexander (tenth term of office); Stafford, Dr. F. M. Blumer; Tunbridge Wells, Dr. H. A. Latimer.

AT a meeting of the Royal Meteorological Society, to be held at 70, Victoria Street, S.W.1, on Wednesday, November 19th, Lieutenant C. W. B. Normand will read a paper on the effects of high temperature, humidity, and wind on the human body. The upper limits of livable climatic conditions for the average healthy man, with special reference to desert and tropical conditions, will be considered.

THE Women's Branch of the Training Department of the Ministry of Labour has been authorized to arrange for the training of disabled nurses in accordance with the terms of the Royal Warrant. Persons eligible are nurses in receipt of a pension under that Warrant who, owing to disability incurred on military service, are prevented from following their former occupation. Letters of inquiry, marked "Disabled Nurse," should be addressed to the Controller, Women's Training Branch, Ministry of Labour, St. Ermin's Hotel, Westminster, S.W.1.

THE eighth Congress of the National Union of Students of France will be held at Strasbourg on November 22nd, on the occasion of the anniversary of the entry of the French troops into Alsace in 1918. On the same date Strasbourg will celebrate, in the presence of a large assembly of professors and students from all parts of France and other countries, the inauguration of the university, once more become French.

THE business of the Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company has been amalgamated with that of Mr. Robert W. Paul of New Southgate, and will in future be conducted under the name of "The Cambridge and Paul Instrument Company, Ltd." The head offices and showrooms will shortly be transferred to London.

THE Geological Survey of Great Britain and Museum of Practical Geology, Jermyn Street, S.W., have been transferred for administrative purposes from the Board of Education to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research as from November 1st, but correspondence with reference to the work of the Survey should be addressed as heretofore to the Director of the Survey and Museum, Jermyn Street, S.W.

Letters, Notes, and Answers.

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL are requested to communicate with the Office, 429, Strand, W.C.2, on receipt of proof.

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. FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND BUSINESS MANAGER (Advertisements, etc.), *Articulate*, 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 AND ANSWERS.

INCOME TAX.

"F. C. P." has increased his fractional share in the profits of the practice in which he is a partner. How does this affect his liability?

* * * The Income Tax Act, 1918, Section 20, provides *inter alia* that the income of a partner from a partnership shall be deemed to be the share to which he is entitled, during the year, in the partnership profits "such profits being estimated according to the several rules and directions of this Act." "F. C. P.'s" share was increased from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ as from January 1st, 1920, and taking the average partnership profits as assessable at, say, £4,800, his income tax liability as a partner would be ($\frac{1}{4}$ of $\frac{1}{3}$ plus $\frac{1}{4}$ of $\frac{1}{3}$) of £4,800 = £1,300. It is