

## CASE III.

A. B., aged 20, admitted October, 1919; Wassermann negative. This patient, epileptic since childhood, was always in a more or less stuporous state and had very severe "G." fits frequently, and mostly in bouts. Four months' treatment has reduced his fits by 62 per cent. Mentally he is much brighter, and the dazed condition after a fit has disappeared.

The total number of patients in whom the above treatment has been tried so far is forty-two; in all there is a marked improvement in the mental state of the patients, and in all except one the number of fits has been reduced. In addition to the marked mental change and lessening of the fits, other points noticeable are the great reduction in the amount of sedative used, and the marked diminution in the number of accidents which occur.

## Memoranda:

### MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

#### LABOUR COMPLICATED BY MARKED ELONGATION OF THE SUPRAVAGINAL CERVIX.

The following case presented such unusual clinical features as to justify recording it in detail.

Mrs. D., aged 31, when admitted to the gynaecological wards of the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne, was within a few weeks of full term. There was a marked degree of cervical prolapse; the cervix projected 4 in. beyond the vulva, the lips being oedematous and ulcerated, and the external os patulous. The bladder also was completely prolapsed, so that she had great difficulty in emptying it. The cervical prolapse was associated with elongation of the supravaginal cervix. The condition had first attracted attention one year previously (one year after the birth of her second child), and had steadily progressed, especially since she had become pregnant. She had been confined to bed for six months before admission.

Treatment consisted of rest in bed till full term, cleansing of the cervix by suitable dressings, and urinary antiseptics for the associated cystitis. Replacement of the cervix in the vagina was invariably followed by prolapse, and attempts to retain it by means of gauze packing were not satisfactory, the pressure of the child's head and the bladder inflammation being the two chief obstacles. The relaxed condition of the ostium vaginae also favoured recurrence. Contrary to what occurs in non-pregnant cases, the cervical oedema did not appreciably lessen by rest in bed.

**Labour: First Stage.**—The membranes ruptured shortly after the onset of labour. The liquor amnii was turbid and somewhat offensive. The cervix was at once pushed into the vagina, and did not again spontaneously prolapse during this stage. The pains were frequent and strong; the cervix was slowly drawn up, and the external os dilated gradually. The child's head was in the pelvic cavity.

**Second Stage.**—Seventeen hours after the onset of labour the patient showed signs of exhaustion. At this stage the external os was almost fully dilated, but a distinct rim persisted round the periphery of the head. The patient was anaesthetized and forceps applied. On traction being made the head and cervix descended together, and it was quite impossible to push up the rim of the cervix past the head. The actual delivery of the head was identical in every way with delivery over a tight perineum. The external os at this period of labour projected fully an inch beyond the vulva. After delivery of the head the os closed slightly on the child's neck, and the shoulders were freed with some difficulty. The rest of the delivery was normal.

**Third Stage.**—Ample time was allowed for the placenta to separate naturally, but, owing to rather free haemorrhage, an attempt was made to express it. This resulted in complete prolapse of the cervix and bladder, even more exaggerated than that existing before the onset of labour. The parts were replaced, and a further period passed before a renewal of the bleeding made another attempt at expression imperative. This reproduced the state of affairs described above, and manual removal was decided upon. After thorough cleansing and liberal use of tincture of iodine the hand was inserted, and the cervix was found to consist of a long tube with a marked contraction ring at the internal os. This was slowly dilated and the placenta removed. There was no evidence of laceration of the cervix. A copious intrauterine douche completed the procedure.

Apart from a transitory febrile attack due to cystitis, convalescence was uneventful. The cervix remained exposed, and was carefully guarded by gauze dressings. The patient was discharged some weeks later with the cervix still protruding, but is returning in due course for radical treatment.

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### VOLVULUS OF THE WHOLE OF THE SMALL INTESTINE.

The following case is of interest by reason of its rarity:

A weakly boy, aged 18, was admitted to hospital in a dying condition. He had only been at work three weeks after an attack of pneumonia and pleurisy. On the previous afternoon he had eaten fish, followed by an ice-cream, and had then played football. At 6 p.m. he complained of a dull ache in the epigastrium and of nausea; he went to stool, but with what result is unknown. He was never sick. Hot fomentations were given through the night, but the pain grew worse; he was moved to hospital at 8.30 a.m., and died half an hour later. On admission it was clear that he was dying of general peritonitis. A large left scrotal hernia was distended and tender, and the whole abdomen was distended, rigid, and tender; the liver dullness was normal. The boy was too ill for further examination. At the autopsy it was found that the whole of the small intestine from the first free loop of the jejunum to the ileo-caecal junction was strangulated by one and a half complete twists of the mesentery. There was collapse of the whole of the large bowel, and the small bowel was plum-coloured and distended; there was free blood in the lumen of the bowel and in the peritoneal cavity. The hernia, though filled with bowel by reason of the increase of abdominal pressure, was easily reducible through a very large ring. No Meckel's diverticulum nor other anomaly could be found as an exciting cause.

It is difficult to imagine any dietetic or athletic achievement capable of turning the whole of the small bowel through three half-turns. Probably the twist was of developmental origin, and was aggravated to strangulation by some sudden congestion (caused perhaps by injudicious dietary).

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## Rebuelus.

#### MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

IN the volume on *Mental Deficiency*<sup>1</sup> by Dr. A. F. TREDGOLD the medical practitioner will find a sound and trustworthy guide to a subject in respect to which it is now almost essential that he should have a more than superficial knowledge. The second edition was published in 1914; the text has been revised and brought up to date, and the new edition will undoubtedly maintain the position attained by its predecessors and become the standard work on mental deficiency. The book is the product of personal research, extensive clinical experience, wide acquaintance with the literature of the subject, and an intimate knowledge of the social problem which the presence of the mental defective in the community creates. On controversial questions the author develops his own personal views, which are based on experience, a ripe judgement, and a critical survey of current theories; but he is free from bias and dogmatism, and he approaches such questions as heredity, environmental influence and causation in a clear, balanced and scientific manner.

In the first chapter, which is concerned with the nature of mental deficiency, the author indicates clearly and convincingly that it can only be satisfactorily defined in terms of social behaviour. Throughout the book the point is emphasized that the disorder of mind is not merely in the sphere of intellect, but that it is a defect of the personality as a whole which prevents these congenital defectives from reacting efficiently and subsisting by their own unaided efforts. It is this treatment of the clinical aspect of the subject from the adaptive side that gives the book its great practical value. Those who are actually concerned with the problem of the mental defective will here find the greatest help in relation to those cases which present a real difficulty in practice. The difference between the dull or backward child and the high grade ament, the relation between vicious tendencies and mental deficiency, and, above all, the question of the moral imbecile, are subjects which are here dealt with in an exceptionally lucid and masterly fashion. In referring to the statutory definition of mental defect in relation to moral imbecility, Dr. Tredgold writes (p. 360):

In my experience the failure to appreciate the meaning of the term (permanent mental defect) is the chief stumbling-block in the diagnosis and certification of these cases. It is necessary

<sup>1</sup> *Mental Deficiency (Amentia)*. By A. F. Tredgold, M.D., F.R.S. Edin. Third edition. London: Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. 1920. (Demy 8vo, pp. 531; 67 figures.)

By his death a surgeon has been lost to Scotland who would in time have made for himself a position in the front rank of his profession; but his many friends will most frequently think of him as they so often met him—free and wandering through the country lanes he loved so much, pointing out the features of the bird life of the district, the haunts and habits of which were to him a never-ending source of pleasure and satisfaction. One could not but feel that in addition to his many human friends he had also in his heart a keen love of all bird and animal life, and wished all well. The keen sympathy of all goes out to the members of his family in the loss they have sustained, and to his widow, who is left with her young fatherless son.

H. W.

ANOTHER colleague writes: The medical profession and medical school of Aberdeen have sustained a great loss by the tragic death of Dr. Raymond Vérel, who was held in highest esteem both professionally and personally. Vérel was an Edinburgh graduate of distinction who had hardly settled in Aberdeen when war broke out. No one who knew him was surprised when in the early days of the war he decided for the more strenuous side of field medical service, and a long period of distinguished service in the East brought him well-merited recognition. Returning to Aberdeen last year on demobilization he was early appointed aural surgeon to the Dispensary and Royal Hospital for Sick Children, and was also retained by the City Fever Hospital and Tuberculosis Institute, and lectured on diseases of the ear, nose and throat for the university. He was a man of strong character, quiet, unassuming and genuine. Thoroughly equipped in his special branch of surgery, he was a skilful operator with an excellent technique and sound judgement, and a teacher of no ordinary parts. During the past summer term, in the absence of the senior lecturer in diseases of the ear, nose and throat, he conducted a very large class with great success. As a teacher he was enthusiastic, interesting, lucid, and most conscientious in his preparation for the day's work. His attractive personality was nowhere more evident than in the handling of children, for whom he appeared to possess a special charm. His death has cast a gloom over the profession in these parts, and the deepest sympathy goes out to his widow and child from all who knew him and worked with him.

WE regret to record the death of Dr. THOMAS FAIR JOHNSTON, which took place at Blyth, Northumberland, on August 29th. Dr. Johnston was born at Ormiston, East Lothian, in 1873; he was educated at the Edinburgh High School and the University of Edinburgh, where he graduated M.B., C.M. in 1896, and M.D. in 1904. He had practised at Willington Quay, Silksworth, Cambois, Easington Lane, and Broomhill, all in the north of England, and during the last eight years had enjoyed an extensive practice in Blyth. During 1918 and 1919 he was honorary secretary of the Blyth Division of the British Medical Association. Dr. Johnston was an ardent Freemason, and at the time of his death held high Provincial offices. He had only recently returned from a four months' voyage to the East, undertaken for the purpose of re-establishing his health, which for some time had been impaired. He is survived by a widow and two children.

DR. ROBERT J. COLLIER of Manor Park died on September 22nd. He was educated at Queen's College, Belfast, and took the triple qualification of the Conjoint Board of Scotland in 1891. He joined the late Dr. R. J. Topping of Forest Gate and subsequently succeeded him in practice. He was surgeon to the Post Office and Education Board and an honorary surgeon of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. His great personality and bright outlook on life inspired confidence among a large circle of patients. Dr. Collier, who had been in practice at Manor Park for twenty-five years, was a prominent and active member of the Wanstead Park Golf Club.

## Universities and Colleges.

### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

THE following scheme of intercollegiate advanced work in physiology has been approved for the Honours B.Sc. Examination. Students of the participating colleges are free to attend all the courses:

*University College* (1st term)—Professor W. M. Bayliss: Physical Chemistry in relation to Physiology.

*King's College* (2nd term)—Professor W. D. Halliburton and Dr. O. Rosenheim: Advanced Chemical Physiology.

*Bedford College* (3rd term)—Dr. J. S. Eddins: Advanced Practical Histology.

*St. Bartholomew's Hospital* (3rd term)—Professor F. A. Bainbridge: Electrical Changes in Skeletal and Cardiac Muscle.

*Guy's Hospital* (2nd term)—Professor M. S. Pembrey: Practical Work on Respiration.

Additional second examinations for medical degrees, Parts I and II, will begin on December 1st and 7th respectively. Forms of entry, to be obtained from the Academic Registrar by October 18th, must be sent in by Monday, October 25th.

Applications for the university Chair of Chemistry (salary £800 a year) and the university Readership in Pharmacology (salary £400 a year), tenable at Guy's Hospital Medical School, must be received by the Academic Registrar at the university not later than the first post on October 23rd.

### KING'S COLLEGE.

Lectures and demonstrations in psychology will be given as follows by Dr. William Brown, Dr. J. A. Hadfield, and Mr. R. J. Bartlett during the session 1920-21:

*Day classes* (ordinary course): General elementary psychology, Tuesday, 11 to 12 a.m.; advanced psychology, Monday, 4 to 5 p.m.; experimental psychology, Friday, 2 to 5 p.m. (lecture 2 to 3, practical work, 3 to 5). *Evening classes* (ordinary course): General elementary psychology, Friday, 5.30 to 6.30 p.m.; advanced psychology, Monday, 6.30 to 7.30 p.m.; conversational, Monday, 5.30 to 6.30 p.m.; experimental psychology, Thursday, 5.30 to 8.30 p.m. (lecture 5.30 to 6.30, practical work, 6.30 to 8.30). *Special courses of lectures*: Advanced practical psychology, at times to be arranged; pathological psychology, ten lectures in the Lent term; mental measurement, ten lectures in the Easter term; tuition course for diploma in psychological medicine, etc., at times to be arranged.

A course of eight lectures on the histology of the nervous system will be given by Dr. C. da Fano, at King's College (Strand, W.C.2) at 4.30 p.m. on Wednesdays, October 13th, 20th, and 27th; November 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th; December 1st, 1920. The lectures are addressed to advanced students of the university and to others interested in the subject. Admission is free, without ticket.

### GUY'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.

The following entrance scholarships have been awarded:

Senior Science Scholarship for University Students—War Memorial Scholarship: Nils Lövdal Eckhoff (£75). Harold Charles Beale (£80). George Thompson Henderson (£35). Junior Science Scholarships: Reginald Albert Nash (£120). Alfred Beresford Plant (£50). War Memorial Scholarship (providing a free medical education for five years, annual value about £40): Kenric Charles Billingham. Entrance Scholarship in Arts: Edward Ian Ransford Marsden (£100).

### UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.

The Goldsmid Entrance Exhibitions of 112 guineas each have been awarded to F. Hudson and M. Robinson.

### UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM.

THE following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

THIRD M.B. (*Materia Medica, Pharmacology, and Pharmacy; Public Health; Medical Jurisprudence; Pathology and Elementary Bacteriology*).—F. J. Armstrong, J. C. Boyde, R. A. Brown, R. H. Burnett, Mary Douglass, Anne Fairweather, T. Kirsopp, Mary Manners, R. Manners, G. A. Mason, H. L. Mather, S. J. C. Smith, Phyllis M. Walker, E. P. Wanless.

## The Services.

### HONOURS.

#### FOREIGN DECORATIONS.

THE following decorations and medals have been awarded by the Allied Powers for distinguished services rendered during the course of the campaign:

#### By the President of the French Republic.

*Légion d'Honneur*—Chevalier: Temporary Captain (temporary Major) Reginald Laidlaw Davies, O.B.D., R.A.M.C. *Médaille des Epidémies en Argent*: Major William Atkin Thompson, R.A.M.C. (T.F.).

#### By the King of the Hedjaz.

*Order of El Nahda (4th Class)*: Major Dodington G. R. S. Baker, I.M.S., Captain Frederick McKibbin, R.A.M.C. (S.R.).

A CONGRESS of internal medicine will be held at Strasbourg in September, 1921, under the presidency of Dr. L. Bard, when the following subjects will be discussed: (1) Anatomical and functional adaptations of the heart to pathological conditions of the circulation, (2) glycaemia, (3) antianaphylaxis.

## Medical News.

MR. E. B. TURNER, F.R.C.S., is leaving London this week for Germany in order to give lectures on venereal disease to the Army of Occupation.

THE Drew Lecture before the Hackney College Divinity School will be given by Dr. J. A. Hadfield, at 6.30 p.m. on October 12th, at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street.

THE National Baby Week Council has removed to 5, Tavistock Square, W.C.1 (Telephone: Museum 6353).

AT a meeting of the Society of Medical Officers of Maternity and Child Welfare Centres on Friday, October 15th, at 5.30, at the Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, W., Dr. Harold Waller will open a discussion upon dental disease in the mother as an adverse factor in infant welfare.

MEETINGS of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene will be held during the ensuing session at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W.1, at 8.30 p.m. on the third Friday of each month from October to June, with the exception of April.

THE Child-Study Society, London, has arranged an interesting programme for the present session. The meetings are held on Thursdays at 6 p.m. at the Royal Sanitary Institute, 90, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1. On October 21st Dr. A. R. Abelson will describe "A Psychological Study of the Delinquent Child;" on November 4th there will be a discussion on "Vocational Tests"; on November 18th Dr. F. G. Crookshank will discuss "The Anthropological Study of the Feeble-minded, of Imbeciles, and Apes"; and on December 2nd Dr. William Brown will discuss "The Value of Suggestion in Education."

THE general council of King George's Fund for Sailors has made an interim grant of £2,500 towards the capital expenditure for the current year of the King George V Merchant Seamen's Hospital at Malta.

A COURSE of ten lectures on elementary psychotherapy will be given by Dr. H. Crichton Miller at 51, Tavistock Square, W.C., at 5.15 p.m. on Mondays, beginning October 11th.

DR. S. RUTHERFORD MACPHAIL, who recently resigned the posts of medical superintendent of the Derby Mental Hospital and medical adviser to the Committee for the Care of Mental Defectives, was entertained on September 23rd to dinner at the Midland Hotel by his medical colleagues in Derby. The chair was taken by Sir Richard Luce, and Dr. Macphail's health was proposed by Dr. Sidney Barwise and seconded by Dr. Robert Laurie. Dr. Macphail has also received a presentation of furniture from the committee and staff of the Mental Hospital.

THE next congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute will be held at Folkestone towards the end of June, 1921.

THREE Chadwick Public Lectures, illustrated by lantern slides, will be given this month by Professor F. F. Roget, of the University of Geneva, on "Health, the Red Cross, and the League of Nations." The lectures will be given at the Surveyors' Institution, 12, Great George Street, Westminster, on Mondays, October 18th and 25th, and Friday, October 29th, at 5 p.m. The third lecture will deal particularly with the programme of the Medical Department of the League of Red Cross Societies.

THE following lectures will be given during the present session at the Post-Graduate College, West London Hospital, on Thursdays, at 5 p.m.: October 14th, Dr. W. Langdon Brown, "Principles of internal secretion"; October 21st, Mr. H. Tilley, "Treatment of foreign bodies in the lower air passages and oesophagus, by direct endoscopy"; October 28th, Sir James Galloway, "External manifestations of visceral disease" (at 3.45 p.m.); November 4th, Dr. J. Walter Carr, "Tuberculous meningitis"; November 11th, Dr. E. W. G. Masterman, "Tropical diseases of Palestine"; November 18th, Mr. Swinford Edwards, "Points in rectal surgery"; November 25th, Dr. T. M. Legge, "Anthrax"; December 2nd, Sir J. Dundas Grant, "Functional aphonia and allied disorders"; December 9th, Dr. F. J. Poynton, "The study of heart disease"; December 16th, Lady Barrett, "Puerperal sepsis." These lectures are open without fee to medical practitioners, who will be welcomed.

DR. H. SCURFIELD, M.O.H. Sheffield, will open a discussion on "Some Aspects of the Housing Question" at a meeting of the Royal Sanitary Institute to be held at the Mansion House, Doncaster, on October 15th. The chair will be taken at 7.30 p.m. by Professor H. R. Kenwood, C.M.G.

DR. F. J. WALDO, coroner for the City of London and Southwark, has been elected Master of the Plumbers' Company.

AT a meeting of the elected members of council on September 30th Sir Charles Ballance, K.C.M.G., C.B., M.V.O., was unanimously elected President of the Medical Defence Union, in the place of Sir John Tweedy, LL.D., F.R.C.S., resigned.

ON the occasion of Dr. G. K. Smiley's departure from Derby to take up a position under the Ministry of Health, his colleagues on the Derby Panel have presented him with several pieces of Crown Derby china as a recognition of his devoted and arduous work as secretary of the Panel Committee. Dr. Smiley was also honorary secretary of the local Division of the British Medical Association, and his departure from Derby is regretted by all his friends.

THE following lectures and practical courses of instruction for a diploma of psychological medicine (Part I—2nd course) will be given at the Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, S.E. Sir Frederick Mott will give eight lectures on the anatomy of the nervous system on Tuesdays, at 2.30 p.m., commencing October 12th; Dr. H. Devine will deliver eight lectures on psychology on Thursdays, at 2.30 p.m., commencing October 14th; and Dr. P. L. Golla will give eight lectures on the physiology of the nervous system on Fridays, at 3 p.m., commencing October 22nd. Part II of the second course will follow in January.

A MEETING on behalf of the special appeal of the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital will be held at the Mansion House on Friday, October 15th, at 3 p.m. The Lord Mayor will be in the chair and H.R.H. Prince Henry has promised to speak.

THE biennial conference of the British Spa Federation was held on September 30th at Harrogate, when representatives from Bath, Buxton, Cheltenham, Droitwich, Harrogate, Llandrindod Wells, Woodhall, and New Zealand were present. Leamington was admitted to the federation and matters important to the welfare of the British spas were discussed. A presentation was made to Mr. F. J. C. Broome, general manager of Harrogate Spa, in appreciation of his work as honorary secretary of the federation.

THE Fifteenth International Congress against Alcoholism will be held, by invitation of the United States Government, in Washington, D.C., from October 21st to 26th. The British correspondent is Mr. J. T. Rae, National Temperance League, Paternoster House, London, E.C.4.

THE University of London Press, Ltd., announces for early publication *Mind and Work: The Psychological Factors in Industry and Commerce*, by Dr. C. S. Myers, F.R.S.

## Letters, Notes, and Answers.

As, owing to printing difficulties, the JOURNAL must be sent to press earlier than hitherto, it is essential that communications intended for the current issue should be received by the first post on Tuesday, and lengthy documents on Monday.

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, *Attilology, 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 (telegrams: *Bacillus, Dublin*; telephone, 4737, Dublin), and of the Scottish Office, 6, Rutland Square, Edinburgh (telegrams: *Associate, Edinburgh*; telephone, 4361, Central).

### QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

DR. D. M. MACDONALD (Arnside) wishes to know where it is possible to procure small warming pans, or warm water jackets, to be applied to fingers attacked by Raynaud's disease.

#### INCOME TAX.

"DERMIENSIS," to whose previous inquiry a reply was published on September 18th, p. 457, sends further particulars as to the special expenditure incurred by him.

\* \* \* The root of the difficulty lies in deciding how far the purchase of the x-ray apparatus and the cost of installing it was capital outlay. Our correspondent explains that he had