

Memoranda: MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

A CASE OF CASTELLANI'S ACLADIOSIS.

On June 8th, 1920, a Chinese coolie, working in a local rice mill, entered the out-patient clinic of the Central Hospital.

Clinical History.—About four months ago he first noticed a small red spot below the left knee; there was a very slight amount of itching but no pain, and within a month this spot had increased in size and developed into an ulcer. Several other spots appeared within the neighbourhood of the first one and passed through the same stages. At no time was there much discomfort, and only a very slight amount of itching. Upon close examination, lesions that very closely resembled yaws were observed on the left leg, as shown in the illustration. They were covered with a thin yellow scab, which revealed upon removal a collection of thick creamy pus. After thorough cleansing the lesions presented, instead of the mulberry appearance of yaws, a sharp depression of a red granulating tissue. The borders of these ulcers were clearly defined, with a rounded surface of normal tissue. There was no gland involvement whatever, and the rest of the body was free from any skin trouble. The blood examination was negative, except for a slight leucocytosis. The urine examination was negative. The physical examination except for the skin trouble was also negative.



Bacteriological Examination.—Various media were inoculated from scrapings of the sores. On carrot and potato a creamy abundant growth developed, which turned darker in the course of a few days. On glucose agar the growth was also abundant. Microscopical examination of the growth showed the presence of fungus growing in symbiosis with a coccus, which could with difficulty be separated from it. The fungus had all the morphological and cultural characters of *Acladium castellanii* (Pinoy, 1916). The detailed botanical account of it with drawings, microphotographs, etc., will be given in a future publication.

Large doses of mixed iodides and daily dressings at the clinic produced rapid and satisfactory results.

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GUNSHOT IN THE APPENDIX.

THE case reported by Dr. Leigh Spence in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* of August 28th, 1920, is very similar to one I have just encountered.

Two months ago a man, aged 50, consulted me for deafness and swelling of the eyelids; he had a displaced nasal septum from football in his youth. Until the last six months, when he became rather pallid and sallow and felt languid, he had been a strong athletic man and in good health. Repeated examinations of his urine showed a distinct trace of albumin and pus, and very occasionally a granular cast. His blood pressure (Riva-Rocci), mean or systolic, was not abnormal. His urinary tract was radiographed by Dr. Rowden, with negative results; but during the screening a very dark shadow was seen in the region of the appendix. From the skiagrams Dr. Rowden diagnosed "shot in the appendix." The patient had had no suggestion of appendix symptoms, but on deep pressure over the appendix slight tenderness and rigidity could just be made out. Sir Berkeley Moynihan operated, and removed a long, stiff, and swollen appendix containing twenty-one shot (No. 6). The appendix was free and movable. The mucosa was congested and thickened, and about to ulcerate in the region of the most distal half-inch, but there was nothing abnormal about the appearance of the mouth of the appendix or Gerlach's valve. The shot were in the distal half of the appendix, and gave it a fusiform outline. The pathologist's report on his blood while he was in the nursing home revealed nothing except a slight degree of anaemia, and the report on the urine showed no deficiency of chloride excretion, no casts, but a small amount of albumin and pus. His recovery after the

operation was painless and rapid, and his colour and appearance are now much improved. Weekly examinations of his urine during the last six weeks have only once shown a trace of albumin and pus, and make me wonder if absorption of lead might have caused his condition.

From the state of his appendix at the time of the operation it seems remarkable that the patient had had no definite symptoms attributable to it; it was a lucky chance that it was discovered in time. He had eaten largely of game for many years.

Leeds.

R. H. HALL, M.A., M.B.Camb.

Reports of Societies.

EFFECTS OF EXPOSURE TO RADIUM BROMIDE.

At a meeting of the Section of Pathology of the Royal Society of Medicine, held on October 19th, the President, Professor W. S. LAZARUS-BARLOW, M.D., delivered an address upon "Some pathological effects of exposure to the gamma rays of 5 grams of radium bromide." The large quantity of radium in question had been entrusted to Professors Lazarus-Barlow and Russ and the late Mr. Cecil Lyster for experimental purposes at the Middlesex Hospital. The entire report will be presented, when completed, to the Medical Research Council, by whom the loan was made, and by whose courtesy the present interim communication was possible. For the results now brought before the Section Professor Lazarus-Barlow alone was responsible. They were derived, in the main, from the histological examination of 20 frogs, 28 rats, 15 rabbits, and 9 cats. The address was illustrated by macroscopic and microscopic specimens and by lantern slides.

In respect of the lethal effects of gamma rays, it appeared that primary and secondary changes in the animal must be distinguished. A rat would die, if exposed continuously to the 5 grams, in about forty-eight hours, but he would also die about forty-two hours after an exposure of six hours. Making allowances for distance from the source of irradiation, the minimal lethal dose of gamma radiation from this quantity of radium for the rat was about six hours, for the rabbit nine to ten hours, for the cat five hours, and for the frog some ninety-six hours. Marked changes were seen in the blood, notably a diminution in number of lymphocytes. This was to be correlated with the presence of much nuclear debris in lymphatic glands and spleen in cases killed immediately after exposure, and with a marked cellular deficiency in the same organs in animals that had survived some days. This disappearance of cells was associated with a measurable diminution in size of the spleen. Hence it was now necessary to add irradiation to pressure and to disuse, as a cause of atrophy. Erythrocytes also diminished in number, and haemorrhages occurred in gastric and intestinal mucosae and in bone marrow. To a large degree the blood changes in animals were reflected in man.

In striated muscle a deposition of lipoid and loss of striation were sometimes noted, and a translucency of fibres was frequent. In unstriated muscle a vacuolation was not uncommon that generally affected the contractile material but also involved the nuclei. Cardiac muscle usually showed no change unless the exposure was very severe, but under this condition translucency of fibres, loss of striation, and great fragmentation might be found. In liver, nuclear and cytoplasmic changes were often present. The nuclei might be ghost-like, or represented by no more than a few granules of chromatin, and the cytoplasm might disappear almost entirely. The two conditions were apparently independent, and it was frequent—in liver of animals or in new growths of man after exposure to this high degree of gamma irradiation—to find the cells represented by a well marked cell membrane and a well marked nucleus, with a considerable space between the two. In kidney, the cells of the convoluted tubules were chiefly affected. In the cat—but in none of the other animals examined—the renal cells in this region were almost completely converted into lipoid, but the glomeruli and the cells of the conducting tubules showed no trace of lipoid. In the frog, the glomerulus seemed to be changed to the greatest extent. Over the gastro-intestinal tract there was widespread disintegration of the mucosa

do his duty, and that if the holiday did not produce this effect it had better not be taken. He was pure and upright in his ways, and he was deeply religious, though some were surprised at the views which he expressed. He was a living sermon on the text "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might."

Another colleague, "W. G. D.," sends the following personal appreciation: Dr. Samuel Sloan was a man of striking physical appearance, tall, erect, and quick and active in his movements. He certainly looked ten years younger than his age, and many of us must have been astonished to learn that he was in his 78th year. He was of a bright, happy disposition, and while he, like Dr. Peter Low, "cured many while he lived . . . of his God he got the grace to live in mirth and die in peace." I am sure that by his bright and hopeful manner Dr. Sloan brought comfort and healing to many a stricken soul. Whilst distinguished as an obstetrician and electrical therapist, Dr. Sloan took a great interest in biological questions, and particularly in marine biology, making a practical study of this on the shores of the Island of Bute, where he had a house, and where he regularly spent the week-end all the year round. He made a study also of astronomy, and nothing pleased him more than, in the company of a congenial friend, to survey with his astronomical telescope the starry heavens. He was an excellent conversationalist, and his friendship will be missed by many.

ROBERT KIRK, M.D. EDIN.

DR. ROBERT KIRK of Rowan Bank, Bathgate, Linlithgowshire, was one of a number of distinguished men who during the last forty years settled in country practices in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh.

After studying in Edinburgh University he took the degrees of M.B. and C.M. in 1876, and in the same year became a Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians; in 1879 he graduated M.D. with honours, and two years later he became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. He was a president of the Royal Medical Society, and held various posts in the Royal Infirmary. His interest in the scholarly aspects of medicine was shown by his being a member of the Harveian, the Obstetrical, and of the Botanical Societies of Edinburgh. He settled in Bathgate, the birthplace of Sir James Simpson and of John Reid, the physiologist, and soon established a great reputation there. He was parochial medical officer, medical officer of health, and public vaccinator for Bathgate, and a J.P. for Linlithgowshire, as well as surgeon to the post-office; and he took a great interest in the R.A.M.C., in which he was lieutenant-colonel, and had a Volunteer Decoration. He also had a large and influential private practice in and around Bathgate. He was a keen curler, and greatly enjoyed his game of golf.

Dr. Kirk died at Crieff on October 16th, and was buried on the 19th at Bathgate. He will be greatly missed by the many patients who made up his practice.

Universities and Colleges.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON. *Proposed New Site.*

AT its meeting on October 20th the Senate, after considering a report of the Site and Accommodation Committee and the correspondence which has passed between the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. S. Russell Wells, and the President of the Board of Education, resolved to accept the offer of His Majesty's Government of the site to the north of the British Museum, in accordance with the terms of Mr. Fisher's letter of April 7th, 1920.

The site is to be provided gratis and in perpetuity on the terms as regards the maintenance, rates, etc., of the University head quarters buildings laid down in the Treasury Minutes of February 16th and July 13th, 1899, and in Mr. Fisher's letters of June 26th, September 24th, and October 6th, 1920, to the Vice-Chancellor, which provided:

1. That such grant for maintenance, rates, etc., shall not be counted as a portion of the grants made to universities for educational purposes.
2. That the allocation of the site between the various buildings to be erected thereon shall be at the sole discretion of the Senate of the University.

3. That the University shall retain, and King's College shall retain, full possession of their present sites and buildings under the conditions under which they now hold them until such time as the new buildings are ready for occupation and are free from debt.

4. That the buildings to be erected for the University head quarters shall be, as regards dimensions and design, in accordance with plans to be agreed upon between the Senate and His Majesty's Treasury, and shall afford not less than 50 per cent. more floor space than is now allocated in the buildings at South Kensington for the separate use of the University.

5. That the terms of the removal of King's College from the Strand to the Bloomsbury site shall be a matter of subsequent negotiation between His Majesty's Government, the council of King's College, and the Senate of the University, and that an agreement shall be concluded between the said parties.

The Senate, in accepting, subject to the above conditions, the Government's offer of a site in Bloomsbury, assume that the offer does not incidentally involve a policy of curtailing the development of the work of those colleges and schools of the University which are not now, nor in the future will be, situated in the neighbourhood of the Bloomsbury site, and that these institutions will not receive less favourable consideration at the hands of the Government than would otherwise have been the case.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

THE annual meeting of Fellows and Members will be held at the College in Lincoln's Inn Fields on Thursday, November 18th, at 3 p.m., when a report of the Council will be laid before the meeting. Fellows and Members can obtain copies of the report on application to the secretary. Motions to be brought forward at the meeting must be signed by the mover, and be received by the secretary not later than November 8th. A printed copy of the agenda will be issued to any Fellow or Member who applies for it.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF EDINBURGH.

At a meeting of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, held on October 20th, Dr. George Mackay was re-elected president, Dr. R. McKenzie Johnston vice-president, and Mr. Alexander Miles secretary and treasurer.

The following candidates, having passed the requisite examinations, have been admitted as Fellows:

E. G. Anderson, Captain N.Z.M.C., W. B. G. Angus, O.B.E., M.C., S. Batchelor, A. J. Caird, C. L. Chapman, D.S.O., Lieut.-Colonel A.A.M.C., G. W. Christie, B. K. T. Collins, W. F. Currie, J. K. Datta, N. H. Dempster, H. M. Dessai, J. L. Diggle, O. Ellis, D. S. Falconer, K. G. Fraser, A. Goodwin, E. A. Guymer, Major A.A.M.C., Alice M. Headwards, J. M. A. Holmes, Surgeon Commander R.N., A. M. Jones, J. T. Kyle, J. H. Lechler, J. Lyons, D. McIntyre, D. McVicker, Captain R.A.M.C., H. H. McWilliams, Major A.A.M.C., G. E. Martin, T. A. Milroy, Captain N.Z.M.C., A. R. Moodie, W. Morris, K. D. Panton, Lieut.-Colonel C.A.M.C., W. C. Paton, Brevet Major I.M.S., R. Richards, G. Richardson, J. S. Taylor, J. H. Tennent, B. Thomas, W. A. Thompson, C. H. Vernon, D. G. Wishart, M. Yuille, Major A.A.M.C.

Miss Alice M. Headwards is the first woman admitted to the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

The Services.

HONOURS.

FOREIGN DECORATIONS.

THE following decorations have been conferred by the Allied Powers in recognition of valuable services during the war:

By the King of the Belgians.—Cross of Officer of the Crown of Belgium: Sir George T. Beatson, K.C.B., K.B.E. (for services rendered as President of the Scottish Branch of the British Red Cross Society).

By the President of the French Republic.—Croix de Guerre: Colonel Arthur M. Connell, A.M.S.T.F. (ret.); Surgeon Lieutenant E. G. S. Slesinger, O.B.E., R.N. *By the King of Hellenes.*—Order of George I, Commander: Major J. Utting, R.A.M.C. (T.F.), ex-Lord Mayor of Liverpool.

By the King of Rumania.—Order of the Crown of Rumania, Commander: Sir W. R. Smith, ex-Sheriff of the City of London. *By the King of the Serbs, Croates, and Slovenes.*—Order of the White Eagle (Fifth Class): Brevet Major William Bentley Purchase, M.C., R.A.M.C. Order of St. Sava (Third Class): Brevet Colonel Harold Hugh Norman, R.A.M.C.; Lieut.-Colonels Robert James William Oswald, O.B.E., R.A.M.C. (T.F.), Alexander Brodie Seton Stewart, R.A.M.C. (T.F.), Sir Nestor Isidor Charles Tirard, late R.A.M.C. (T.F.), temporary Major (acting Lieut.-Colonel) H. W. Marett Tims, O.B.E., R.A.M.C. (Fourth Class); Temporary Captain Augustus William Tabuteau, R.A.M.C. (Fifth Class); Temporary Captain Eustace Robert Barton, R.A.M.C.

DEATHS IN THE SERVICES.

Lieut.-Colonel Thomas Edward Noding, R.A.M.C. (retired), died in London on September 28th. He was born in Trinidad on May 25th, 1858, took the M.R.C.S. and the L.R.C.P. Ed. in 1880, and entered the army as surgeon on July 30th, 1881, becoming lieutenant-colonel after twenty years' service, and retiring on May 25th, 1913. He served in the Egyptian war of 1882, gaining the medal and the Khedive's bronze star; and on the North-West Frontier of India in the Waziristan campaign of 1894-5, receiving the Frontier medal with a clasp. He also rejoined for service during the recent war.

Medical News.

THE Home Secretary is about to appoint a whole-time inspector under the Cruelty to Animals Act, 1876. The appointment will be for a term of three years in the first instance. The salary will be £800 a year, together with war bonus on the Civil Service scale, and travelling allowances at the usual Civil Service rate. Candidates who possess the scientific qualifications required for the work, and are not over 50 years of age, should apply, before November 10th, to the Private Secretary, Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1., from whom further information may be obtained. Applications should be accompanied by one or two testimonials and particulars of the candidate's qualifications.

LORD PHILLIMORE presided recently at a conference of representatives of professional institutions and benevolent funds and other bodies in touch with the professional classes. It was reported that the Professional Classes War Relief Council had decided upon a scheme of reconstruction in order to become a permanent body for dealing with post-war distress among professional men and women and others of the more highly educated classes. The conference warmly supported this action on their part, and a resolution was adopted, urging all bodies in touch with the professional classes to recognize the council and to avail themselves of its services when likely to be of use.

THE winter session of the Liverpool Literary and Philosophical Society was opened on October 18th by a presidential address by Sir James Barr on "The philosophy of Immanuel Kant"—a thoughtful analysis of the higher conception of life to which men are led by intuition and of the grounds for belief in a future existence, made with characteristic vigour and fertility of illustration.

THE Glasgow Post-Graduate Medical Association has arranged a programme of weekly demonstrations for practitioners during the session 1920-21. The demonstrations will be given on Wednesday afternoons at 4.15 o'clock from November 17th to December 22nd, and from January 12th to May 25th inclusive. The fee for the series is £3 3s., payable to the Secretary, Dr. A. M. Kennedy, Post-Graduate Medical Association, The University, Glasgow.

DR. TEMISTOCLE ZAMMIT, C.M.G., Rector of the University of Malta, has been appointed a member of the Executive Council and of the Council of Government of Malta.

THE Kingston-on-Thames Town Council has unanimously resolved to put forward the name of Alderman W. E. St. L. Finny, J.P., M.D., M.Ch., for election as mayor. Dr. Finny has previously been mayor in 1898, 1901, and 1908.

DR. ARTHUR KEITH, F.R.S., will be the chief guest at the Authors' Club dinner on November 8th, to be presided over by Mr. Morley Roberts, and will speak on the antiquity of man.

SIR WILLIAM and LADY LISTER have sent a donation of £5,000 to the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital for the purpose of starting an ophthalmic convalescent home in connexion with the hospital.

MESSRS. CHRISTOPHERS will shortly publish a book by Mr. A. H. Tubby, entitled *A Consulting Surgeon in the Near East*. The work details his experiences as a consulting surgeon in Gallipoli and Egypt from 1915-1919.

CHAIRS of oto-rhino-laryngology have been recently created at the Universities of Lyons, Montpellier, and Nancy, Drs. Jacques, Lannois, and Mouret having been appointed professors.

THE second International Congress of Comparative Pathology will be held at Rome in April, 1921. An organizing committee has been established under the presidency of Professor Perroncito, composed of Professors Ascoli, Golgi, Grassi, Lustig, Marchiafava, Paterno, Raffaele, Sanarelli, and Colonel Bertoletti. Among the subjects to be discussed are influenza in man and animals, foot-and-mouth disease, recent researches in sarcoma and carcinoma, rabies and antirabic vaccination, piroplasmiasis, acari, and scabies in man and animals, and phylloxera. Subscriptions of membership (20 lire) and abstracts of papers should be sent to the secretary, Professor Mario Levi della Vida, Via Palermo 58, Rome, by December 15th.

A MONUMENT has been erected at Castera-Verduzan, Gers, France, to the memory of the celebrated French surgeon and pathologist, Lannelongue, who died in 1911.

A SCHOOL of dental medicine and dental prosthesis will be opened at the University of Bologna on November 5th.

THE opening of the winter session at the Central London Throat and Ear Hospital, Gray's Inn Road, will take place at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, November 3rd, when Sir James Dundas-Grant will deliver the introductory address, "Oto-laryngological Reminiscences and their Lessons." The annual dinner of the medical staff will take place on the same evening at the Trocadero Restaurant.

PROFESSOR F. F. ROGET of Geneva gave his second Chadwick Lecture on October 25th, in continuation of the topic "Health, the Red Cross, and the League of Nations" (BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, October 23rd, p. 639). Sir James Crichton-Browne, Chadwick Trustee, presided. The lecturer examined further the views set forth at the Cannes Conference of 1919 for the turning of the activities of the Red Cross Societies from the path of military emergencies into the channel opened up by the covenanted peace of the world projected by the League of Nations. He showed the health experts assembled at Cannes taking into consideration the obstacles which ignorance and prejudice put in the way of any direct attack upon many bad habits of the public in the matter of hygiene and sanitation. The whole scheme had in view the building up of a collective "hygienic conscience" in the multitude. The public showed itself indifferent to the contracting of certain widespread diseases. Those who knowingly contracted or spread diseases should be penalized. A sense of moral wrong done to the community ought to attach to the neglect of precautions calculated to limit the incidence of disease. A complete care of public health was not possible unless one conceived, in this respect, each human being as forming a single unit, through combination of soul, conscience, and body. Public sanitation rested upon universal and anthropological facts. Neither racial characteristics nor nationalistic prepossession could find room in the work of the League of Red Cross Societies.

THE eleventh meeting of the Italian Society of Orthopaedics will be held at Rome on November 5th in the Policlinico Umberto I. The following subjects will be discussed: The orthopaedic treatment of rigidity and ankylosis, the treatment of spastic paralysis, and the modern treatment of the sequelae of acute anterior poliomyelitis.

A MEMORIAL in honour of the Belgian medical men killed in the war is to be erected in the Parc Leopold, Brussels.

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.

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, *Aitology, Westrand, London*; telephone, 2630, Gerrard.
2. FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND BUSINESS MANAGER (Advertisements, etc.), *Articulate, Westrand, London*; telephone, 2630, Gerrard.
3. MEDICAL SECRETARY, *Medisera, Westrand, London*; telephone, 2630, 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. L. A. FRANCIS (Uxbridge) wishes for information as to the working of an x-ray apparatus in a small cottage hospital, more particularly (1) the initial cost, and (2) the annual expense.

CAPTAIN W. R. D. HAMILTON, R.A.M.C. (Clonakilty, co. Cork), writes: Could any reader give me a method of removing or partially obliterating tattoo marks with the least possible disfigurement?

"S. C." inquires where the kata-thermometer, used by Professor Leonard Hill in his investigations on ventilation and described in his report, may be obtained.

** We are informed that the maker of this instrument is J. Hicks, 8, Hatton Garden, London, E.C.