

The chief point of interest here perhaps is that serum which had been lying about without special care for at least six years, and that in the tropics, and would not have been used at all if other serum had been available, still retained its potency.—I am, etc.,

Central East Africa, May 25th.

DAVID M. BROWN.

#### EFFECTS OF CHRONIC STARVATION DURING THE SIEGE OF KUT.

SIR,—The following points may be of interest to those who have read General Hehir's article (June 3rd, p. 865). They were noted during the famine of 1897 in the Jubbulpore district.

*Condition of the Bowels.*—Specimens of the large and small intestines of patients dead of starvation were sent to the Clinical Research Association. A report was received that the glandular element had atrophied. It is probable that once the atrophy has reached a certain stage the specific structure is not again reproduced. This would account for the fact that after a certain stage of starvation has been reached recovery is impossible, even with appropriate food.

*Critical Point of Starvation.*—This occurred in people who were still able to stand and even walk feebly. In children it was signalled by atrophy of the buttocks. Those who showed this sign never recovered whatever their general condition was.

*Unsuitable Diet.*—This was the actual cause of death in a large number, probably the majority, of cases during the famine. True cholera was present throughout the famine area, but the fatal complaint in the relief camps was of a dysenteric type, not choleraic, and hopeless to treat.

*Cancrum Oris.*—This was a scourge amongst the children in the relief camps. It did not apparently occur amongst the adults in Kut, nor was it noted amongst the starved Turkish prisoners after the final overthrow of the Turks in Palestine and Syria in 1918.—I am, etc.,

Shillong, Assam, June 30th.

W. H. OGILVIE, M.B., D.Sc.,  
Colonel I.M.S.

#### THE NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICE.

SIR,—In your recent article on the subject of the injustice which has been inflicted by the Admiralty on a certain group of senior surgeon commanders, R.N., you very rightly warn intending candidates for the Naval Medical Service of the treatment they may expect if they join the navy.

It does not seem to be consistent with your warning to continue to publish Admiralty advertisements for surgeon lieutenants for short service, especially as the advertisement states these officers will be considered for transfer to the permanent service under certain conditions.

Including the equipment allowance the terms offered amount to £600 per annum, and may appear reasonable; but it must be remembered that the Admiralty could have kept on the senior surgeon commander at a cost of £440 per annum—the difference between their maximum full pay of £1,040 per annum and their retired pay of £600—and at a saving to the country of £160 per annum.

I trust the Association will see its way to discontinue inserting the advertisement, which in itself does not appear to be free from criticism; the period of service is stated to be three years, with option to extend for further twelve months, and this seems to be open to a possible Admiralty interpretation that the option is theirs to keep on an officer, against his will, over the three years if he is serving on a foreign station or for other reasons, and we know from recent experience the officer would have no remedy.—I am, etc.,

London, July 16th.

A VICTIM.

#### TENDON TRANSPLANTATION.

SIR,—I am entirely in agreement with Mr. Fairbank when he points out in your issue of July 29th (p. 190) that in some cases in which hamstring muscles have been transplanted to the patella to replace a paralysed quadriceps some recovery has subsequently occurred in the quadriceps.

One of the cases which I demonstrated at the clinical lecture reported in your issue of July 15th showed a slight recovery in the quadriceps, as Dr. McNeill, who was present, pointed out to me. I have never seen this recovery amount to anything more than a flicker of muscular contraction, and it has not been sufficient, in any case which I have seen, to produce any appreciable extension of a flexed knee.—I am, etc.,

Manchester, July 31st.

ROBERT OLLERENSHAW.

#### TOBACCO SMOKE AND CANCER.

SIR,—Referring to a letter on "Tobacco smoke and cancer" in your issue of July 8th, Dr. Abbe of New York, an eminent surgeon and a pioneer in the medical and surgical uses of radium and its properties, once told me he had never met with a case of malignant disease of the lips, tongue, mouth, or throat in a non-smoker or one who did not chew betel-nut or indulge in similar habits. Great numbers of cases of malignant disease passed through his hands.—I am, etc.,

London, W., July 16th.

C. DUER, Lieut.-Col. I.M.S.(ret.).

#### BEER AND LEAD POISONING.

SIR,—Our attention has been directed to a paragraph on page 179 in your current number with regard to beer and lead poisoning. It is suggested that poisoning may result from the use of lead glaze in stoneware receptacles.

As far as we are aware, we are the only manufacturers of stoneware containers for this purpose, and no lead whatever is utilized in the glaze of these vessels. Should poisoning have resulted from beer used in such containers it cannot, therefore, be due to the reason suggested, but must arise from some other cause.

As prominence has been given to the paragraph we feel compelled, owing to the authoritative nature of your JOURNAL, to ask for a correction.—We are, etc.,

London, S.E., August 1st.

DOULTON AND CO., LTD.

\*\* We understand that the apparatus referred to in the note last week was not made by Messrs. Doulton.

## Universities and Colleges.

#### OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY COMMISSIONS.

THE President of the Board of Education introduced into the House of Commons on July 24th a bill to carry into effect certain recommendations of the Royal Commission appointed to consider the applications made by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge for financial assistance from Parliament. The Commission reported on March 24th, 1922: It conducted the greater part of its inquiry in two sections, one for Oxford and the other for Cambridge, and at each place inquired into the financial resources of the University and the colleges, the administration of these resources, the government of the University, and the relation of the University to the colleges. It advised that two statutory commissions should be appointed to carry out the changes in University and college statutes recommended by the Commissioners.

The bill now introduced constitutes two bodies of commissioners, the one for Oxford and the other for Cambridge; in each case the number of members is seven. In the Oxford Commission science, including medicine, is represented by Sir Archibald Garrod, K.C.M.G., M.D., F.R.S., Regius Professor of Medicine; in the Cambridge Commission by Sir Richard Glazebrook, K.C.B., D.Sc., F.R.S., formerly Director of the National Physical Laboratory, and Sir Hugh Kerr Anderson, M.D., F.R.S., formerly lecturer on physiology in the University and now Master of Gonville and Caius College. The bill proposes that the powers of the Commissioners shall continue in force until the end of 1924, though the period may be extended by the King in Council to the end of 1926.

The duty of the Commissioners in each case will be to make statutes and regulations for the University, its colleges and halls, and any other institutions in or connected with the University; and also with regard to emoluments, endowments, trusts, foundations, gifts, and offices. The statutes and regulations are to be made in accordance with the recommendations of the Royal Commission, but with such modifications as may, after the consideration of any representations made to the Commission, appear to it expedient. After the expiration of the powers of the Commissioners the universities and colleges will resume their normal powers of government. The statutes now to be established may be altered by statutes made by the universities, but in the case of statutes which affect a college only with the consent of the college. With the permission of the Privy Council colleges also may alter their statutes. It will be remembered that the Cambridge committee of the Royal Commission recommended that women should be admitted on the same conditions as men to membership of the University, but with certain limitations. This matter will therefore have to be considered by the Commission now proposed to be established.

#### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

##### UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

THE following awards of medical scholarships and exhibitions have been made at University College, London: Bucknill scholarship of the value of 135 guineas, to R. L. Midgley. Medical entrance exhibitions of the value of 55 guineas each to E. H. Madge and V. Freeman.

## KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.

The following scholarships and prizes have been awarded:

First Prize (divided): W. R. F. Collis, W. I. Daggett. Senior Scholarship (divided): N. W. Snell and Miss C. P. Francis. Jelf Medal and Tanner Prize: L. Dulake. Todd Prize (divided): L. Dulake and Miss C. P. Francis. Class Prizes—Diseases of children, Miss E. C. N. Paterson, D. Davidson (proximo accessit); Orthopedic Surgery, N. W. Snell; Medicine, L. Dulake; Surgery, W. P. Sheldon; Pathology, C. R. Lane; Obstetric Medicine, P. B. Atkinson; Forensic Medicine, A. C. T. Perkins; Hygiene, A. C. T. Perkins; Psychological Medicine, E. B. Strauss.

## LONDON (ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL) SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FOR WOMEN.

The following scholarships have been awarded for session 1922-23:

Sir Owen Roberts's Memorial Scholarship: Miss D. Stewart (London School of Medicine for Women). St. Dunstan's Medical Exhibition: Miss M. H. Lester (Christ's Hospital). Mabel Sharman-Crawford Scholarship: Miss H. Newman (London School of Medicine for Women). Isabel Thorne Scholarship: Miss E. L. Hutton (Clergy Daughters' School, Casterton). Ellen Walker Bursary: Miss V. A. Roberts (London School of Medicine for Women). Fanny Butler Scholarship: Miss E. M. Oswald (Ridgeland College, Wimbledon).

## ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.

An ordinary comitia of the Royal College of Physicians of London was held on July 27th, the chair being occupied by Dr. Raymond Crawford, the senior Censor, in the absence of the President.

On the report of the Censors Board, and in accordance with By-law cxc, it was resolved:

1. That William Henry Starkie be declared to be no longer a licentiate of the College; that he forfeit all the rights and privileges of a licentiate; and that his name be expunged from the list of licentiates—during the pleasure of the College.
2. That John William Knaston be declared to be no longer a licentiate of the College; that he forfeit all rights and privileges of a licentiate; and that his name be expunged from the list of licentiates during the pleasure of the College; but that an application for restoration of his licence may be considered in two years from the date of the withdrawal thereof.

The following candidates were admitted Members:

Cyril Carlyle Beatty, M.B.Lond., L.R.C.P., Harold E. A. Boldero, M.B. Oxon., L.R.C.P., Harry A. Boyce, M.D.Ontario, Norman Brandon Capon, M.D.Liverpool, Francis Wm. Murray Cunningham, M.D. Edin., Jenner Conway Davies, L.R.C.P., Oliver Charles Minty Davis, M.D.Bristol, Wm. Stovell Gross, M.B.Camb., L.R.C.P., Charles H. Kellaway, M.D.Melb., Christopher Amrita Shanta, M.B.Calcutta, Jehangir Munchersaw Surveyor, M.B.Calcutta, John Edwin Mackonochie Wigley, M.B.Melb., Harry George Everard Williams, M.D.Camb., L.R.C.P., Frederick Edward Saxby Willis, M.B.Lond., L.R.C.P.

Licences to practise Physic were granted to 115 candidates:

## Licences.

S. Adler, N. A. Aienkar, J. V. D. Allio, G. W. Ballance, F. H. Bodman, P. W. Boobbyer, H. W. Briggs, G. L. Brocklehurst, \*Gwendolen M. Brown, R. C. Brown, \*Gladys L. Buckley, N. L. Capener, \*Madeleine H. Clarke, E. A. Coldrey, L. B. Cole, R. H. Cooke, D. C. Corry, N. McL. Craiz, P. P. Dalton, K. A. Darukhanawala, W. A. Date, T. H. R. Davies, F. D. Déjani, H. K. Denham, J. B. Devine, C. J. Donelan, L. Dulake, \*Helen W. Duncan, \*Beatrice E. Ebdon, \*Mary C. Elliot, D. C. Fairbairn, L. S. Fallis, A. R. Fox, \*Christine P. Francis, W. F. Francis, C. B. S. Fuller, \*Ada Furniss, H. J. J. Garrod, \*Marie L. P. Goetze, \*Alice M. F. Goldmann, S. Gordon, R. Hale-White, H. G. Hall, B. O. Hancock, T. H. J. Hargreaves, \*Muriel M. Harris, S. G. Harrison, P. R. Hawe, \*Hilda M. Haythornthwaite, E. C. Heap, M. M. Hegab, H. C. Hull, G. H. Hogben, J. P. Hosford, E. G. Hovenden, G. H. Howells, J. S. Hudson, E. N. Hughes, J. Jackson, A. E. Jenkins, A. J. Keavill, \*Mary A. Keresztes, A. M. Kheael, D. Levi, S. I. Lewis, N. H. H. Longton, L. H. B. Macleod, A. C. Maconie, H. H. Marsden, P. de R. Mason, C. O. Minasian, H. J. Morris, D. C. Muir, H. A. Nathan, J. Ness-Walker, F. G. Nicholas, L. F. O'Shaughnessy, H. M. Palmer, P. H. Patey, F. Y. Pearson, R. C. Peate, G. P. Krowksi, W. M. Ramsden, H. E. K. Reynolds, H. Richards, \*Constance E. Ridout, \*D. Rieley, B. C. de S. Rupasingha, \*Gladys M. Sanders, \*Norah B. A. Sankey, Margaret C. Scrase, C. F. H. Sergeant, N. F. Shaw, Patricia H. S. Shaw, C. M. Short, J. Shulman, N. W. Snell, J. A. Stutters, C. Sturton, F. B. Sudbury, M. H. Summers, D. B. Sutton, H. W. Taylor, R. J. Thomas, T. M. Thomas, H. K. Tucker, H. D. A. Utidjian, R. H. Wade, H. K. Wallace, J. Whitby, \*Catherine M. Williams, C. P. Wilson, G. Wilson, D. A. Windemer, J. A. Young.

\* Under the Medical Act, 1876.

## Diplomas.

Diplomas in the subjects indicated were granted in conjunction with the Royal College of Surgeons to the following candidates:

PUBLIC HEALTH. — J. E. Bowen, D. S. Brachman, B. C. Dasgupta, P. Davies, A. M. El-Kirdany, R. F. Fagan, C. H. H. Harold, P. A. Hayne, F. B. Hobbs, C. B. Hogg, A. E. Ironside, Doris E. P. Jolly, B. L. Joshi, G. J. W. McMichael, M. C. Madhoc, J. Misquitta, W. Oats, G. R. Paiton, Barbara Richardson, J. P. Rosh, A. D. Soares, Ruth C. Townshend, J. R. D. Webb, H. G. Wiltshire, F. H. Young.

TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE. — B. F. Beatson, H. C. Berlie, Nancy E. Bleakley, C. V. Boland, D. I. Cameron, V. M. Fisher, P. Gupta, S. Hunt, H. S. Lucraft, G. S. Marshall, L. M. Moody, E. R. Kellersberger, M. Schwartz, M. Theiler, S. M. Vassallo, M. Yacob, Margaret H. R. Young.

OPHTHALMIC MEDICINE AND SURGERY. — D. P. Bhargava, J. C. Bharucha, R. E. Collins, E. MacA. G. Glassford, R. McM. Glynn, N. McA. Gregg, A. J. Kapasi, K. E. Madan, Gladys H. Marchant, J. S. Monroe, B. B. Nanavati, C. C. O'Malley, S. Scouler, F. J. D. Twigg.

PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE. — J. Rostock, J. F. Gasperine, H. H. P. Morton, N. Navarra, P. X. Noionha, F. Paine, E. C. Rayner, C. H. L. Rixon, K. M. Rodger.

The Examiners for the Murchison Memorial Scholarship reported that Arthur Henry Douthwaite and Charles Frederick Terence East were equally deserving of the Scholarship.

College officers, members of committees, and examiners for the ensuing year were elected on the nomination of the President, Council, and Library Committee:

## Censors.

Raymond H. P. Crawford, M.D., Horace George Turney, O.B.E., M.D., Herbert Morley Fletcher, M.D., Bertrand Edward Baron Dawson of Penn, G.C.V.O., K.C.M.G., C.B., M.D.

## Examiners.

Chemistry.—William Bradshaw Tuck, D.Sc., Charles Stanley Gibson, O.B.E., B.Sc., F.C.

Physics.—Frederick Womack, M.B., B.Sc., Alfred Henry Fison, D.Sc.

Practical Pharmacy.—Alfred Ernest Russell, M.D., Edward Alfred Cockayne, M.D., Philip Hamill, M.D., Alfred Joseph Clark, M.C., M.D., Walter Ernest Dixon, O.B.E., M.D.

Physiology.—John Beresford Leathes, M.B., John Mellanby, M.D.

Anatomy.—Thomas Baillie Johnston, M.B.

Medical Anatomy and Principles and Practice of Medicine.—William Aldren Turner, C.B., M.D., Herbert Morley Fletcher, M.D., John Walter Carr, C.B.E., M.D., Joseph John Perkins, M.B., Arthur Philip Beddard, M.D., Arthur John Hall, M.D., Sir James Purves Stewart, K.C.M.G., C.B., M.D., Robert A. Young, C.B.E., M.D., Charles Bolton, C.B.E., M.D., Sir William Henry Willcox, C.B., C.M.G., M.D.

Midwifery and Diseases Peculiar to Women.—John Prescott Hedley, M.B., Ewen John Maclean, M.D., Thomas George Stevens, M.D., John Davis Barris, M.B., Harold Chapple, M.B., F.R.C.S.

Public Health.—Part I: Henry Wilson Hake, Ph.D.; Part II: David Samuel Davie, M.D.

Tropical Medicine.—John C. Grant Ledingham, M.B. (Bacteriology), John Brian Christopherson, C.B.E., M.D. (Diseases and Hygiene of the Tropics).

Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery.—Gordon Morgan Holmes, C.M.G., C.B.E., M.D.

Psychological Medicine.—Part I: Henry Devine, O.B.E., M.D. Part II: James Taylor, C.B.E., M.D., Charles Hubert Bond, C.B.E., M.D.

Dr. Lauriston Shaw was appointed a councillor in the place of the late Dr. W. H. R. Rivers. At the request of the Royal Society of British Architects Dr. Dawtrey Drevitt was appointed representative of the college on a committee to consider the commemoration of the bicentenary of the death of Sir Christopher Wren. Sir Arthur Keith was given permission to photograph the portrait of Sir Thomas Browne in the possession of the college. At the request of Mr. Holman Wilson the college agreed to help in re-erecting in the church of St. Leonard's, Exeter, certain panels which formed part of the altar tomb of Dr. William Musgrave, F.R.C.P., F.R.S. Mr. T. J. C. Tomlin, K.C., was appointed senior standing counsel to the college. A report from the Censors Board concerning the Lloyd Robert Lectureship was referred to the college lawyers. The membership which Dr. R. A. Chisolm resigned in 1919 was restored to him. Sir William Church and Sir Thomas Barlow were reappointed members of the Executive Committee of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, on the nomination of that committee, and Sir Frederick Andrewes was re-appointed a representative on the same committee.

A report was received from the representatives of the two Royal Colleges on the International Congress of Ophthalmology, held at Washington in April last. (Mr. E. Treacher Collins, F.R.C.S.) An invitation to hold the next congress in London in 1925 was accepted. After some formal business the comitia was dissolved.

## ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

An ordinary council was held on July 27th, when Sir Anthony Bowlby, President, was in the chair.

## Diplomas.

Diplomas of membership were granted to 113 candidates found qualified at the recent examinations. The Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene was granted to 17 candidates (jointly with the Royal College of Physicians) recently found qualified. The Diploma in Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery was granted to 14 candidates found qualified (in conjunction with the Royal College of Physicians).

## Examiners.

Mr. F. F. Burghard was re-elected a member of the Court of Examiners, and Dr. I. Lewin Payne was elected a member of the Board of Examiners in Dental Surgery.

## Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

Sir William Church and Sir Thomas Barlow were re-elected members of the Executive Committee of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

## CONJOINT BOARD IN ENGLAND.

## Forensic Medicine.

THE synopsis of forensic medicine has been revised by the Committee of Management of the Conjoint Board in England, and has now been adopted both by the Royal College of Physicians of London and the Royal College of Surgeons of England. It is as follows:

Privileges and obligations of medical practitioners. Medical registration. Medical certificates and notifications. Medical evidence. Dying declarations. Procedure relating to coroners' inquests.

Signs of death and the phenomena which follow death. Putrefaction in air. Putrefaction in water. Mummification. Formation of adipocere. Inspection of the dead body and post-mortem examination.

Medico-legal aspects of identification.

Modes of dying. Causes of sudden death.

Death from the following causes: Wounds and mechanical injuries. Hanging. Strangulation. Suffocation. Drowning. Electrical current and lightning. Starvation.

Indications of death from accident, suicide, or homicide. Methods of recognition of blood stains.

**Poisoning.**—Medico-legal duties of medical practitioners in cases of poisoning. Symptoms and *post-mortem* appearances produced by the common inorganic, organic, and gaseous poisons, and the treatment of the patient.

Method of *post-mortem* examination in cases of poisoning, and reservation of parts of the body for analysis.

Simple tests for common poisons. The sale of poisons.

Medico-legal questions relating to pregnancy, delivery, rape, criminal abortion, infanticide.

The lunacy laws in so far as they affect the medical practitioner in relation to the signing of certificates of lunacy.

## Obituary.

### THE LATE SIR EDWARD MALINS.

DR. THOMAS WILSON (Birmingham) has been good enough to send the following appreciation of his late colleague and friend:

Thirty years ago when I became his junior colleague at the old General Hospital Malins had already been in practice in Birmingham for twenty years, and his name was a household word in the city and a large surrounding district. I was at once impressed by the constant and punctual discharge of his hospital duties, and by his devotion to, and sympathetic interest in, his patients, as well as by his knowledge and skill. His patients looked up to him with esteem and respect, and returned his care with real affection. In the students he took a close and kindly interest, and to his colleagues, and especially the juniors, he was ever considerate and loyal. When illness or misfortune overtook those who had worked with him his ready sympathy, and when needed his generous help, were unobtrusively given. He became a specialist after a long and arduous general training, first by apprenticeship, then by the usual course in the University of Edinburgh, and afterwards by some years in busy general practice. Before leaving Edinburgh he had become assistant to Sir James Simpson, and so had acquired a sound practical acquaintance with the principles of midwifery and diseases of women. Through the whole of his life his mind remained open to new ideas, and he earnestly and successfully strove to keep abreast of advances in knowledge and practice as the specialty developed from the era of mechanical pathology and pessarials to that of surgical and more modern scientific methods.

As Professor in the University Sir Edward Malins took the greatest pains to keep his teaching on the highest and most advanced level, was most assiduous and punctual in the discharge of his duties, and possessed the esteem and regard of the students to a marked degree. As an examiner of students and nurses he was judicial and impartial, patient and considerate. He devoted a large part of his life to the service of the General Hospital and of the University, taking a profound interest in both and giving to them of his best. Outside his professional work he had many interests. A devoted and hard-working churchman, he practised his religion unobtrusively in his daily life. In political and social matters he took an active interest, and of general literature he was a diligent and widely read student. At the University Graduates' Club, of which he was twice President, he was a regular attendant, and was esteemed one of the most valued and interesting speakers. In daily intercourse he bore himself with quiet and unassuming courtesy. To him came many honours, unsought, modestly accepted, and sustained with dignity. Among them, the most welcome to his local brethren and I think to himself, was the highest in the power of the members of his specialty to bestow—the Presidency of the London Obstetrical Society, to which office he was the first provincial member to be elected. His presence and example will be missed in many circles, and in none more than in that of the brethren of his specialty. By them he was honoured and esteemed, and among them his place will not readily be filled.

Sir FRANCIS CHAMPNEYS writes:

The obituary notice of Sir Edward Malins, accurate as it doubtless is on matters of history, lacks the personal note which should give life to a biography. The fact that he had attained the advanced age of 80 is probably accountable for this. But there are some who remember their association with him in active work. Sir Edward was a very old member of the Obstetrical Society, and it must be forty years since I was first associated with him at that society, which has now become the Obstetrical and Gynaecological Section of the Royal Society of Medicine. He was, I think, the first provincial Fellow to become its president, and he discharged his duties remarkably well. His characteristics, indeed, were

dignity, courtesy, firmness, sound judgement, uprightness, and public spirit. It was always a pleasure to work with him. He leaves the memory of a long and very useful life behind him, and he rests from his labours.

THE death is announced of Dr. GAVIN STIELL of Clapham, who was one of the best known medical practitioners in south London. Dr. Stiell was born in 1857, and was educated at Dunfermline High School and Edinburgh University; he graduated M.B., C.M. in 1881, and M.D. in 1897. After holding various appointments he settled in Clapham in 1887 and built up there a very large general practice. He kept himself well abreast of recent developments in medicine and surgery, and his sympathetic and kindly nature, with his unceasing care and devotion to his work, gained him the affection and esteem of all with whom he came in contact. He was an old member of the British Medical Association and one of the original Fellows of the British Baenological and Climatological Society, of which he remained a member until its amalgamation with the Royal Society of Medicine, of which he was also a Fellow. He is survived by his widow and two sons, both of whom have adopted the medical profession, the elder practising in Clapham in association with his father, and the other in Lincoln.

## Medical News.

FOR the Ladies' Golf Competition in connexion with the Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association at Glasgow there were sixteen entries, but owing to the inclemency of the weather only eleven actually played. Miss Robertson, Elioeh Lodge, Prestwick, won the prize for the best round; Mrs. Lamb, Mount Annan Drive, Mount Florida, won the prize for the hidden holes. The prizes were the gift of Mr. William Rankin.

MAJOR-GENERAL C. E. POLLOCK, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., late R.A.M.C., has been appointed Deputy Director-General, Army Medical Services, vice Major-General Sir George B. Stanistreet, K.B.E., C.B., C.M.G., late R.A.M.C.

THE National Health Society, in compliance with the alteration made in the Regulations of the Board of Education for the training of health visitors, is arranging a shortened course of training for qualified nurses and health visitors of three years' service under local authorities. The next course commences in September. Particulars may be obtained from the secretary, 53, Berners Street, W.1.

A CONFERENCE on the disposal of London refuse was held at the Ministry of Health at the end of June, and the Minister has now issued a memorandum covering a poster detailing the precautions which should be taken, not only in London but elsewhere, in managing refuse tips to prevent the causation of nuisance. The principal precautions recommended are that the refuse should be deposited in shallow layers, and that each layer should be promptly covered with earth or other suitable material to prevent nuisance from fire, rats, flies, or smells.

AT the suggestion of the Medical Director the Health Committee of the League of Nations Union has invited certain Governments to nominate commissions of some four or five public health medical officers to spend three months working in the health administrations of other countries.

AT the June matriculation examination of the University of London there were 169 successful candidates in the first division and 1,258 in the second division, while 36 secured the supplementary certificate for Latin.

THE summer general meeting of the Irish Medical Schools' and Graduates' Association was held in the Grand Hotel, Glasgow, on July 24th, the President, Dr. J. A. Macdonald, LL.D., in the chair. Forty-eight members and their friends had previously had lunch together, when the President said he had much pleasure in announcing that the number of new members enrolled during the previous twelvemonth was the largest recorded in any similar period in the history of the association, extending over forty-four years. He quite anticipated that the total number on the roll by the time his year of office had expired (next St. Patrick's Day) would be fully a thousand. When this total was reached they would be in a position to resume the "monopoly" fight, which in days gone by had been so successful. It would not be long, he (the chairman) felt sure, before the English lovers of justice would cause the barriers to be removed which now prevented the Fellows of Irish and Scottish Colleges from even becoming candidates for positions on the honorary staffs of general

hospitals in England. The toast of the King's health having been very heartily received, that of the Guests was proposed by Dr. James Stewart and responded to by Dr. Agnes Estcourt-Oswald, whereupon the meeting adjourned.

THE Board of Education has issued a pamphlet (price 3d. net) giving a list of institutions recognized by the Board under regulations for nursery schools, the training of health visitors, and the training of midwives; and a revised list of institutions for the welfare of the blind and of defective and epileptic children.

A CHRISTIAN Science practitioner was found guilty recently, in the municipal court of Cleveland, Ohio, of practising medicine without a licence, and was fined 100 dols. and costs.

## 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.

ORIGINAL ARTICLES and LETTERS forwarded for publication are understood to be offered to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL alone unless the contrary be stated.

CORRESPONDENTS who wish notice to be taken of their communications should authenticate them with their names—of course not necessarily for publication.

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, *Aitiology*, Westrand, London; telephone, 2630, Gerrard.
2. FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND BUSINESS MANAGER (Advertisements, etc.), *Articulate*, Westrand, London; telephone, 2630, Gerrard.
3. MEDICAL SECRETARY, *Medisecra*, 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.

### INCOME TAX.

"MEDICO" recently purchased a practice, and claimed £45 for expense of drugs purchased on taking over. This has been disallowed as capital outlay.

\*.\* The amount allowable is the cost of the drugs consumed in the year's work, and the cost of the total stock taken over is part of the cost of the practice as a whole and inadmissible for tax purposes.

"G. K." inquires whether he is correct in assuming that "flat-rate remuneration, National Health Insurance fees, and Parish Council salary are still assessable under Schedule D."

\*.\* The last mentioned is technically assessable Schedule E, but the other two appear not to be profits of "employment" and consequently assessable Schedule D. If these two considerably outweigh the other source of income we conceive that the authorities would continue the practice of pooling the whole in one Schedule D assessment.

"F. A. A." sold a 1916 Overland Coupé 20-25 h.p. and bought a 1922 Rover 12 h.p. The latter car cost £200 more than the old car did, the net cost of the renewal being £425. The inspector of taxes refuses to allow more than £325 on the ground that £100 or more was expended on improvement.

\*.\* The amount allowable is the 1922 cost of a 20-25-h.p. Coupé Overland less £225 received for the old car. On this basis the inspector's action seems justified.

### WARTS OF THE SCALP.

"X. Y. Z." would be glad to hear of a satisfactory treatment of warts of the scalp. Snipping and the cautery have been tried without benefit, but treatment is hampered by the risk of losing the hair.

\*.\* Warts of the scalp usually yield readily to an application of radium.

### RELIEF OF PAIN IN ACROMEGALY.

DR. J. H. DOUGLAS WEBSTER (London) writes in reply to Dr. W. Gover (Hastings), who inquired how the intolerable pain in acromegaly could be relieved: X-ray treatment often gives speedy relief to the symptoms—headache, contraction of visual fields, etc. I have published a case, and others have recorded

similar good effects from x-ray treatment. At the Scandinavian Radiological Congress in Copenhagen last year many good results were reported, in cases of intracranial tumours, from radits therapy.

## LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

### A "SERIOUS CASE."

DR. W. JOHNSON SMYTH (Bournemouth) writes: Acutely apprehensive of only a brief span of life a lady consulted me lately and explained that a specialist recently discovered that she suffered from an "impalpable spleen" and that he took a very serious view of her ailment. I corroborated the specialist's discovery, prescribed a rich diet and a few noisy electrical remedies with which she was not familiar. Her recovery was rapid.

### HOSPITAL v. ASYLUM.

DR. S. E. WHITE (London, E.) writes: The hospitalization of asylums is in the air. No lovelier thing could be devised than to remove the shadow that broods over asylum life; to give light to them that sit in darkness, and to introduce into that dim forsaken land methods by which the heart is cheered and health restored. Professor G. M. Robertson proclaims: "Let there be no more prison atmosphere! We do not call in a magistrate to sanction admission into a hospital." True, but the patient can in this case discharge himself. Does the professor intend that no greater measure of detention shall in the future be exercised over the unbalanced than prevails in hospitals for bodily disease? He can hardly mean that. He has a plan whereby those who enter voluntarily can be detained for six months or medical authority alone—the arrangements being strongly commended by the fact that there will be "no certification"—that means, no provision for any judicial intervention or appeal. This proposal is naturally accepted readily by those who keep asylums. But no roseate picture of the delights of hospitalized asylums can reconcile most people to the loss of liberty. The sense of the rights of the subject has entrenched itself so firmly behind English law that psychiatrists find it no easy matter to drive it out. Five times since 1905 the Lunacy Commission has essayed to pass this measure through Parliament, but without avail. The sense of fair play has been too strong. Fain would the Board of Control gather under its wing all early cases to detain them for their good; but the early cases refuse to flock to it. The Board is not at all satisfied with its function of looking after the certified—that is, the helpless whom they are supposed to protect—but would willingly find "half-way houses" for all those who are on the way to being certified. There exist at the present moment all over our land huge institutions into which are gathered a heterogeneous mass of people. Some of these indubitably require restraint, but an equally large number are housed therein who would recover much more speedily if invited to appropriately equipped cheerful sanatoriums and spared this iron rule. There ought to be called into being some suitable alternatives to asylums. It is a crying need. But the new hostels must be hospitals in fact, not semi asylums. Once liberty is interfered with, it is all-essential that, to prevent injustice, something in the nature of an inquiry must be held; the "alleged lunatic" ought to be told what is being alleged, and be permitted to defend himself. This is only fair. As things are at present, everything is done in secret; and according to the proposals now issuing from the Health Ministry the proceedings are likely to become still more subterranean. This is a retrograde step. No measure of the kind is needed. No legislative barrier stands in the way of running hospitals without detention. Before committing a man to an asylum, he ought to be proved to be dangerous and unfit to be at large. For all others, the true hope of the future lies in the starting of real hospitals with reassuring atmosphere and free access to the air and light of heaven.

### VACANCIES.

NOTIFICATIONS of offices vacant in universities, medical colleges, and of vacant resident and other appointments at hospitals, will be found at pages 27, 30, 31, and 32 of our advertisement columns, and advertisements as to partnerships, assistantships, and locumtenencies at pages 28 and 29.

A short summary of vacant posts notified in the advertisement columns appears in the Supplement at page 84.

## SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

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NOTE.—It is against the rules of the Post Office to receive *poste restante* letters addressed either in initials or numbers.