

view of the high percentage of CO in modern gas. He thought it was not generally realized how common this form of pollution of air was, and Dr. Hazleton's suggestion for its remedy was as valuable as it was simple. He thought it not unlikely that conditions commonly attributed to sewer gas were due to this cause.

Dr. SCURFIELD agreed that Dr. Hazleton had called attention to a matter of very great importance in connexion with the public health. The danger of leakages of gas was increased by the fact that many persons were very insensitive to its smell, and so might remain unaware of quite poisonous amounts in the air they breathed.

Several other speakers thanked Dr. Hazleton for calling attention to a matter of such practical importance, and hoped that his method of prevention would in time become general.

## Memoranda :

### MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

#### ASTHMA DUE TO INSECT POWDER.

Mrs. D., an apparently healthy woman of 24, consulted one of us (J. R. G.) on August 10th, when she was found to be suffering from a severe attack of asthma.

Her history was that on August 7th, at about 6 p.m., she bought a tin of a well known brand of insect powder and sprinkled some of it on her bed, on which a dog had been lying. In about half an hour she noticed that her eyes were watering, sore, and itchy. When in bed that night she had the first stages of an asthmatic attack. She could not "get her breath" and there was a "catch" in breathing. The next day she had little to complain of, but that evening and night she felt worse. The attack was most severe on the following night (August 9th). When seen on August 10th the signs and symptoms were those of severe bronchial asthma. Under appropriate treatment she gradually improved, and at the end of a week was quite comfortable during the day and only slightly "wheezy" at night.

Only once previously had she suffered from asthma. That attack came on about a year before when she was staying in the country on holiday. The previous occupant of her bed had been a lady who had three dogs, and before Mrs. D. arrived the landlady had made free use of insect powder on the bed. The attack developed the first night Mrs. D. spent in the bed, and, after three days of misery, she returned home and was completely well within a week.

The only one of her relatives who suffers from asthma is a maternal aunt who has been a frequent victim from her girlhood. In her case no connexion between attacks and either food or environment has been noticed.

In order to confirm or rebut Mrs. D.'s conviction that the powder was the cause of her attack, her sensitiveness to it was tested by the other recorder (J. W. B.). A few superficial scratches were made on each forearm. The abraded surface on the right arm was rubbed with carbolic saline, that on the left with a suspension of the powder in the same solution. Within five minutes there was a marked difference between the two arms. The scratched surface on the right was surrounded by a slightly hyperaemic zone, but that on the left forearm showed as a raised white wheal in the centre of a bright red patch. The reagents were then washed off with salt solution. The condition was kept under observation for a further ten minutes, when the visible and palpable wheal was much more marked and the red zone larger. The subject stated that it was rather itchy. When seen six hours later there was but little difference between the arms, and Mrs. D. said that the swelling had almost completely disappeared within an hour from the commencement of the experiment. In view of the very rapid and marked skin reaction there can be little doubt that Mrs. D. was very sensitive to the powder and that it was the cause of her attack of asthma. No attempt was made to immunize her against the substance as it is one fairly easy to avoid. Since she has only suffered from these two asthmatic attacks it seems probable that her range of sensitiveness is small. She was not tested with any other substance.

The makers of the powder did not reply to my question

as to its composition, but it apparently consists, in whole or part, of pyrethrum, and it is probable that this substance was the responsible agent.

The case seems worth recording since, so far as we have been able to discover, no similar case has been noted before.

J. R. GARRATT, M.D.,

Kingstown.

JOSEPH W. BIGGER, M.D., F.R.C.P.I.,  
Dublin.

### SYPHILITIC STRICTURE OF THE SMALL INTESTINE.

THE following case of severe generalized syphilis, with syphilitic stricture of the small intestine, causing intestinal obstruction and resulting in death, presents some interesting features worthy of record.

A man, aged 45, was admitted to hospital on December 6th, 1922, complaining of severe gastralgia which began about a week earlier. He had been troubled by frequent attacks of indigestion for twelve years, with occasional vomiting. He had served as a regular soldier in India, where he had slight malaria, and he had been a rather heavy drinker for many years. For the most part, however, his health had been good. During the war he served in Salonica, where he got a fresh infection with malaria in 1917, but was not seriously ill, and the last attack of malaria was in 1921. He had iritis in the left eye in 1915.

On admission he was pale and thin, and the lymphatic glands on both sides of the neck were enlarged and hard. There were no abnormal physical signs in the heart or lungs. The left pupil was "pin-point" and fixed, apparently due to the old iritis. The right pupil was normal in size and reacted slowly to light, and more actively to accommodation. Deep reflexes and sensation were normal. There was slight tenderness over the pylorus, but the abdomen was difficult to palpate, as the recti muscles were rigid. He vomited occasionally, even when on a diet of bread, milk, and pudding. The bowels tended to be constipated. An Ewald test meal, given on December 10th, revealed a total absence of free HCl, and a total acidity of 10—that is, there was a complete achylia gastrica. No Boas-Oppler bacilli were found. On December 15th the Wassermann reaction of the blood was reported positive. X-ray examination showed the stomach to be normal in size and position, and that it emptied itself in five and a half hours. There was no evidence of narrowed pylorus or tumour formation. The patient was put on dilute hydrochloric acid with pepsin, and on mercury and potassium iodide. At the end of December intravenous injections of 0.3 gram novarsenobillon were begun, but after each there was so decided an exacerbation of pain in the stomach that the injections were stopped after the third.

He did not improve, but became sick more frequently, so that at first medicines and then food by the stomach had to be stopped, and bowel feeding was resorted to. He became more emaciated and the sickness continued. Early in February, 1923, he had a twitching of the left eye which lasted for three minutes, and he was dazed for some time afterwards.

The patient was transferred to the surgical department on February 17th, as a last resort. He was then very weak and emaciated, but the appearance of the abdomen was striking. It was well and uniformly filled and firm, in marked contrast to the extreme wasting of the rest of the body. With the object of introducing peptonized milk directly into the small intestine an incision was made in the epigastrium, and a loop of small bowel was picked out. This loop presented a stricture, about 3/4 inch in length and 1/4 inch in external diameter, which was very firm, and avascular. On both sides of this stricture the bowel rapidly expanded to fully an inch external diameter. The fullness of the abdomen was largely due to great infiltration of mesenteric glands and retroperitoneal tissues. An enterostomy was rapidly performed below the stricture, and the patient fed; he was also stimulated with radiant heat, pituitary extract, etc. The temperature, which had fallen to 96°, rose almost to normal, and for a time he retained nutrient injections and salines, and slept well. Three days later, however, he died.

*Post mortem*, in addition to the retroperitoneal masses, masses were found in the liver and the upper pole of the left kidney, and large firm masses in the mediastinum. Microscopical examination showed these masses to be gummatous. The stricture of the intestine was situated in the jejunum, and, on section, the very narrow lumen was found to be neatly closed by a grape seed which acted as a ball valve, the little projection at one end of the seed entering the stricture and acting as the valve stem or guide. The thick walls of the stricture showed gummatous infiltration.

We are indebted to Drs. E. Currie and M. Davidson, resident medical officers, for the use of notes made upon this case.

W. K. ANDERSON, M.B., Ch.B.,  
Physician,

J. A. C. MACEWEN, M.B., C.M., F.R.F.P.S.Glas.,  
Surgeon,  
Eastern District Hospital, Glasgow.

Ministry of Health, but I am very much surprised to learn from Dr. Cheater's letter that he refused to allow representatives of the Ministry to investigate his treatment. Such has never been his practice, for he has welcomed to his laboratory accredited medical representatives from the Governments of Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and other overseas Dominions, copies of whose reports I have seen and studied. Incidentally, I may say that these reports are most eulogistic.—I am, etc.,

London, W., Oct. 20th.

LEONARD WILLIAMS.

#### VITAMINS AND CHLOROPHYLL.

SIR,—In a letter on the above subject Sir Patrick Hehir (October 20th, p. 733) states that Miss Harriette Chick and Miss Margaret Hume discovered that germinating grain and pulse contain antiscorbutic vitamins after the grain has sprouted. It should, however, not be forgotten that in 1908 Dr. Axel Holst of Christiania showed that scurvy was produced in guinea-pigs by a diet of bread and dry cereals, but not if raw carrot was added; on a diet of compressed dried potato, but not if cabbage juice was added; and on a diet of dried barley and water, but not if the barley was allowed to sprout first.—I am, etc.,

London, W., Oct. 22nd.

EDMUND CAUTLEY.

#### DIAGNOSIS OF SMALL-POX AND CHICKEN-POX.

SIR,—At the present time there is a great deal of discussion on the diagnosis of small-pox and chicken-pox, and a point of some interest arises—namely, that the presence of a good vaccination mark may alter one's opinion, the mark being evidence, and valuable evidence, of vaccination, and therefore protection.

Many years ago I drew attention in the *Medical Press and Circular* to the condition of the scar as found on several thousands of school children varying in age from 3 to 14; in many of the elder children the scars were found with difficulty. I am finding the same thing in older people whom I have since vaccinated; this modifies my views as previously stated.

The present method of vaccinating avoids cross-cutting and does away with the necrosis of superficial areas of the skin, and the resulting scar appears to me to last, distinctly, a very much shorter period, and thus important evidence as to the success of the vaccination tends to be lost.—I am, etc.,

Sunderland, Oct. 15th.

EUSTACE THORP, O.B.E.,  
L.R.C.S., D.P.H.

### Universities and Colleges.

#### UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

At a congregation held on October 18th the degree of Bachelor of Medicine (B.M.) was conferred on T. A. Brown.

The following members of the Medical School have been elected to scholarships at the undermentioned hospitals:

*Guy's Hospital*.—War Memorial Scholarship, £80, D. Lurie. University Students Open Scholarship, £80, W. D. B. Read.

*London Hospital*.—Second University Scholarship, V. H. Brink.

*King's College Hospital*.—Burney Yeo Scholarship, J. W. de W. G. Thornton, J. A. Eyres.

*St. Mary's Hospital*.—University Scholarships, £200, R. B. Bourdillon, P. C. Mallam.

*St. George's Hospital*.—University Scholarship, H. A. Bywater.

*Westminster Hospital*.—University Scholarship, £80, S. Segal.

#### UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

The following candidates have been approved in both parts of the examinations indicated:

DIPLOMA IN HYGIENE.—\*A. M. Kamal, M. E. Sebaiey, D.P.H.—L. S. Ahluwalia, G. A. Back, W. Bird, J. McP. Campbell, \*J. R. Chaudhri, \*H. L. Cronk, R. Cunningham, Mary A. Grant, A. Ice J. Gray, Susan M. S. Jamieson, H. D. Kelf, J. McW. McDona d, W. C. Mathur, \*†A. C. Munro, C. E. R. Norman, A. C. Paterson, R. N. Raja, A. M. Ramzy, †G. adys H. Randall, A. El-H. Sadek, M. J. Saldanha, A. M. Seervai, Florence G. Sherry, Isobel M. Smith, Katherine C. Spence, B. Suggit, Nora I. Wattie, R. Weaver, A. D. Whitelaw, Catherine B. Wilson.

\* Distinguished in the application of Sanitary Science.

† Distinguished in the Principles of Hygiene.

‡ Distinguished in Bacteriology.

#### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

##### Matriculation Examination.

At the September matriculation examination 58 candidates were placed in the first division and 324 in the second division; in addition 36 gained the supplementary certificate for Latin. At the matriculation examinations held overseas (June, 1923) at Colombo 3 candidates were placed in the first division and 16 in the second division; 3 passed in the second division at Jaffna, 2 in the second division at Kingston, Jamaica, and 1 in the first division at Barbados.

##### LONDON HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The following awards have been made: "Price" University Scholarship in Human Anatomy and Physiology: H. L. Green; Proxime Accessit, V. H. Brink (awarded a second scholarship).

#### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

THE annual meeting of Fellows and Members of the Royal College of Surgeons of England will be held at the College, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C., on Thursday, November 15th, at 3 p.m.

#### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF EDINBURGH.

At the annual meeting of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh on October 17th Sir Harold J. Stiles was elected President and Sir David Wallace Vice-President, and Mr. Alexander Miles Secretary and Treasurer.

The following 13 successful candidates out of 44 entered having passed the requisite examinations have been admitted Fellows:

S. C. A'agappan, W. M. Ash, F. W. W. Baillie, E. B. Barre, H. C. Braysaw, R. C. Clifford, B. T. Cuilen, M. D. David, A. Gallety, L. J. Middleton, D. A. Mitchell, N. A. M. Petersen, H. B. Scott.

#### CONJOINT BOARD IN SCOTLAND.

THE examinations of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, and the Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow have just concluded at Edinburgh.

The following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

FINAL EXAMINATION.—*Medicine*: R. F. Kerr, A. Adefolu, V. P. Thiagaraja, A. W. H. Noble, P. S. H. Masters, J. Kirkness, J. N. Dey. *Surgery*: A. Raff, V. Vaithalingham. *Midwifery*: A. Raff, Annie H. Sutherland, A. Adefolu, V. P. Thiagaraja, G. C. Philips, V. Vaithalingham, S. Thambipillai, C. A. Barrow, J. McAuley, Wilhelmina C. Sorrie, Elizabeth Clark, W. Melrose. *Medical Jurisprudence*: W. T. Baker, T. G. S. Harkness, J. B. Stromier, Irma E. L. Mackenzie, J. Houston, J. K. Hunter, M. M. El-Maklawi, J. H. MacAlpine, J. Harkness, N. T. Yusif, D. L. Crawford, B. F. Home, H. A. Newton.

The following candidates having passed the Final Examination were admitted L.R.C.P.E., L.R.C.S.E., L.R.F.P. and S.G.:

J. W. Ridley, J. Ryan, D. D. S. Outschoorn, J. S. Allan, S. H. Tan, A. H. Stephenson, S. L. Navaratnam, R. G. Melrose, J. R. Whitaker, C. F. Brkenstock, A. B. Williamson, D. S. M. E. Perera, Phyllis M. Walker, A. Ross, C. M. Hinds, A. Bury, C. L. S. Ferdinands, A. L. Tinto, A. Gillies, H. Hoffmann, G. A. P. McCorey, W. R. Robertson, J. G. Thomas, R. M. MacKinnon, H. E. Schokman.

The following candidates having passed the requisite examinations have been admitted Diplomates in Public Health:

W. S. Macdonald, Elizabeth N. Thompson, A. R. Lester, J. F. Seale, W. Camibell, H. Nichol, R. G. Shaw, Dorothea I. Bain, P. Hutchison, Katharine J. Guthrie, J. S. McLo Gray, J. L. Halliday, Margaret A. Galbraith, W. McKie, Peggy L. Mitchell, J. G. Gill, K. A. Macrae, F. D. Murchison Beaton, Katrine Dunn, D. P. Richardson, Catherine Hill, Helen Campbell, G. W. Murray, C. M. Smith, and R. Wiggins.

### The Services.

#### DEATHS IN THE SERVICES.

Captain Lionel Baker Jones, Indian Medical Service, was killed by a sniper, while motoring on duty, on the Loralai-Harnai road, Baluchistan, thirteen miles from Harnai, on October 1st. He was born on July 24th, 1895, the son of Dr. Samuel Baker Jones of Brynfield, Reynoldstone, Swansea, and entered Edinburgh University as a medical student in October, 1914. On May 31st, 1915, he enlisted as a private in the Inns of Court O.T.C., and on September 16th, 1915, received a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the Welsh Regiment (41st Foot) (6th Territorial, Glamorgan, Battalion), being promoted to lieutenant on July 1st, 1917. He was seconded for service in the Royal Air Force on August 7th, 1916, and on May 26th, 1917, was decorated with the Military Cross. After being demobilized on July 31st, 1919, he resumed his medical studies and graduated M.B. and Ch.B. Edinburgh in 1922. On January 20th, 1923, he joined the I.M.S., being appointed direct as captain on account of his four years' war service. He was engaged to be married to Dr. Jean Riddell Purves, who graduated at Edinburgh in July, 1923; she was on her way out to India to be married at the time, and landed at Bombay the day after Captain Baker Jones's death.

educated at the University of Glasgow, and also at Birmingham and London; he took the L.M.S.S.A.Lond. in 1913 and graduated M.B., Ch.B.Glasgow in 1921. When he qualified he became surgeon lieutenant in the navy, and was eye specialist at the Royal Naval Hospital, Plymouth. After holding the appointment of senior house-surgeon at the Guest Hospital, Dudley, and assistant surgeon to the Sunderland Eye Infirmary, he went into practice at Redditch, where he was appointed honorary surgeon to the Smallwood Hospital.

Mr. HARRY MICHIE of Nottingham died suddenly from cardiac syncope following exertion, while out with a shooting party at Flintham on October 13th, aged 68. He was born at Edgell, Forfarshire, and received his education at the University of Aberdeen, where he graduated M.B., C.M. in 1881. After spending a few months in Nottingham as assistant to Dr. Owen Taylor he returned to Scotland, but came back to Nottingham in 1884, when he started practice on his own account, and his abilities as a surgeon were soon recognized. For thirty-seven years he was surgeon to the Samaritan Hospital for Women, Nottingham, and was an ex-president of the Nottingham Medico-Chirurgical Society.

## Medical News.

SIR ARTHUR KEITH, F.R.S., will deliver the William Mitchell Banks Memorial Lecture in the Medical School, University of Liverpool, on Thursday, November 1st, at 4 p.m. The subject is the origin and nature of hernial formations. The lecture is open to members of the medical profession.

THE Edinburgh University Club of London will hold its 200th dinner at the Connaught Rooms on Friday, November 23rd, at 7.30 p.m. The club, founded in 1864, has steadily thrived, and now has nearly 650 members. The president of the club, the Right Hon. the Earl of Balfour, K.G., has promised to take the chair on this important occasion, and there will be a very large attendance of members and their guests.

PROFESSOR STRANDBERG of Copenhagen will deliver a lecture at the Royal Society of Medicine on Monday, December 3rd, at 5.30 p.m., on the results of the treatment of rhino-laryngological tubercle in the Finsen Light Institute at Copenhagen.

WE may remind readers that the first social evening of the Royal Society of Medicine for this session will be held on Tuesday next at 8.30, when the President and Lady Hale-White will hold a reception. At 9 o'clock the Society's gold medal will be presented to Professor Gowland Hopkins, F.R.S., who will give a short address on stimulants of growth. The principal reading room will be closed at 5, but readers will be accommodated in other rooms.

WE are informed that the University of London has accepted a gift of £10,000 from Mr. Geoffrey E. Duveen, to found a chair of otology, and that he also intends to present £15,000 to University College Hospital for the provision of the most complete and modern treatment of the deaf. The gifts are in memory of the donor's father, Mr. Henry J. Duveen, one of the founders of the art firm of Duveen Brothers.

THE annual dinner of the West Riding Association of the Graduates of the University of Edinburgh will be held in the Great Northern Hotel, Leeds, on Friday, November 9th, at 7 p.m. It will be preceded by the annual general meeting at 6.30. Further information may be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, 103, Manningham Lane, Bradford.

THE fortieth annual dinner of the past and present men students of the Leeds School of Medicine will be held at the Queen's Hotel, Leeds, on November 16th, at 7 p.m., when Mr. Carlton Oldfield will preside. Tickets (10s. each) may be obtained from the honorary secretaries, Mr. A. M. Claye and Mr. W. E. Dornan, at the Medical School, Leeds.

A COURSE of four lectures on the treatment of injuries of the long bones produced by accident or disease will be given at Guy's Hospital Medical School (London Bridge) by Mr. E. W. Hey Groves, F.R.C.S., professor of surgery in the University of Bristol, on Thursday, Friday, Monday, and Tuesday, November 8th, 9th, 12th, and 13th. The lectures will be given at 5.30 p.m. each day, and at the first the chair will be taken by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of London, Mr. H. J. Waring, F.R.C.S.

DR. WILLIAM F. SHANKS, who graduated B.Sc. with special distinction in physiology in the University of Glasgow in 1913, and M.B., Ch.B. in 1915, has been appointed Professor of Physiology at the University of Leeds.

DR. LEONARD HILL, F.R.S., will deliver a lantern lecture on climate and the treatment of consumption at the meeting of the North-Western Tuberculosis Society to be held at the Tuberculosis Department, Joddrell Street, Hardman Street, Deansgate, Manchester, on Thursday, November 1st, at 3 p.m. Medical practitioners are invited to attend.

A SERIES of six clinical demonstrations of types of mental disease will be given at the Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, S.E., by the Medical Superintendent, Dr. Edward Mapother, on successive Wednesdays, commencing November 7th, at 2.30 p.m. The series will be illustrated by numerous cases from the Maudsley Hospital and the mental hospitals of the county. The following is a syllabus of the lectures: (1) Congenital and early types, conditions associated with endocrine disorders. (2) Psychoses associated with epilepsy and with syphilis. (3) Psychoses associated with senility, with arterio-sclerosis, and with certain organic diseases of the brain. (4) Alcoholic psychoses; dementia praecox. (5) Delusional states. (6) States of mania and depression. The fee for the series of six demonstrations is 1 guinea, payable at the hospital.

THE third general interchange of health officers arranged by the Health Section of the League of Nations is at present taking place in the United States. Representative health officers from Great Britain, France, Italy, Russia, Poland, Spain, Holland, Belgium, Greece, Jugoslavia, Germany, Switzerland, Norway, Mexico, Brazil, Chili, San Salvador, and Canada arrived in America during the first week of September and will remain there for three months. At first the delegates were in Washington for some three weeks, studying the national health organization of the United States Public Health Service. At the close of this course of study the health officers divided into three groups, which proceeded to different parts of the United States to study the organization of the State and local health departments; later the groups will proceed to various cities and smaller towns to study their health administration. Among the delegates Britain is represented by Dr. T. Carnwath, of the Ministry of Health, and Dr. Charles Porter, medical officer of health for Marylebone; Canada is represented by Dr. M. M. Seymour, Deputy Minister of Public Health, Saskatchewan. The delegation is accompanied by Dr. Norman V. Lothian, of the Health Section of the League of Nations.

DR. HENRY JACKSON has accepted the invitation to continue in office for the third year as mayor of Wandsworth.

THE corner stone of the Elsie Inglis Memorial Hospital for Women and Children at Edinburgh was laid on October 19th by Lady Novar, wife of the Secretary for Scotland, who paid a warm tribute to the heroic work in Serbia performed by Dr. Elsie Inglis, founder of the Scottish women's hospitals.

MR. A. R. ANDERSON, C.B.E., F.R.C.S., late honorary surgeon to the Nottingham General Hospital, was entertained by his medical friends at dinner on October 11th, when he was presented with a silver tray and tea service as a mark of esteem. Dr. Jacob in making the presentation referred to Mr. Anderson's great devotion to the welfare of his hospital patients during a period of forty years.

THE Dental Board of the United Kingdom (44, Hallam Street, London, W.1) asks us to state that in consequence of the experience of last year notices reminding practitioners of the necessity of paying the fee for the retention of their names on the *Dentists Register* will not be issued until the beginning of December.

THE first impression of *Medical Axioms, Aphorisms, and Clinical Memoranda*, by Dr. James A. Lindsay, reviewed in these columns on March 10th, 1923 (p. 422), having been sold out, the publishers, Messrs. H. K. Lewis and Co., Ltd., announce the publication of a second issue. The author has taken the opportunity of adding a few new axioms and aphorisms, and of omitting or amending a few others.

THE programme of the National Milk Conference on pasteurization, which, as was recently announced in the *JOURNAL* (September 15th, 1923, p. 489), will be held in the Guildhall, London, on November 21st, has now been completed by the addition of the names of Professor H. R. Kenwood, Miss Harriette Chick, and Dr. W. E. Elliot, M.P., to those who will open discussions on different aspects of pasteurization. The conference is being organized by the National Clean Milk Association, 3, Bedford Square, W.C.1.

DRS. G. E. H. ROGER, dean of the Paris Faculty of Medicine, J. L. Faure, professor of surgery in the same faculty, L. J. Hugouenq, honorary dean of the Lyons Faculty of Medicine, Maurice de Fleury, member of the Academy of Medicine, and A. Lumière have been made Commanders of the Legion of Honour.