

its escape. A gauze drain was left in the sinus which measured 2½ inches in length.

Next day the patient's disposition was found to be entirely different. He was again quite tractable and answered questions with less difficulty. Twelve days after the operation he had two epileptiform seizures, and for a fortnight he had several similar attacks. On January 6th, 1924, all packing was removed, and a fortnight later the wound was allowed to close completely. The patient was discharged well on February 6th, having been free from symptoms for six weeks.

Mr. D. S. Campbell, M.B., who was associated with us in the treatment of the case, undertook a bacteriological examination of the pus, and reported that it showed a mixed infection, micrococci predominating with numerous groups of staphylococci.

As is usual in such cases, the patient is unable to recall any of the events of his illness prior to the relief of the intracranial pressure—for instance, he does not remember ever having been visited at home or having been removed to hospital.

Memoranda :

MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

PUERPERAL FEVER AND ATROPHIC RHINITIS.

In parts of June and July, 1923, a number of patients at the Portsmouth Municipal Maternity Hospital exhibited temperatures above normal without any obvious cause, without physical signs, and without symptoms, apart from mild malaise, which was present in a few instances. While investigations were still proceeding complaints were made regarding a faint unpleasant odour alleged to be attendant upon a certain recently enrolled pupil midwife, and she was examined with a view to ascertaining its cause. It was just previous to this that it had been noted that the patients under observation had all been attended in some way or other by the same pupil midwife. Advanced atrophic rhinitis with extensive crust formation was found, and she was requested to return home and place herself under treatment. This she did, and the temperatures referred to all became normal almost at once.

Nearly three months later she submitted a medical certificate, and was allowed to return. Almost immediately, however, the temperatures of those patients with whom she came into contact began to rise, but more markedly than before. She submitted to re-examination, and the condition was found to be very little changed from that noted at the previous inspection. A culture taken from the nose showed haemolytic streptococci. The opinion of Mr. C. A. Scott Ridout, M.S., F.R.C.S., was obtained, and on his advice she again retired for treatment. As before, the temperatures immediately subsided.

TABLE I.—Temperatures June 12th to July 9th.

	Temperatures.	Duration.
Case 1	99°	First to fifth evenings.
Case 2	99°	Fifth to tenth evenings.
Case 3	99°	Three evenings.
Case 4	99.6°	Evenings of the first week.
Case 5	99°	Evenings of the first week.
Case 6	99°	Every evening.
"	100°	Eleventh evening.

TABLE II.—Temperatures October 8th to 23rd.

	Temperatures.	Duration.
Case 1	99°–100.6°	First to fifth evenings.
Case 2	99°	Fifth to seventh evenings.
Case 3	100°	Evenings of the first week.
"	101.8°	Fourth evening.
Case 4	99°–100°	First to tenth evenings.
"	103.2°	Tenth evening.

It will be noted that nearly all of the cases in Table II should have been notified. It should also be mentioned that of all these cases, in both tables, this pupil midwife was present at the delivery of three only, and even then she was too junior to do more than look on.

Since the temperatures subsided on the removal of the "carrier" from attendance, it is justifiable to assume that

the cause of the rises was not itself bacterial, though almost certainly bacterial in origin. No theory is submitted as to the mechanism by which the reaction was produced, but it may be emphasized that the carrier suffered from a chronic infection.

Darlington.

R. KELSON FORD, M.B., B.S.

TREATMENT OF SPRUE BY CALCIUM AND PARATHYROID.

THE following short notes on two cases of sprue treated by calcium lactate and parathyroid extract are submitted in reference to the article by Dr. H. H. Scott in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* of August 23rd (p. 395).

CASE I.

A. B., male, aged 22, single, spent five years on the Indian frontier, with six months' home leave in 1921. He came home in 1923. He had had hill diarrhoea.

In October, 1923, the symptoms of sprue first began: copious early morning stools, distension of abdomen, and sore tongue. He was seen in consultation on March 5th, 1924, when there was an icteric tinge on the conjunctivae, an atrophic tongue, and a tumid abdomen with a palpable liver. The stools were characteristic of sprue. No abnormality was discovered in any other system. The patient was ill and very irritable. He was put on a suitable diet and given parathyroid extract (Armour) 1/10 grain twice a day with calcium lactate. Seen again on March 27th, there was no soreness of the tongue; the stools (one daily) were pale, not frothy nor abnormally large. Slight icterus of the conjunctivae was still present, but the colour and the mental outlook were good. On June 15th the parathyroid dosage was cut down to once daily. The general condition was extremely satisfactory and there was no recurrence of untoward symptoms. At the present time he can play golf and lead an active normal existence, both mentally and physically. He is having no treatment by drugs, and can digest any food, but he has been advised still to exercise care in his diet.

CASE II.

C. D., female, aged 45, married, no children, went to India in 1910, had several short holidays in England and a longer one from May, 1914, till November, 1916. She returned home finally in 1921.

She had a sore tongue before leaving India in 1921, which healed on the voyage home. She had been in fair health till six months ago, when she was subjected to much worry; since then she has had a sore tongue, flatulence, and copious pale, offensive, frothy stools. She gave a history of retrosternal burning on taking food and of sudden vomiting without nausea at night. When first seen, on June 14th, 1924, she was very ill and confined to bed. She was extremely emaciated, with a scaly, earthy skin. The characteristic sprue tongue was present with denuded epithelium and ulceration. The abdomen was tumid, but there were no other abnormal physical signs in chest or abdomen and no disease of the central nervous system. The discs were normal but pale. She was put on two-hourly feeds of milk, peptonized milk, and whey and meat juice. Parathyroid extract (Armour) 1/20 grain was given twice a day with calcium lactate. The diet was gradually increased as the symptoms subsided. When last seen, on August 20th, the stools and tongue were normal, there was no sickness, the weight had increased, the colour was good, and she felt well. The diet was practically normal, but fats were still restricted. The parathyroid extract was stopped.

VINCENT COATES, M.C., M.D.,

Physician, Royal Mineral Water Hospital, Bath.

EXPULSION OF WHOLE PLACENTA PRAEVIA.

THE following case must be of great rarity, and seems of sufficient interest to record:

On May 15th I was called to a confinement at 5 a.m. The patient was a multipara (ten previous pregnancies), and there was a history of several miscarriages and premature births. On arrival I was surprised to see the entire placenta lying on the bed, and naturally concluded that the child was born, but on inquiry I found that this was not the case. There was no haemorrhage.

I made an examination and found there was a transverse lie with impaction of the shoulder. Chloroform was administered, version performed, and the child (of course dead) was delivered without any further trouble. The puerperium was uneventful.

I think there is no doubt that the condition had been one of central placenta praevia, and that as labour had progressed the attachments of the placenta had been loosened and it had been expelled whole.

I learned that there had been a sudden gush of blood when the "after-birth" was born, but this had quickly subsided and there had been no further haemorrhage.

To my mind, the remarkable features of the case are: first, that expulsion of the entire placenta could take place without its being ruptured; and secondly, the absence of serious haemorrhage throughout the case.

H. CRAVEN PETCH, M.B., Ch.B.

Summerbridge, near Harrogate.

claim that he was brilliant as a lecturer or teacher, but all sought his assistance in difficulty, knowing that beyond his opinion there was no other.

University College Hospital has been fortunate in the past in its possession of devoted sons who have worked for the good of the place, and has never been more faithfully served than by Sidney Martin: no one has given more of his best, and, must it be confessed, no servant of the sovereign or state, of fame, and of business had received less public recognition; his high character and superb abilities ran in even harness from the beginning right up to the end. The one stimulus he seemed to ask for was the work in front of him, however arduous, and not the reward so many who worked with him hoped would follow upon his labours for the institution, whose high principles he had so close at heart. Reward—and it is extremely doubtful whether he needed any other than the right to enjoy the good things already allotted to him—was not his object. It was sufficient to him to have commanded the respect and esteem of his peers in science and generations of "University" men. This was fully shown by the large and representative attendance at the memorial service, held last Friday at the Church of St. Marylebone for this "man in great place," whose character owed so much to a rich blend of honesty and kindness.

DANIEL BIDDLE, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., Kingston-on-Thames.

MR. DANIEL BIDDLE of Kingston-on-Thames, who died on September 14th at the age of 84, was a man of very varied attainments. He was a son of Lieut.-Colonel Biddle of the Madras Artillery, was born in Gloucestershire, and educated at Taunton. He studied medicine at the Somerset County Hospital and at St. Thomas's Hospital, London, where he was house-surgeon in 1862. He then became a general practitioner at Kingston-on-Thames, and carried on a large practice for over fifty years. He was also well known as a mathematician, and for some years was mathematical editor of the *Educational Times*. His interest in statistics led to his being asked to assist in the preparation of the report by the Statistical Committee of the General Medical Council in 1885; and the statement in that report, that the Registrar had "availed himself of the valuable co-operation of an able and accomplished statistician," refers, no doubt, to Mr. Biddle. Further reports were issued in 1886, and the extraordinary fullness of these and of the tables which were published with them in the minutes of the General Medical Council show how enormous must have been the work of compiling the statistics.

Mr. Biddle took an active part in opposing the dual system of notification embodied in the Infectious Diseases Notification Act of 1889; he helped to form the Thames Valley Medical Association, and was interested in the work of the British Medical Association. In addition to his medical activities, Mr. Biddle found time for interest in aeronautics, and invented a balloon; he wrote pamphlets on genealogical and theological subjects; he was a strong advocate for legalizing marriage with a deceased wife's sister; he wrote many articles on the question of harnessing the tides; he published a system of shorthand.

Mr. Biddle has been described as a doughty fighter in any cause that he took up. Withal he retained the affection and esteem of his many patients; while the variety of his interests and activities must have given him a broad outlook on life and have increased his power in the practice of medicine.

Dr. PATRICK JAMES QUINLAN, who died on September 6th, received his medical education in Dublin, where he obtained the diplomas of L.R.C.P.I., L.R.C.S.I., and L.M. in 1891. Dr. J. Mills, the resident medical superintendent of the Ballinasloe District Asylum, writes: It is with the deepest regret that his colleagues in the county of Galway heard of the death of Dr. P. J. Quinlan, which occurred with tragic suddenness on the evening of September 6th. He had been engaged in the heavy duties of a large practice and was walking home, when he suddenly collapsed, and died soon after. He had been for some time in charge of the Kiltormer dispensary district, and had held the post of assis-

tant medical officer of the Ballinasloe District Asylum, after which he was elected, some thirty years ago, to the Athenry dispensary district, where his kindly nature and genial manner rapidly secured for him an unassailable position and hosts of friends. Always zealous and conscientious in the discharge of his duties, he won the approbation of the higher officials of the Local Government Board, and he associated himself in his spare time with the social life of the district. He was a prominent and popular member of the famous Galway Blazers Hunt, and in his time trained many good horses. In other forms of sport, such as shooting, tennis, and croquet, he was also well able to hold his own. He was a member of a well known Tipperary family, and his house was a centre of hospitality. Great sympathy is felt with his widow, who is the daughter of the late Dr. Morris of Kilkenny, and his three young children. His high ethical sense endeared him to his colleagues, who often profited by his wide professional knowledge, and now miss and mourn a high-minded gentleman and a loyal friend.

Dr. FREDERICK ARNOTT STORR died on September 13th at his residence, Knowle Cottage, Mirfield, at the age of 59. He graduated B.A. Oxford in 1889, and after studying medicine at Leeds obtained the L.S.A. diploma in 1894, and the D.P.H. in 1896. Having held the post of assistant house-surgeon at Halifax Infirmary he practised for some years in Brighouse, and removed later to Mirfield. In 1910 he was appointed medical officer of the Halifax Rural District Council and retained this appointment to the date of his death. He was medical superintendent of the Elland and District Small-pox Hospital and honorary surgeon to the Mirfield Memorial Hospital, and during the war was commandant of the Military Auxiliary Hospital. He was a member of the British Medical Association and a Fellow of the Society of Medical Officers of Health. Severe illness in 1921, and again in the autumn of last year, necessitated amputation of the right thigh, and this misfortune led to an appeal being made on his behalf to members of the British Medical Association, which was published in our columns of September 15th, 1923 (p. 488). The response to the appeal, combined with a generous grant by the West Riding Medical Charitable Society, rendered his last year of life very much more comfortable and less anxious than could otherwise have been the case.

Professor BERTRAM WELTON SIPPY of Chicago, well known for his method of treatment of gastric and duodenal ulcers, died on August 15th of heart disease complicating diabetes, at the age of 58.

Dr. ANDRÉ BERGÉ, a well known Paris cardiologist, has recently died, at the age of 61.

THE LATE MR. W. B. PATERSON.

MR. W. A. MAGGS, whose tribute to the late Mr. W. B. Paterson appeared in our issue of September 20th (p. 546), desires to make a correction of detail. The school at which Mr. W. B. Paterson, Sir Frederick Treves, and Sir Frederick Hewitt were all three educated was Merchant Taylors', not the City of London School.

Universities and Colleges.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON. KING'S COLLEGE.

A SPECIAL course of eight lectures on the histology of the nervous system will be given during the Michaelmas term (October-November, 1924) in the physiology lecture theatre of King's College (Strand, W.C.) by Dr. C. Da Fano, Reader in Histology in the University. The lectures will be accompanied by demonstrations of specimens, and will be held on Wednesdays at 4.30 p.m., beginning October 8th. The microscopical specimens will be exhibited one hour before the beginning of each lecture. The course is free to all students of London colleges and to medical men and others on presentation of their visiting cards. It has been recognized by the University of London as one of the special courses for the B.Sc. honours degree.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

The following elections have been made in the Faculty of Medical Sciences at University College, London: Bucknill Scholarship, value 160 guineas, D. F. Ogborn; exhibitions of 55 guineas each, W. A. Wilson and H. Temkin; Epsom Medical Scholarship, R. W. Haines; additional scholarship, P. A. Cooper.

Medical News.

WE regret to have to record the death of Mr. W. H. A. Jacobson, consulting surgeon to Guy's Hospital, well known to many generations of surgeons for his *Operations of Surgery* and also as the editor of the later editions of Hilton's *Rest and Pain*. Mr. Jacobson's death occurred on September 14th at his house in Kent, to which he had retired some years ago.

EARLY this year we made a brief reference to the journal of the Kenya Medical Service, a modest periodical at that time issued to its subscribers in typewritten form. Since April it has appeared monthly as a printed publication under the title of the *Kenya Medical Journal*, circulating throughout Kenya Colony, Uganda, Tanganyika, and Zanzibar. Its function is the distribution of medical news of local or general interest and the discussion of problems appertaining to medical science. The editorial conduct of this enterprising journal continues in the hands of Dr. C. J. Wilson; the publishers are the East African Standard, Ltd., Nairobi. The yearly subscription is twenty-one shillings fifty cents, posted, in Kenya, or twenty-five shillings, posted, outside East Africa.

THE annual general meeting of the Society of Medical Officers of Health will be held at 1, Upper Montague Street, Russell Square, W.C.1, on Friday, October 17th, at 4.30 p.m., when the new president, Dr. R. A. Lyster, will give his address on idealism in public health. The annual dinner of the society will be held at the Hotel Cecil, Strand, on the same evening at 7.30. The Minister of Health hopes to attend, and others who have accepted include Sir Humphry Rolleston, P.R.C.P., Sir George Newman, Sir Arthur Robinson, and Dr. Haden Guest, M.P. A musical programme will follow the dinner. Ladies are invited, and members are asked to give early notice to the Executive Secretary, 1, Upper Montague Street, of their intention to be present, with the names of their guests. A payment of 12s. 6d. for each ticket should be included with applications sent before October 11th; after that date tickets will cost 15s.

A SERIES of post-graduate lectures on cancer will be delivered in the West Lecture Hall of the Royal Society of Medicine at 5.30 p.m., commencing on October 6th, when a lecture on the general pathology of cancer will be given by Dr. Archibald Leitch, and on October 8th Sir Thomas Horder will lecture on cancer from a medical point of view. These lectures are open to all members of the profession without fee. The second week of the course in psychological medicine at the Bethlem Royal Hospital begins on October 7th: lecture demonstrations will be given on Tuesdays and Saturdays, at 11 a.m., by Dr. Porter Phillips and Dr. Thomas Beaton. On the same day the first of eight clinical demonstrations on tropical medicine will be given at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine by Dr. G. C. Low and Dr. Manson-Bahr at 2 p.m.; the second demonstration will be given on Thursday at the same time. On October 8th the first of four lecture demonstrations on electro-therapy will be given at the Royal Free Hospital by Dr. C. B. Heald at 5.30 p.m. Full particulars and syllabuses of all these courses may be obtained from the Secretary of the Fellowship of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, W.1.

DR. JOHN JOHNSTON, of Bispham, Blackpool, has presented to the Bolton Reference Library his fine collection of the works of Walt Whitman, whose friend he was. Dr. Johnston is the joint author of *Visits to Walt Whitman*, and his collection includes first editions of all Walt Whitman's works (many of them containing the poet's autograph), also all the important biographies and critical articles about him and his poetry. Students and others will have access to the collection.

SIR HILARION MARCUS FERNANDO, M.D., has been appointed a member of the Executive Council of the island of Ceylon.

In our issue of September 13th (p. 482) Mr. Wheatley, the Minister of Health, was referred to as a former convener of the Public Health Committee of Glasgow. We are now told that this is not strictly correct, and that Mr. Wheatley was convener of the Tuberculosis Committee, the convener of the Public Health Committee having been Mr. James Stewart, who is now Parliamentary Under-Secretary of Health for Scotland.

A RESEARCH into the harbouring of plague by wild rodents and the specific prophylaxis and therapy of the disease in man, is being undertaken by the South African Institute for Medical Research, Johannesburg. The work is to be carried out largely in a mobile laboratory on the veld. The present staff of the institute is to be augmented by a bacteriologist and an entomologist. The conditions of the appointments are briefly stated in our advertisement columns, but full information, including particulars as to the salaries, can be obtained from the Director of the Lister Institute, Chelsea Gardens, S.W.

AT a meeting of the London University supporters of the Labour party, held on September 25th, Dr. Frank George Bushnell, assistant medical officer of health for Plymouth, was adopted as the Labour candidate in the forthcoming parliamentary by-election caused by the death of Sir Sydney Russell-Wells. The other candidates contesting the seat are Sir John Rose Bradford, M.D., F.R.S., nominated by the Unionist Association; Professor A. F. Pollard, nominated by the Liberal Association; and Dr. E. Graham Little by the Graduates' Association as a non-political candidate. At the general election in 1923 the total poll was 8,050, the figures being: Sir Sydney Russell-Wells (Conservative) 4,037, Professor A. F. Pollard (Liberal) 2,593, Mr. H. G. Wells (Labour-Socialist) 1,420. Polling takes place from Monday, October 13th, till Friday, October 17th. The voting is by voting paper sent by the Vice-Chancellor to all graduates on the parliamentary register. The four candidates were duly nominated on October 1st.

To commemorate the diamond jubilee of the Guild of St. Luke a celebration of the Holy Eucharist has been arranged for St. Luke's Day, October 18th, at 11 a.m., in All Saints' Church, Margaret Street, London, W.; the sermon will be preached by Bishop Gore. The annual service of the Guild will be held on Tuesday, October 21st, in St. Paul's Cathedral, at 7 p.m.; the preacher will be the Bishop of Truro. Tickets for this service may be obtained from the Rev. H. Kirkland-Whittaker, M.D., Chaplain's House, Banstead Downs, Sutton, Surrey, or Dr. Dorothea Brooks, 65, Park Road, Battersea, S.W.11. The annual corporate Communion will be celebrated at St. Andrew's Church, Wells Street, W.1, at 7.45 a.m., on Wednesday, October 22nd, and on the same day the annual general Chapter will be held at 24, Harrington Gardens, S.W., near Gloucester Road Station, at 5 p.m.; tea and coffee being served at 4.30.

THE second session of the Liverpool Psychological Society will commence on October 7th, when the President, Dr. Betts Taplin, will deliver his inaugural address, on "The Power of Suggestion," at the University, at 8 p.m. The society's first session has been very successful, and an interesting programme of scientific research has been arranged for the coming winter. Further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary, the University, Liverpool.

A SPANISH Congress of Medical Science will be held at Seville from October 15th to 20th, under the presidency of Professor Recasens of Madrid.

PARTICULARS for a revised edition of the *Epsom College Register* are now being collected. Those who have received forms are asked to fill them in and return them to the sub-editors at once. Any old Epsomian who has not received a form should send his address to Mr. H. F. Lee, 7, The Avenue, Beckenham, without delay.

THE annual meeting of the State Children's Association will take place, on the invitation of Major Astor, M.P., and Lady Violet Astor, at 18, Carlton House Terrace, on Friday, October 10th. The chair will be taken by Lord Stanmore at 3 p.m. Various matters relating to children supported by the State will be discussed.

LORD CHEYLESMORE writes to commend the Lord Roberts Memorial Fund for Workshops for Disabled Soldiers and Sailors. This Fund, which is an offshoot of the Soldiers and Sailors Help Society, has existed for many years, and is devoted to helping all soldiers and sailors, and not only those incapacitated in the last war. Workshops were started after the South African war, and were considerably enlarged as a memorial to Lord Roberts to accommodate cripples of the more recent war; in them craftsmanship is taught and a market found for the work of disabled men. Since an injured man cannot compete with the uninjured, being unable to work sufficiently long, the memorial fund not only trains him and gives him work, but also makes up the difference in money between the man's endeavour and his output. Cheques may be sent to Lord Cheylesmore at the offices of the Fund, 122, Brompton Road, S.W.3; they should be drawn in favour of the honorary treasurer of Lord Roberts Workshops Fund and crossed "Lloyds Bank, Ltd."

THE one hundred and fifty-ninth annual session of the Pennsylvania University Medical School, the oldest medical school in the United States, opened on September 26th. The school was founded by Dr. John Morgan, who held the first medical professorship created in the colonies, and 14,911 graduates have been registered.

THE annual Belgian Congress of "Professional Medicine" was held at Ostend on September 6th and 7th, on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of the Belgian Medical Federation. Papers were read by Dr. Wickersheimer of Strasbourg on the evolution of the medical profession in Belgium, by Drs. Decorte and Penninelex on railway medicine, and by Dr. Koettlitz on medical practitioners and club practice.