

We regret to have to record the death, on July 27th, after a long illness, of Mr. WILLIAM NEWTON SHANSFIELD, who for some ten years had acted as Parliamentary Correspondent of the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*. He was born at Mistley, Essex, and received his early training with the *East Anglian Daily Times*. In 1897 he was appointed Lobby correspondent of the National Press Agency, and eight years later succeeded Sir Arthur Spurgeon as editor of the Agency. Afterwards he became a partner in the Central Press Agency. He had many friends both within and without the profession of journalism, and for nearly twenty years was honorary secretary of the Whitefriars Club, in which he took a great interest. He had recently been concerned in the appeal of the Westminster Hospital for funds to reinstate the fabric; for these services he received the thanks of the committee and was made a governor of the hospital. He showed great interest in his work for this *JOURNAL*, and on several occasions gave the Association the advantage of his wide acquaintance with parliamentary procedure.

Medico-Legal.

CLAIM AGAINST A MEDICAL MAN WITHDRAWN.

THE claim of James Higgins, an employee in the tramway department of the Manchester Corporation, against Dr. R. G. Clements (Manchester) for alleged negligent treatment was withdrawn before the conclusion of the defendant's case at Manchester Assizes on July 15th. Mr. Justice Fraser, in directing the jury to return a verdict for the defendant, with costs, said that there was not the slightest foundation for any suggestion of negligence against the defendant.

Mr. N. J. Laski and Mr. Barry appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. T. Eastham, K.C., and Viscount Erleigh for the defendant.

The plaintiff's case was that in March, 1922, Dr. Clements certified him to be suffering from rheumatoid arthritis and conjunctivitis, and in January, 1924, he consulted the doctor again, but did not mention his eyes until February 12th. On February 15th Dr. Clements noted that the rheumatic pains had gone, but that the eyes were worse, examination showing photophobia, conjunctivitis, choroiditis, and ulceration. When Higgins walked into the surgery Dr. Clements asked him what was the matter with his eyes, and Higgins replied: "I am not bothering about my eyes. I can see as well as ever, but the pain in my back is very bad and almost stops me from walking." Dr. Clements looked at the plaintiff's eyes, and his assistant, Dr. Scott, put him in a chair, put one hand on his shoulder, and took a little brush and flicked something from a box into the plaintiff's right eye. The pain was instantaneous and intense, and Higgins screamed in agony. The alleged consequence of the administration of the powder was that the plaintiff's eyesight was so damaged that he could no longer follow his former employment, and he was now engaged by the corporation to take charge of a small telephone switchboard—a job ordinarily done by a boy. On February 28th Dr. Clements made a note that iritis had developed, and the following day Higgins was admitted to hospital, where he was treated by Dr. White.

For the defence a number of eye specialists were called, who all agreed that it was not within the bounds of possibility that the condition of the plaintiff could have been caused by the calomel treatment administered by the defendant. The inflammation was entirely due to the presence in the plaintiff's body of a focus of poisoning which affected different parts of his body at different times. This accounted for the variations in the plaintiff's vision that had been noted, and which were in no sense unusual. In every respect the case was a normal one.

Before the medical evidence for the defence was completed, plaintiff's counsel said Dr. Clements's professional career was the issue in the case, and every regard should be had to that. The plaintiff was satisfied that he no longer had a case, and, therefore, no hazard should be allowed to intervene. The plaintiff withdrew every aspersion of any kind against the competence of the defendant. The proceedings had been brought under a misconception of the facts, and they were now satisfied that no blame attached to Dr. Clements.

DAMAGES FOR DEATH DUE TO MOTOR COLLISION.

IN an action in the King's Bench Division before Mr. Justice Avory and a special jury, on July 17th, damages to the total amount of £12,000 were awarded to the widow of Dr. C. J. Pentland and her two sons. Dr. Pentland had practised in Ireland, but in 1920 he acquired a practice in Gower Street, paying £2,000 for the house and practice and spending a further sum of £2,000 on the property. For the last four years his income was £2,000 a year. On December 21st, 1924, Dr. Pentland was killed, while standing on the doorstep of his house in Gower Street, by a motor lorry belonging to Messrs. Dewhurst, butchers, and a motor car owned by Messrs. Cleave, blouse manufacturers, Great Portland Street, coming into collision. Dr. Pentland was crushed against the wall and killed instantly. His practice had since been sold for £3,000. The jury found that the death of Dr. Pentland was due to the negligence of both defendants, and awarded the widow £8,000 and the children £2,000 each, the latter sums to be paid into court and invested by the Master on the children's behalf.

Universities and Colleges.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

At a congregation held on July 25th the following medical degrees were conferred:

B.M.—R. B. Bourdillon, E. C. Whitehall-Cooke, T. E. Ryves, C. E. Roberts.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

A MEETING of the Senate was held on July 22nd, the Vice-Chancellor (Professor E. A. Gardner, Litt.D.) being in the chair.

The title of Reader in Medical Protozoology in the University was conferred on Mr. J. G. Thomson, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., Edin., in respect of the post held by him at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

The Committee of the Medical Members of the Senate have elected Sir Wilmot P. Herrington, K.C.M.G., C.B., M.D., F.R.C.P., to be their chairman for the year 1925-26.

June Matriculation.

At the June matriculation examination of the University of London there were 116 successful candidates in the first division and 919 in the second division. In addition supplementary certificates were gained by 52 candidates in Latin, 3 in mathematics (more advanced), 2 in chemistry, 1 in heat, light, and sound, and 1 in Spanish. Six candidates took the junior certificate in English.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

The following awards have been made in the Faculty of Medical Sciences:

Cluff Memorial Prize (for proficiency in anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, and chemistry): R. M. Sargent.

Gold medal for anatomy (senior class): Mary E. Sharp.

Histology and embryology (prize equivalent to silver medal): Audrey Z. Baker and Margaret D. Wright (equal).

Silver medal for organic and applied chemistry (general course): D. F. Ogborn.

Gold medal for physiology (senior class): J. R. Pierre.

Silver medal for pharmacology (general course): H. E. James.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

A GRADUATION ceremonial was held in the M'Ewan Hall on July 24th. The following degrees were conferred:

M.D.—P. Barlow, †E. Bulmer, S. C. Chatterjee, *L. S. P. Davidson (*in absentia*), H. B. Dykes, R. N. Gibson, D. Landsborough, J. C. Lorraine, †K. A. T. Martin, †S. J. Roux, S. W. Smith, †S. S. Fokhey (*in absentia*), May D. Stranger, †B. G. Thompson (*in absentia*), *T. R. B. Todd, †A. R. Wightman, †N. B. Williamson, †H. D. Wright, CH.M.—T. B. Mouat.

PH.D.—Dr. L. Dautrebande for thesis on "The acid base equilibrium of the blood in circulatory stasis."

M.B., CH.B.—G. L. Alexander, Christina W. Alston, F. S. Anderson, G. M. Anderson, M. D. S. Armour, F. Ayrey, Ethel W. Barnley, J. M. Bassett, D. Bell, H. F. Bezuidenhout, J. G. Bogle, Eleanor B. Bone, G. I. Boyd, G. G. Brander, T. Brewis, Anna M. Brown, J. Brown, J. S. Brown, W. M. Brown, J. Bryant, H. Chang, J. L. Chisholm, R. V. Christie, R. Clark, †W. J. A. Coldstream, E. G. Collins, J. B. Colquhoun, J. Comrie, R. C. Craig, †S. E. Crookery, J. M. Davidson, H. N. Davies, E. F. Dott, Mary L. Drabble, G. H. Duncan, M. L. El Zik, E. L. Farrow, J. C. Faure, E. K. A. Firth, Charlotte E. Fisher, C. G. Fletcher, Mary H. S. Forrest, D. H. Fraser, G. Fraser, J. A. Fullerton, A. N. Gardner, Margaret S. Gibb, A. A. Gibbons, A. MacA. Gillespie, S. C. Gomes, C. G. Gooding, F. N. Grannum, Jessie Griffin, W. Happer, Louisa B. Harper, J. S. Hendrie, E. J. C. Hewitt, J. F. Hinkman, J. C. Hodgson, J. E. Howell, L. J. Howie (*in absentia*), C. L. Hutson, A. M. de la M. Jamie-on, E. B. Jones, Marjory J. D. Kelly, M. Kelman, Betty M. Kennedy, F. G. Kerr, J. B. King, †J. G. Kinmonth, H. S. Kissensky, W. E. Knowles, D. P. Lambert, R. Lees, W. M. Lloyd, W. G. Love, †J. T. McCrie, O. J. S. Macdonald, W. F. Macdonald, D. M. Eachran, J. G. McGlasson, V. J. G. Macgregor, G. C. Mackay, J. Mackay, Margaret S. Mackay, Mary E. McLaren, Christina J. McLeay, A. Macleod, Annie E. McLeod, Isabella Macleod, J. Macleod, D. Macmillan, F. G. Macnair, I. G. Macpherson, Sheila Macpherson, M. D. Macqueen, H. M. Vicker, Elizabeth P. McWhirter, †D. Mainland, W. Marshall, W. R. Martine, D. E. C. Mekie, I. B. L. Menzies, De la R. van der Merwe, A. L. Millar, Margaret M. D. Miller, A. J. Milner, C. E. Mitchell, K. T. Moir, W. A. Morrison, J. Morton, H. van R. Mostert, W. T. F. Muir, D. A. Murray, S. J. G. Nairn, S. G. Narunsky, Beatrice M. Nicholson, E. Elizabeth H. Nimmo, G. W. M. Paterson, P. W. R. Petrie, †Hilta I. C. Pfister, C. H. Piper, A. M. Porteous, S. T. Pottinger, J. Prentice, A. A. M. K. Reekie, †A. H. Rintoul, A. Ritchie, C. W. Robertson, Edith A. Robertson, Dora F. M. Rose, M. Rosenberg, A. C. Ross, Isabella M. Ross, J. A. Ross, Margaret Round, A. W. Sanderson, R. H. Sanderson, A. E. M. Sandison, Sophie Eash, J. B. de C. M. Saunders, H. F. Schiller, G. I. Scott, W. F. Scott, H. Selesnick, W. V. Semple, Crissie Short, A. J. Skinn, W. B. Smellie, A. H. Smith, Dorothy Smith, R. W. Smith, T. H. Stephens, R. Strang, G. M. Sturrock, J. S. Sutherland, Jean Sutherland, V. W. Sutherland, Dorothy M. Taylor, A. Teasdale, D. W. Thompson, J. Thomson, Irene M. H. Tinckor, N. S. Turnbull, A. B. Walker, Alexandra A. Warnock, A. O. Watkins, J. M. Watt, Dorothy Watterson, B. P. Webster, L. B. Wevill, J. White, Janet Wilson, A. S. Wong.

The following Fellowship prizes, etc., were presented:

Cameron Prize in Practical Therapeutics: Dr. R. Magnus, Professor of Pharmacology, University of Utrecht, for his important research in pharmacology, particularly on the unstriated muscle, and his more recent investigations on the nervous mechanism controlling posture. Goodsir Memorial Fellowship: A. D. Macdonald. Gunning Victoria Jubilee Prize in Physiology: W. G. Millar. Gunning Victoria Jubilee Prize in Surgery: H. K. C. Kill. Chiene Medal and Prize in Surgery: T. B. Mouat. Ettles Scholarship and Leslie Gold Medal: W. J. A. Coldstream. Allan Fellowship in Clinical Medicine and Clinical Surgery: J. G. Kinmonth. Murchison Memorial Scholarship in Clinical Medicine: S. E. Crookery.

M'Cosh Graduate's and Medical Bursaries: Hilda I. C. Pfister. Moutat Scholarship in the Practice of Physic: W. J. A. Coldstream. Buchanan Scholarship in Gynaecology: R. W. Smith. James Scott Scholarship in Midwifery: J. G. M'Crrie. Lauder Brunton Prize in Pharmacology and Therapeutics: A. R. Gilchrist. Beane Prize in Anatomy and Surgery: J. G. Kinimonth. Conan Doyle Prize: H. F. Schiller. Annandale Gold Medal in Clinical Surgery: W. J. A. Coldstream. Scottish Association for Medical Education of Women Prize and Dorothy Gillfillan Memorial Prize: Hilda I. C. Pfister. Sir Robert Jones Prize in Orthopaedic Surgery: A. W. Sanderson. Pattison Prize in Clinical Surgery: J. Thomson. Wellcome Medals and Prizes in the History of Medicine: A. Haddow (*gold medal*), B. Williams (*silver medal*). Cunningham Memorial Medal and Prize in Anatomy: G. I. H. Braine. Whiteside Bruce Bursary: T. P. Bliss.

* Awarded gold medal for thesis. † Commended for thesis.
† Highly commended for thesis. ‡ First Class Honours.
§ Second Class Honours.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF EDINBURGH.

THE twenty-eight successful candidates (out of fifty-eight entered) who passed the requisite examinations between March 30th and April 6th were admitted Fellows on July 21st:

G. J. Alexander, L. C. L. Averill, G. H. Buckley, J. A. G. Burton, E. Y. Comrie, L. R. de Castro, W. A. Ekanayake, Doris C. Gordon, W. P. P. Gordon, R. D. McK. Hall, R. B. Hare, C. F. W. Illingworth, N. Kemm, N. Kretzmar, R. H. Lula, C. H. Marshall, F. S. Mayne, D. S. Middleton, O. O. Popper, P. N. Reynolds, E. H. Richards, D. E. Ross, C. R. Sandiford, R. Selby, J. McD. S. Slater, Captain J. W. van Reenen, I.M.S., S. A. Wallace, W. H. O. Woods.

The Services.

TERRITORIAL DECORATION.

THE Territorial Decoration has been awarded to the following officers of the R.A.M.C.(T.A.): Lieut.-Colonel (Brevet-Colonel) G. C. E. Simpson, O.B.E., and Majors A. A. Hingston and S. F. Linton.

Medical News.

THE sixth annual report of the Ministry of Health for the year ended March 31st, 1925, has been published by the Stationery Office and can be obtained through any bookseller (price 3s. 6d.). It deals, among other matters, with finance, Poor Law, and housing and town planning.

THE council of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, which took a part in founding the Society of Radiographers in 1920, and has up to now nominated six out of the eighteen members of the society's council, has withdrawn its nominees and terminated the institution's connexion with the society. The council of the institution informs us that it has taken this action because the majority of the council of the Society of Radiographers have resolved upon certain alterations of the society's articles, with which the council of the institution is in disagreement, as in the council's opinion these alterations will materially lower the professional status of non-medically qualified radiographers.

THE Fellowship of Medicine announces a special series of lectures on tuberculosis from October to December. From August 24th to September 5th there will be an intensive course in general medicine, surgery, and the special departments, with practical study in gynaecology and obstetrics, at the Queen Mary's Hospital, Stratford. The Seamen's Hospital will hold an operative surgery course from September 7th onwards, and classes will be held four times weekly. The Brompton Hospital has arranged a course in pulmonary diseases from September 21st to October 3rd. There will be afternoon courses at the Blackfriars Skin Hospital and the Infants Hospital from September 7th to 19th. At the Royal Westminster Hospital a course in eye diseases will be given from September 7th to 26th, and an intensive course at the Westminster Hospital in general medicine, surgery, and the specialties is announced for September 21st to October 3rd. A weekly lecture demonstration in electrotherapy will be given at the Royal Free Hospital from September 23rd to October 14th. Further information may be obtained from the Secretary at No. 1, Wimpole Street, W.1.

THE climatological congress at Davos, from August 16th to 22nd, will be divided into three main sections—a physico-meteorological, a biological, and a clinical. The subjects to be dealt with include the effect of climate on various diseases; the climatology of high mountains; and the marine climates of Naples and of Holland. Professor Leonard Hill will give an address on the influence of sunshine and open air on health, and Sir Henry Gauvain will compare the effects of inland and marine treatment of surgical tuberculosis. Other subjects to be considered include: heliotherapy in surgical diseases; adaptation to climate and to work on the high

mountains during the period of senile involution; and the significance of the ozone in the atmosphere in relation to solar radiation.

THE *Gesundheitsfürsorge für das Kindesalter* is a new German periodical devoted to infant welfare. About eight numbers are to appear yearly at the price of 20 marks. The editors are Professors E. Dietrich and F. Rott of Berlin. The first number contains original articles by Professor von Pfaundler on clinical medicine and child welfare; by Professor Leo Langstein, on the problem of children's milk; by Professor Rott, on the mortality in the first seven days of life and on infant welfare schemes. The titles of recent articles of pediatric interest in German literature are given.

THE new bacteriological and biochemical department of the Harrogate Royal Bath Hospital will be opened by Princess Mary, Viscountess Lascelles, on Monday, August 10th. The Earl of Harewood will take the chair at 3.30 p.m.

THE Ministry of Health has issued a revised list of approved sanatoriums and other residential institutions for the treatment of tuberculosis in England and Wales. It is published by H.M. Stationery Office, price 2d. net.

THE Dunlop Rubber Company, Ltd. (Kingsway, London, W.C.), has prepared a new edition of its *Guide*, enumerating parking places for cars in town and country. It appears that there are thirty-one official parking places in central London.

MESSRS. W. HEFFER AND SONS, LTD., Cambridge, have in the press a book entitled *Notes on Medical Case-taking and the Examination of Patients*, by Dr. G. S. Haynes, Assistant Physician to Addenbrooke's Hospital. It is intended for the use of students who have passed the second or intermediate examination in anatomy and physiology.

WE are informed that Mr. Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press, publishes in this country the books issued by the American University Presses. *Guy Patin*, by Dr. F. R. Packard, which was reviewed in our issue of February 7th, 1925 (p. 269), can now be obtained from the Oxford University Press at the price of 18s.

WE are asked to state that the nineteenth Voyage d'études médicales to the health resorts of France, which, as announced some time ago, had been planned for September, has been postponed until next year.

Letters, Notes, and Answers.

All communications in regard to editorial business should be addressed to **THE EDITOR, British Medical Journal, British Medical Association House, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.**

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, not necessarily for publication.

Authors desiring REPRINTS of their articles published in the **BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL** must communicate with the Financial Secretary and Business Manager, British Medical Association House, Tavistock Square, W.C.1, on receipt of proofs.

All communications with reference to ADVERTISEMENTS, as well as orders for copies of the JOURNAL, should be addressed to the Financial Secretary and Business Manager.

THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS of the British Medical Association and the **BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL** are **MUSEUM 9861, 9862, 9863, and 9864** (internal exchange, four lines).

THE TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESSES are:

EDITOR of the **BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL**, *Aitiology Westcent, London.*

FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND BUSINESS MANAGER (Advertisements, etc.), *Articulate Westcent, London.*

MEDICAL SECRETARY, *Mediscera Westcent, London.*

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, Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh (telegrams: *Associate, Edinburgh*; telephone: 4361 Central).

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

INCOME TAX.

"W. A. F." has purchased a practice, and the local income tax authorities claim that as from the date at which he became entitled to a share of the profits the gross income of the practice shall be taken at the full amount of the bookings, without any allowance for anticipated bad debts.

* * The inspector of taxes, who is presumably the official in question, is quite in order in objecting to assess our correspondent's earnings on the basis of his cash receipts as from the date