

him he was entirely free from any visible growth of any kind and had been back at work for over a year. Another case was the first case treated—the woman with cancer in a lactating breast. With all these cases there were photographs of sections of the growths shown on the screen, and the actual slides were present in the room for any who cared to examine them more fully. Throughout the whole day Mr. Coke was immensely impressed by the entirely scientific basis on which the whole work was being carried out. Most of them came away, he thought, feeling that Professor Blair Bell had persistently understated his case; the benefit of the doubt was always given against claiming a cure rather than for it. Three weeks ago he spent another three days in Liverpool, when he was again shown some fifty cases in course of treatment.

While Dr. Cook and he had obtained a few striking results with the "lead M.A.," it was possible that the lead was too carefully protected in that compound. There was also mercury in it, which might or might not be an advantage.¹ At any rate he was now using the metallic lead of Professor Blair Bell, and probably this would hold the field for the present. Fault had been found with Professor Blair Bell for not broadcasting all his work earlier, but Mr. Coke knew the months and months required to test any change in the experimental programme and to try variations in the colloids used. This treatment did not by any means cure every case, and a great amount of experimental work lay ahead; he hoped that all those who used these colloids would be willing to work with others in their neighbourhood, forming local centres which again could be in touch with Liverpool. They were endeavouring to do this in London, working on standard lines and pooling their experiences. As the committee grew they would get the team work perfected, and a demand for research was bound to follow. There need be no overlapping, and each could have the help of all. Such a combined effort in London and throughout England could at once claim public sympathy and support. What a dozen men working singly would take years to complete could be done by a team in a fraction of the time. They could thus hope to have in the near future a centre working in exactly the same way as that at Liverpool.

¹ BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, March 6th, 1926, p. 415.

Memoranda:

MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL.

A LOCAL ANAESTHETIC FOR THE EAR.

I HAVE no experience of the local anaesthetic for aural work mentioned in Dr. Pearce Sturm's note (BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, October 9th, p. 638), but I have used with success a mixture advised by Dr. Caesar Hirsch, chief aurist and laryngologist to the Marienhospital, Stuttgart, and described by him in his *Lehrbuch der Lokalanästhesie des Ohres*. It consists of cocaine 3 parts, potassium sulphate (2 per cent. sol.) 20 parts, adrenaline (1 in 1,000) 10 parts, carbolic acid solution (1/2 per cent.) to 100 parts. A small mop of cotton-wool soaked in the mixture and applied to the part for five to ten minutes produces complete anaesthesia; it is even more effective than a 10 to 20 per cent. solution of cocaine. It is free from the disadvantages of setting up such complications as otitis externa, which the mixture referred to by Dr. Pearce Sturm appears to do. It is equally effective when complete anaesthesia of any mucous membrane is required—as, for example, in resection of the nasal septum.

Potassium sulphate appears to be the most efficient adjuvant in intensifying the action of cocaine (this was told me some time ago by Dr. A. R. Friel in connexion with certain methods of zinc ionization in chronic otitis media). Aniline oil also has a very marked effect in intensifying cocaine action, but is not without risk when used over a large area. For perfect anaesthesia of the larynx Dr. Hirsch recommends a 5 per cent. solution of tutocain with adrenaline and phenol. This also I have found satisfactory.

F. P. M. CLARKE, B.Sc.,
L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

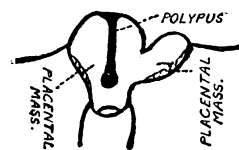
Liverpool.

DOUBLE UTERUS: PREGNANCY IN EACH CORNU ENDING IN ABORTION.

I WAS recently called to see a multipara, aged 35, on account of vaginal haemorrhage. Her last period was three months before, and she thought she was pregnant. She had been losing moderately for two days, and had passed "clots, but nothing else."

The patient was having intermittent slight colicky pains across the lower part of the abdomen, had not vomited, and her pulse and general condition were good. Her three previous labours had been prolonged, but otherwise uneventful, and she had never had twins or a miscarriage. The uterus was found to be enlarged to the size of a three months' pregnancy, and intermittent uterine contractions could be felt. The cervix, which was softened, would just admit the tip of the index finger. There was a small clot in the vagina, but bleeding had stopped. Nothing else abnormal was found. The woman was put to bed with the feet raised, and was given an opium mixture.

The next day, there having been further considerable haemorrhage without any sign of the uterus emptying itself, it became necessary to clear it out. The patient, who was now pale and whose pulse rate was going up, was anaesthetized with ethyl chloride and ether. The cervix now easily admitted one finger, which discovered the following state of affairs: In the main body of the uterus was a partially separated placental mass, together with a long pedunculated polypus. On exploring the left wall of



the uterus about half an inch above the level of the cervix, the finger discovered a second cavity communicating with the main one by a foramen that admitted the examining finger easily. This cavity also contained a complete and separate placental mass. The relations of the accessory horn to the main body of the uterus could, when the patient was anaesthetized, be easily made out with the abdominal examining hand, and were almost exactly those portrayed on page 135 (diagram 65) of Eden and Holland's *Manual of Midwifery* (sixth edition), except that the accessory horn in my case was not rudimentary, but was functioning and communicating with the cavity of the uterus. Both cavities were cleared of their contents and douched, the polypus being twisted off at its base with vulsellum forceps. Convalescence was uneventful.

The fact that the accessory horn was functioning is of interest; as is the possible part played by the polypus in the production of uterine contractions.

Pontycymmer, Glam.

VERNON NEWTON, M.R.C.S. Eng.

MALDEVELOPMENT OF THE OESOPHAGUS.

I WAS much interested in the case of oesophageal maldevelopment reported in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of April 10th (p. 652). I had a similar case in hospital practice in December, 1925, and I should be glad to know if there are any statistics as to the frequency of this phenomenon.

A married woman, aged 21, was admitted to the Matilda Hospital, Hong-Kong, on the morning of December 7th, 1925. She was in labour, and at 9.15 p.m. the same day a male child, weighing 6½ lb., was born alive. There was an excessive amount of amniotic fluid of dark green colour. The placenta was small and was easily delivered. The mother made a normal recovery.

On the second day my attention was called to the quantity of frothy fluid which the child was bringing up, and to the peculiar noise he made when attempting to take the breast. A spoonful of milk was given, and within half a minute this was returned in a frothy condition through the mouth and nose.

Suspecting some obstruction or malformation, I asked Dr. J. L. Shellshear, professor of anatomy at Hong-Kong University, to see the child with me. We tried to pass a fine rubber catheter into the stomach, but this was impossible, and under x rays the end of the catheter was seen to be coiled up in the oesophagus at the level of the fourth dorsal vertebra. A teaspoonful of bismuth and milk was given, and a skiagram showed a dark mass in the same situation. On December 13th, six days after birth, the child weighed 5 lb.; he died on December 15th at 4 p.m.

Professor Shellshear made a *post-mortem* examination and found complete atresia of the oesophagus. The upper part of the gullet ended in a bulbous dilatation, and the lower part was represented by an attenuated strand of fibrous tissue passing down to the stomach. There was no connexion between the trachea and the oesophagus. The stomach was dilated and empty. The arteries springing from the arch of the aorta were abnormal in origin. A single trunk gave rise to two common carotid arteries, and an abnormal subclavian on the right side passed posteriorly to the oesophagus at the level of the atresia.

I have stated the facts of the case without comment as Professors Shellshear and Anderson propose to read notes on it at the Medical Conference in Peking.

Matilda Hospital, Hong-Kong.

J. HERBERT SANDERS.

Broadstairs in the week ended November 6th. Infantile paralysis had been prevalent in this country for many years. It was one of a group of epidemic nervous diseases of which our knowledge was still very imperfect, but research was being prosecuted, and it was hoped that means would be discovered which would lead to the exercise of more effective control over its spread. The Ministry of Health had closely watched the outbreaks, and a specially skilled member of its staff had visited the areas most affected to assist the local authority in providing for the supervision and control of the outbreaks. Sir Kingsley Wood did not think that the number of deaths resulting from the present outbreak was large. Replying to Mr. Everard, he supplied the following table of cases of infantile paralysis (acute poliomyelitis and acute polio-encephalitis) notified in England and Wales each month since May:

Notifications of Infantile Paralysis (Acute Poliomyelitis and Acute Polio-encephalitis) in England and Wales (1926).

Month.	Acute Polio- myelitis.	Acute Polio- encephalitis.	Total Cases of the Disease.
May	18	3	21
June	29	3	32
July	56	7	63
August	148	16	164
September	215	7	222
October	319	54	373
Totals	785	90	875

On November 16th Sir K. Wood, replying to Captain Fairfax, said that there had been no further deaths from infantile paralysis in Leicester since October 25th last. Three more deaths had occurred as a result of the Broadstairs outbreak.

Encephalitis Lethargica.

On November 16th Sir K. Wood told Captain Fairfax that the total number of cases of encephalitis lethargica notified in England and Wales during the present year up to November 6th was 1,946, and the approximate number of deaths up to the end of August was 935. The Minister of Health understood that the Medical Research Council would shortly publish a report on this disease, containing a statement of the progress which had been made in the search for its cause. Until this had been discovered, and means had been devised for controlling the development and spread of the disease, it was necessary to rely on those methods which had proved efficacious in dealing with other infectious diseases.

Destitution and Malnutrition.

Mr. Chamberlain, in replying to a short debate on the way in which boards of guardians had met hardships due to the strike, said that on the whole they deserved the highest possible credit. There had been no evidence of malnutrition, and repeated reports had been received to the effect that the children were actually better fed than they were when their fathers were at work. By a system of block grants, when it was possible to allocate them on a fair and proper basis, taking into account not merely population but also capacity to pay, as measured by rateable value, it might be possible to devise a scheme which would bring relief to necessitous areas without doing injustice to any other part of the country. That was the policy to which he looked for a permanent solution of the problem.

Lead Poisoning.—Mr. Rhys Davies asked the Home Secretary whether his attention had been called to three serious cases of lead poisoning during 1926 at one factory in the Potteries, affecting young women aged 19, 23, and 26, one of whom had died. Sir William Joynson-Hicks replied that no case of lead poisoning had been reported in this factory from 1913 till this year. The factory had been reconstructed in 1913, but it appeared that recently the exhaust ventilation had not been efficiently maintained. The case was a bad one and had been actively taken up by the Home Office.

Disability Pensions for Lethargic Encephalitis.—On November 15th Lieut.-Colonel G. F. Stanley (Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Pensions) informed Mr. R. Morrison that disability pensions were being paid in respect of encephalitis lethargica due to war service. The statistical records of the Ministry did not enable him to state the precise number of cases.

Report of the Lunacy Commission.—On November 15th Mr. Chamberlain informed Sir W. Davison that the report of the Royal Commission on Lunacy was receiving careful consideration. Until the recommendations had been examined in all their bearings it was not possible to indicate the nature and extent of any legislation which the Government might be able to introduce.

Committee on Nursing Homes.—On November 15th Mr. Chamberlain informed Mr. Hurst that the report of the Select Committee on Nursing Homes was under consideration. He was not able to make any statement in regard to legislation to give effect to the committee's recommendations.

Veneral Disease in India.—On November 16th Earl Winterton (Under Secretary for India) stated that a committee was assembled in Simla, in October last, to consider whether any modification in policy in combating venereal disease among British troops was

desirable in the light of experience during recent years. The committee was composed of officers commanding the 2nd Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers and the 2nd Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment, the chaplain to the Metropolitan, the Consulting Dermatologist, Army Headquarters; the Deputy Director, Personal Services, Army Headquarters; and Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Army Headquarters. The report of the committee was under the consideration of the Commander-in-Chief.

University of London.—On November 16th the Chancellor of the Exchequer informed Mr. Campbell that the official reports of the deputations which he received from the University of London in June last had been communicated to the university authorities. He did not, however, think it desirable to publish them. Replying to Dr. Little, the Chancellor said that it would be unusual to lay on the table of the House of Commons reports of deputations to Ministers.

Notes in Brief.

In England and Wales during 1925, 4,054 persons were found by coroners' verdicts to have committed suicide. In England, 2,686 persons were males and 1,164 females; in Wales, 149 males and 55 females.

In England, Scotland, and Wales, 511,890 houses have been completed since the war with State assistance and approximately 296,900 without State assistance. The number of houses now completed, under construction, or authorized under the Housing Acts is 706,699.

In the six months ended September, 1926, £13,000,000 was distributed as out-relief in England and Wales, compared with £7,000,000 in the same period of 1925.

Inspection by the Ministry of Health has not shown that the refuse dumps near Purfleet and Tilbury are a menace to health, but possible improvements in the collection and disposal of London refuse are being investigated.

The number of steel or cast-iron houses authorized in England and Wales is 993, excluding those erected for demonstration purposes.

Mr. Chamberlain states that 491 new officials have been appointed in his department since January 1st, 1926, of whom 423 are established.

The Minister of Health is advised that there are no medical grounds to support a proposal to make it compulsory for the bodies of persons who died from cancer to be cremated.

The Services.

HONORARY SURGEON TO THE KING.

MAJOR-GENERAL J. S. GALLIE, C.M.G., D.S.O., late R.A.M.C., has been appointed Honorary Surgeon to the King, with effect from September 16th, 1926, in succession to Major-General D. J. Collins, C.B., C.M.G., late R.A.M.C., retired.

DEATHS IN THE SERVICES.

SURGEON LIEUT.-COLONEL ARTHUR TOMES, Bengal Medical Service (ret.), died at Exmouth on November 1st. He was born on February 18th, 1851, the son of Robert Tomes of Alcester, Warwickshire. Educated at the Middlesex Hospital, where he gained the Broderip scholarship, he took the M.R.C.S. and L.S.A. in 1873, the S.S.C. of Cambridge in 1876, and the M.D. with honours at Brussels in 1885. He entered the I.M.S. as surgeon on March 31st, 1876, passing first into and out of Netley, and gaining the Herbert prize there. He became surgeon lieut.-colonel after twenty years' service, and retired on October 13th, 1897. Nearly all of his service was spent in civil employ in Bengal, where he was recognized as being likely to rise to the highest appointments, when his career came to a most unfortunate end. He had the misfortune to inoculate himself while performing an operation, and suffered from blood poisoning so severely that, after a year's sick leave, he was unable to rejoin, and had to retire with only twenty years' service.

Universities and Colleges.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

THE Raymond Horton-Smith Prize, for the best M.D. thesis during the academic year, has been awarded to A. J. Copeland (Pembroke). Dr. Copeland was Ernest Hart Memorial Scholar of the British Medical Association in 1923-24.

At a congregation held on November 13th the degree of M.B. was conferred on F. R. Sandford.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

Lectures.

PROFESSOR H. E. ROAF will give two lectures on colour vision at University College, London, at 5 p.m., on December 1st and 8th. A course of five lectures on the influence of environment on bacteria will be given by Dr. F. W. Twort, superintendent of the Brown Institution, at 4 p.m., in the theatre of the Royal College of Surgeons, on December 6th, 7th, 9th, 13th, and 14th. As previously announced, the Semon Lecture on nervous affections of the oesophagus will be delivered by Dr. A. Brown Kelly, at the Royal Society of Medicine, on December 2nd, at 5 p.m. Admission is free to all these lectures, and tickets are not required.

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.

At the graduation ceremony held on November 13th the following were among the degrees conferred:

M.D.—Dorothy B. Thomson (with high commendation).
M.B., Ch.B.—Henry D. Matheson.

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND.

At a meeting of the University held on Saturday, November 6th, for the purpose of conferring degrees and other academic distinctions at University College, Dublin, Dr. Denis J. Coffey, M.A., M.B., LL.D., President of University College, Dublin, and Vice-Chancellor of the University, presided, and conferred the following degrees in the Faculty of Medicine:

M.D.—W. J. Coyne.
M.Ch.—F. J. Morrin, M. J. Smyth.
M.A.O.—C. Martin.
M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.—M. L. Kennedy, E. Keenan, A. T. McKay, W. H. Ashmore, P. J. Byrne, Louisa M. Cullen, J. V. B. Cussen, G. Davis, J. T. Eustace, M. A. Forrester, F. C. Friel, J. Glynn, P. Hennessy, E. Kilmartin, J. G. McGilligan, J. J. Maher, J. C. Manning, D. Moriarty, J. Mowbray, Jane A. M. Nagle, L. O'Connor, L. M. O'Hara, Margaret M. Partridge, Sarah Walsh.
D.P.H.—C. M. Stuart, I. D. Brady, C. F. Keane, M. F. Dodd, M. O'Sullivan.
DIPLOMA IN MENTAL DISEASES.—J. Dunne.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

An ordinary Council meeting was held on November 11th, when the President, Sir Berkeley Moynihan, Bt., was in the chair.

Deaths.

The death, on November 4th, of Mr. James Ernest Lane, past-member of the Council and of the Court of Examiners, was reported, and a vote of condolence was passed.

The death was also reported of Mr. Douglas Gabell, member of the Board of Examiners in Dental Surgery. The vacancy thus occasioned will be filled up at the next meeting of the Council on December 9th.

Diplomas of Membership.

Diplomas of Membership were granted to 179 candidates. (The names were published in the report of the comitia of the Royal College of Physicians of London (BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, November 6th, p. 861).

Revision of By-laws.

Alterations in Sections 4, 8, 20, 25, and 26 of the By-laws were approved, and the solicitor of the College was instructed to submit the new By-laws to the proper authorities for sanction and ratification.

Court of Examiners.

It was decided to appoint two additional members of the Court of Examiners at the next meeting of the Council on December 9th, and the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Pendlebury will be filled up at the same time.

Portrait of Sir Henry Morris.

A portrait, by W. W. Ouless, R.A., of the late Sir Henry Morris, Bt., past-President of the College, offered to the College, in accordance with his testamentary instructions, was accepted with appreciation.

Medical News.

PRINCESS MARIE LOUISE opened a new artificial sunlight clinic at the Mildmay Memorial Hospital, Newington Green, on November 13th. The clinic is equipped with carbon arc and mercury vapour lamps for general and local irradiation, and is associated with the maternity and child welfare organizations in the district; patients are received on the recommendation of medical practitioners.

THE long association of the late Dr. Frederick B. Hulke with the Victoria Hospital, Deal, which he served as senior surgeon from 1897 to 1925, was commemorated on November 6th by the unveiling of his portrait, presented to the hospital by the House Committee, and the naming of a ward of the institution after him. On the same day a flagstaff erected in the grounds of the hospital by the Deal and Walmer Volunteers Old Comrades' Association was dedicated to his memory.

DR. LÉOPOLD MAYER of Brussels has been elected general secretary of the International Society of Surgery.

THE Prince of Wales's Hospital Reunion Association will hold its annual dinner at the Trocadero Restaurant on Friday, November 26th, at 8 for 8.15 p.m., with Mr. J. B. Banister in the chair. The price of the dinner will be 12s. 6d. (exclusive of wine) for members and their guests. The secretaries are Dr. Browning Alexander, 143, Harley Street, W.1, and Dr. S. O. Rashbrook, 7, Wellesley Road, Chiswick, W.4.

THE annual dinner of the London School of Medicine for Women will be held at the Savoy Hotel on Thursday, December 2nd.

THE annual dinner of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine will be held at the Hotel Victoria, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.2, on Monday, November 22nd. The Earl of Balfour will be the principal guest, and the president of the society, Dr. Andrew Balfour, will take the chair at 8 p.m.

THE annual reunion dinner of the British Serbian Branch of the British Legion will be held on Saturday, December 4th, at 7.30 p.m., at the Victoria Mansions Restaurant, 24, Victoria Street, Westminster, with the president, Sir James Berry, F.R.C.S., in the chair. All who served in Serbia are invited, together with their friends. Tickets (price 7s. 6d.) may be obtained from the honorary secretary, Miss Marx, 24, Melcombe Court, Dorset Square, N.W.1.

THE annual congress of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom will be held at Liverpool on April 28th, 29th, and 30th next. Further particulars can be obtained from Mr. Charles Goulden, F.R.C.S., 79, Portland Place, W.1.

FROM May 16th to June 12th 894 fatal cases of plague occurred in Java.

THE Government of India has decided to make a donation of £250 to the funds of the Ross Institute and Hospital for Tropical Diseases, Putney Heath, S.W.

THE Fellowship of Medicine announces that on November 25th, at 5 p.m., Mr. Harold Chapple will lecture on the emergencies of pregnancy and parturition, at the house of the Medical Society of London, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square. On November 23rd, at 11 a.m., Mr. B. Leggett will give a lecture demonstration at St. Mark's Hospital on radiological investigation of the colon and rectum. These lectures are free to members of the medical profession. A week's course will also be given at St. Mark's Hospital from November 22nd, including operations, demonstrations, and lectures. A late afternoon course (5 p.m.) from November 22nd to December 18th will be held at the West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases, 73, Welbeck Street, consisting of lectures and clinical demonstrations upon selected cases, and the London Temperance Hospital will hold a 4.30 to 6 p.m. course in medicine, surgery, and the specialties from November 29th to December 11th. Courses in obstetrics are available at Queen Charlotte's Hospital and the City of London Maternity Hospital. The Fellowship of Medicine has arranged with the Samaritan Hospital for Women for the provision of clinical assistantships, personal application for which should be made to the Fellowship. Practical courses in anaesthetics can also be provided. Copies of all syllabuses and of the general course programme may be obtained from the Secretary of the Fellowship of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, W.1.

AT the meeting of the Post-Graduate Hostel, Imperial Hotel, Russell Square, W.C.1, on Monday, November 22nd, at 9 p.m., Mr. H. J. Patterson, F.R.C.S., will speak on gastro-enterostomy: its role and ultimate results. On Thursday, November 25th, at the same hour and place, there will be a symposium on cerebral localization in the clinical subject, when Dr. Gordon Holmes, C.M.G., will take the chair, and the following will participate: Dr. W. J. Adie, Mr. Donald Armour, Mr. A. P. Bertwistle, Dr. Carmichael, Dr. Macdonald Critchley, Mr. L. Bathe Rawling, and Dr. F. M. R. Walshe. Dinner will be served at 8 p.m. (price 5s.), and coffee and biscuits at 10 p.m. (price 6d.). All medical practitioners are welcome.

A FILM for instructional purposes, showing the drill employed in applying the Thomas splint, has recently been prepared by the British Red Cross Society. A demonstration of the film will be given at the house of the Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, W.1, at 5 p.m., on Monday, December 13th. Medical practitioners are invited to attend.

THE *Australian Journal of Experimental Biology and Medical Science* has been endowed with £5,000 by Sir Joseph Verco in order that it may become the property of the University of Adelaide, with whose medical school the donor has been prominently associated since its inception. Sir Joseph Verco, who received his medical education at St. Bartholomew's Hospital and graduated M.B.Lond. in 1875, proceeding M.D. in the following year, has held the posts of lecturer in medicine at Adelaide University for twenty-seven years, and has been president of the Royal Society of South Australia for nineteen years; he is also dean of the medical school, and an honorary curator of the section of mollusca of the South Australian Museum. He was president of the South Australian Branch of the British Medical Association in 1886-87.

As town planning is a matter of importance, not only to local authorities and their officials, but also to private interests, the part of the Annual Report of the Ministry of Health for 1925-26 which deals with this subject has been published separately. In addition to other matters it gives information as to the attitude of the Ministry on a number of points in connexion with town planning and with appeals relating to proposed developments. Copies, price 6d., may be purchased from the Stationery Office at the following addresses: Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; or 120, George Street, Edinburgh; or through any bookseller.