

accepting one's patients for treatment without the time-honoured "doctor's letter."

Within my own practice of late I have heard of this happening in several instances, and this among patients who are quite capable of paying the moderate fees charged in this country for private treatment.

Whilst making this protest I should fail in my duty if I did not acknowledge gratefully the magnificent work done by the general hospitals and the great help afforded to us as general practitioners in the treatment of those cases we refer to the hospitals.

Surely the British Medical Association can use its influence to protect the mass of its members from this form of attrition. Let the hospitals refuse patients who present themselves for treatment unless they bear a letter from their private medical attendant.—I am, etc.,

Sutton, Surrey, July 26th.

R. H. A. RITCHIE.

Obituary.

SIR ARTHUR CHANCE, F.R.C.S.I.,

Late President, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, and Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland.

WE have to announce with deep regret the death of Sir Arthur Chance, which occurred at his residence in Dublin on July 26th.

Arthur Gerald Chance was born in Dublin in 1859. He was educated at the Catholic University, Dublin, and obtained the diplomas L.R.C.S.I. in 1880 and L.R.C.P.I. in 1881, being admitted to the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons ten years later. While still comparatively young he won an outstanding position, and in the course of his professional career held many important offices, taking a leading part in affairs connected with medical education.

He was senior surgeon to the Mater Misericordiae Hospital and consulting surgeon to a number of other Dublin institutions, including Dr. Steevens's Hospital, the Orthopaedic Hospital of Ireland, the Dental Hospital of Ireland, and St. Michael's Hospital. From 1904 to 1906 he held office as President of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, and during his tenure of that office he received the honour of knighthood. He was an honorary Fellow both of the Irish Royal College of Physicians and of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, and was President of the Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland from 1921 to 1924. For two periods, from 1892 to 1895 and from 1906 to 1915, he was surgeon-in-ordinary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. During the war Sir Arthur held a commission as colonel in the Army Medical Service, and from 1917 to 1920 was inspector of special military surgical hospitals in the Irish Command. He was at one time a member of the Senate of the National University. For some years he represented the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland on the General Medical Council and the Dental Board, and was a medical visitor in lunacy under the Irish High Court. From 1919 to 1924 he served as a member of the first General Nursing Council for Ireland, having previously been chairman of the Irish Nursing Board, and in 1927 he was appointed a member of the Free State Medical Council on its formation. Sir Arthur Chance found time for active interest in the work of the British Medical Association; he had been vice-president of the Leinster Branch and held office as chairman of the Dublin Division in 1903-4.

A colleague writes: The reputation which Sir Arthur Chance enjoyed in the domain of surgery might be said to be world-wide; it was certainly European. His solicitude for the interests of his great profession never relaxed, and for many years he took an active interest in all matters that affected the welfare of even the humblest of his colleagues. The citizens of Dublin and the people of Ireland generally on many occasions recognized and appreciated his sterling worth, and King Edward VII put his seal on that approval when he knighted the famous surgeon in 1905. Sir Arthur was an indefatigable worker, and his devotion to his profession was such that his services

were at the disposal of patients at all hours of the day and night. His activities were particularly in evidence at the Mater Hospital, Dublin, of which for many years he was senior surgeon; it may be said that it was mainly due to his exertions and self-sacrificing labours that this noble institution attained to the eminence which it now enjoys. No complete record could ever be made of the many charitable and devoted acts which Sir Arthur Chance performed during his connexion with the hospital. His kindness to the poor was proverbial, and no deserving subject was turned away. He might, indeed, be well described as the poor man's surgeon.

In 1886 he married Martha, daughter of the late Daniel Rooney of Belfast, who died in 1891. In 1900 he was married to Eileen, daughter of the late Mr. William M. Murphy, Dartry. He was the father of eight sons and five daughters. After the death of Mr. William M. Murphy Sir Arthur Chance became one of the directors of the Independent Newspapers, and displayed characteristic energy and capacity in the duties of this office. In his zeal for the development of the publications of the company he always bore in mind the welfare of the staffs, and was ever kindly and considerate in his relations with the employees. He was an unsuccessful candidate in the election for the Seanad Eireann in 1925. He seldom appeared on public platforms, but on the rare occasions when he did speak in public he was effective, terse, and interesting in his utterances. Sir Arthur's brother, Mr. P. A. Chance, who pre-deceased him, was a member of the Irish Parliamentary Party from 1885 to 1894, representing the constituency of South Kilkenny. The funeral, which was private, was held on July 28th after High Mass at Westland Row Catholic Church, Dublin.

Dr. JOHN RANDLE, who died at Lagos, Nigeria, on February 27th, was one of the oldest practitioners of his race in West Africa. Born in 1855, he was a native of Sierra Leone, where he became a dispenser in the Colonial Hospital, being later employed in the same capacity on the Gold Coast before coming to Great Britain. He received his medical education at the University of Edinburgh, graduating M.B., C.M. in 1888. On his return to West Africa he was appointed an assistant surgeon in the Nigeria Medical Service, and as such served with the Jebu Expedition in 1893, leaving the service soon afterwards to commence private practice in Lagos, where he was successful in building up an extensive connexion. He was a member of the British Medical Association. Dr. Randle played an active part in public affairs in Nigeria, and was at one time a temporary member of the Legislative Council. He had also served on a number of Government committees. The interests of his own people engaged his attention unceasingly, and he was at the time of his death president of the People's Union and of the Reform Club. He contributed largely to the funds of the Fourah Bay College to supplement a legacy given by his friend and colleague Dr. Obadiah Johnson for the introduction of the teaching of science, while the poor of his native village in Sierra Leone were the subject of an annual benefaction. His funeral was attended by a large number of his colleagues, including Dr. D. Alexander, Director of Medical and Sanitary Services, Nigeria.

Universities and Colleges.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

At the June matriculation examination there were 168 successful candidates in the first division and 1,109 in the second division; in addition, 48 took supplementary certificates in Latin.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

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

Physiology: Sharpey Scholarship, E. Ogden; Senior Class Prize (gold medal), L. G. Norman; Junior Class Prize (prize equivalent to silver medal), Kitty K. Cohen and G. E. Dunkerley (equal). Organic and Applied Chemistry: General Course (silver medal), E. A. Devenish. Pharmacology: (silver medal) D. Davidson.

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.

The following scholarships, etc., have been awarded:

Raymond Gooch Scholarships: J. H. Peel, G. H. Newns. Burney Yeo Scholarship: A. B. Stokes. Burney Yeo Exhibitions: G. T. Cook, N. M. James. Seaman Scholarship: N. C. Parfit. Pathology Scholarship: J. W. Summerhayes. Science Scholarship: H. Kirman. Senior Scholarship, Todd Prize, Tanner Prize: D. W. S. Kaye. Jelf Medal: Miss K. I. Parkes. Burridge Prize: D. H. Haler. Special Prize for Diseases of Children: T. V. Crichtow. Special Prize for Orthopaedic Surgery: P. C. C. De Silva.

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.

The following scholarships have been awarded:

William Tite Scholarship (£25): Mr. B. Gilbert. Entrance University Scholarship (£100): Mr. L. T. Bond. Entrance Arts Scholarships (£50 each): Mr. H. B. C. Carter-Locke, Mr. A. B. Dempsey. Entrance Science Scholarship (£150): Mr. H. F. Chard. Entrance Science Scholarship (£50): Mr. S. J. L. Taylor.

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER.

DR. A. D. MACDONALD has been appointed Reader in Materia Medica and Therapeutics.

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, BELFAST.

DR. A. M. DRENNAN, Professor of Pathology, Otago University, Dunedin, has been appointed to the Chair of Pathology.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.

AN ordinary meeting of the College was held on July 26th, when the President, Sir John Rose Bradford, was in the chair.

Membership.

The following gentlemen were elected Members:

Charles Nathaniel Armstrong, M.B. Durh., Ramananda Bandyopadhyay, M.B. Calcutta, L.R.C.P., Philip Bayer, M.B. Aberd., John Lawrence Edwards, M.B. Camb., Frank Rex Fletcher, M.D. Lond., Robert Dick Gillespie, M.D. Glasgow, Frank Goldby, L.R.C.P., Hamilton Hart-rid, M.D. Camb., Thomas Rowland Hill, M.B. Lond., L.R.C.P., Horace Joles, M.B. Lond., L.R.C.P., Charles Ernest Kellett, M.B. amb., Robert Meritts Bird Mackenna, M.B. Camb., L.R.C.P., Patrick Henry O'Donovan, M.B. Lond., L.R.C.P., Ian Henry Kervyn Stevens, M.B. Lond., L.R.C.P., Arthur Sewell Wesson, M.B. Lond., L.R.C.P.

Licences.

Licences were granted to the following 167 candidates (including 31 women) who had passed the Final Examination in medicine, surgery, and midwifery of the Examining Board in England:

G. Allen, J. McL. Anderson, W. R. Ashby, *Julia C. H. Avery, *Gertrude C. Banks, S. Behrman, W. A. G. Bell, A. Bennett, *Mary Berkeley, T. H. Berrill, E. P. Bhatia, C. H. Birt, F. A. Blackwood, *Kathleen L. Bland, J. R. Bond, V. G. Borgaoukar, N. J. Boulton, R. V. Bradlaw, J. V. Broad, *Nellie Brown, E. C. B. Butler, *Beatrice A. Butterworth, E. N. Callum, *Catherine F. Cameron, L. A. Canaan, *Mavis H. D. Carr, T. H. Carr, B. R. Caygill, *Muriel G. E. Clark, W. A. Clements, *Nellie Clifton, *Lillian M. C. Clope, *Dorothy M. Conyers, T. M. Corcoran, O. J. C. Cotton, E. Courtin, J. H. Crawford, A. T. Croucher, A. M. Cunningham, D. W. Currie, T. Daggar, A. Danis, H. W. Davies, W. P. M. Davidson, E. L. F. de Mel, W. F. de Villiers, P. Dickman, C. J. V. Dobbin, G. H. Dobney, J. F. Duesbury, J. W. Ellis, R. C. S. Evans, A. C. Fisher, *Cecilia F. Fox, E. H. Fox, E. Fulford, G. H. Garfield, R. J. S. Garrow, F. W. Gilbert, *Agnis G. Gillespie, *Fetta Gimpelson, L. Godlove, S. Goldman, J. P. Gubbins, J. C. Heather, *Kathleen M. Henderson, *Laurel K. Henty, *Hein M. Herbert, *Alice D. M. Hodae, F. E. G. Hopkins, D. R. House, I. M. Hughes, E. A. Hunter, M. Jafar, M. K. Jilani, A. W. Johns, S. Kaul, G. H. Kenneth, B. Kettle, G. G. King, M. L. Kreitmayer, *Nellie L. Lanckenau, K. E. Lane, T. C. Larkworthy, E. G. Laurence, R. B. Leasing, J. C. Leigh, G. Leighton, G. E. Lewis, I. B. Limbery, *Kathleen M. MacLaren, G. O. C. Mao Vicker, M. J. Mallet, F. B. Maitson, H. M. Mikhail, *Hermia M. Mills, L. Minner, W. E. S. Morton, R. H. Morley, I. Morris, L. H. Morris, O. N. Morris, J. E. Morton, *Millicent Moseley, J. H. Moynihan, *B. Natarajan, L. A. Newton, H. G. Nimbalkar, G. P. Nixon, G. W. Oliphant, E. G. M. Palar, A. W. Patton, *Margaret E. Peaker, M. G. Pearson, A. L. P. Peeney, R. L. P. Peregrine, F. Phillips, J. A. Pocock, H. G. Pritchard, N. L. Probert, A. Rabincowitz, R. H. Raine, R. J. H. Raines, E. A. P. S. Rawlings, R. G. E. Richmond, D. T. Robinson, J. B. Robinson, W. P. Roe, M. V. Samuël, *Eluned Saunders, *Christine F. T. Saville, E. H. Sears, H. M. Sein, H. Selby-Brown, H. T. Simmons, W. H. Simonds, D. Sivasubrahmaniam, *Constance B. Smith, *Edith J. L. Smith, *Elizabeth S. Smith, E. H. Spickett, T. T. Stamm, D. M. Stern, H. Ström-Olsen, A. B. Sullivan, A. R. Taylor, J. G. Thwaites, H. Timothy, W. E. Tucker, G. N. Unnikrishnan, B. T. Utley, L. E. Vine, F. H. Ward, D. K. Weston, D. B. J. Wijeyesekere, P. Wiles, *Gladys E. Wilkinson, G. W. Willcox, *Enid M. Williams, L. D. Williams, W. A. Wilson, E. W. Winch, F. S. H. Wood, J. L. M. Wood, *Elsie E. Wright, T. C. Yip, H. D. R. Zscherpel.

* Under the Medical Act, 1876.

Diplomas.

The following diplomas were conferred jointly with the Royal College of Surgeons:

LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.—J. Acomb, N. Attygalle, H. K. Basu, N. E. H. Box, C. H. Carroll, G. D. Maitbouna, T. G. Millar, A. A. Miller, G. W. Morey, W. J. Robertson, E. McL. Steel, D. B. Sutton, M. R. Wadia.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—D. R. Bernhardt, R. A. D. J. Bernhardt, H. P. Billmorie, H. St. C. Colson, A. C. Counsell, G. I. Davies, C. H. Dhala, M. Farid, F. Harris, G. H. Hayes, Margaret Holdsworth, D. B. Jandial, Iris A. Jenkin-Lloyd, Eva M. Malmberg, S. N. Michaels, Josephine W. Nagel, M. A. Nicholson, F. W. Oldershaw, D. B. Parakh, Jess. E. L. Robb, Mary Schofield, Beatrice M. Smithes, Josephine I. Terry, D. L. Tucker, G. R. Waller.

OPHTHALMIC MEDICINE AND SURGERY.—C. H. Ackroyd, C. H. Bamford, W. J. Chapman, A. L. El Kirdani, Charlotte E. Fisher, B. B. Ghosh, J. B. Hamilton, R. J. Harley-Mason, D. R. Jadesa, D. Katz, G. L. Khlivadkar, D. G. Kotibhaskar, F. J. Lavery, H. H. Mahmood, T. M. O'Neill, F. W. G. Smith, A. F. Stewart, J. M. Thomson, A. Walbank, J. Wood.

The names of the recipients of diplomas in Laryngology and Otology and Psychological Medicine were printed in the report of the council meeting of the Royal College of Surgeons of England published in our issue of July 21st (p. 136).

Election of Officers.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—Censors: Lord Dawson of Penn, M.D., A. P. Beddard, M.D., J. S. Collier, M.D., and R. A. Young, C.B.E., M.D. Treasurer: Sidney P. Phillips, M.D. Registrar: Raymond Crawford, M.D. Harveian Librarian: Arnold Chaplin, M.D. Assistant Registrar: R. O. Moon, M.D.

Harveian Oration and Bradshaw Lecture.

Sir Wilmot Herringham was appointed to deliver the Harveian Oration and Dr. J. A. Arkwright the Bradshaw Lecture in 1929.

The following lecturers were appointed: Dr. G. F. Still, FitzPatrick Lecturer for 1929; Dr. R. A. Young, Lumleian Lecturer for 1929; Dr. E. B. Verney, Goulstonian Lecturer for 1929; Dr. F. M. R. Walshe, Oliver-Sharpay Lecturer for 1929; the Right Hon. H. A. L. Fisher, Lloyd Roberts Lecturer for 1929; Sir Charles Martin, Croonian Lecturer for 1930.

Appointment of Representatives.

Sir Humphry Rolleston was re-elected as representative on the Executive Committee of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund. Sir Frederick Andrewes and Dr. William Hunter were elected delegates to the International Conference (1928) of the British Empire Cancer Campaign, and Sir William Hale-White as the representative of the College on the British National Committee for Intellectual Co-operation.

Murchison Scholarship.

Mr. Arthur Sturgess Hollins, M.B. Camb., M.R.C.P., of King's College Hospital, was awarded the Murchison Memorial Scholarship.

Disciplinary Action.

The Censors' Board reported that they had considered the case of a licentiate, Mr. H. F. Strickland, whose name had been removed from the *Medical Register*, and had interviewed him personally. After reviewing all the facts they had decided that his conduct, both as a man and as a practitioner, had been very dishonourable, and they had reprimanded him severely on that account.

CONJOINT BOARD IN SCOTLAND.

THE following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

FINAL EXAMINATION.—*Medicine*: J. T. F. Pearse, J. H. Brush, D. N. Chisholm, H. A. Mohamed, G. Kahn, H. Lazarus, L. O. Abeyaratne, C. J. seph, L. Myers, A. K. M. Attia, S. S. Nagi, H. Saacs. *Surgery*: J. R. Martin, J. T. F. Pearse, H. Barsoum, J. H. Brush, C. H. Wilkie, O. Joseph, L. Craig, O. Ajibade, A. L. Malik-Mansour, A. K. M. Attia, H. Craig, K. Kanagasatopathy. *Midwifery and Gynaecology*: J. R. Martin, F. R. B. H. Kennedy, H. Barsoum, B. A. D. Robert, H. A. Mohamed, J. Elliott, W. P. B. Winston, L. Craig, T. B. Jansen, L. Myers, S. W. Cruickshank, D. S. McMillan, D. Brink, H. Saacs. *Medical Jurisprudence and Public Health*: Meliora C. Smith, W. O. Molander, F. R. B. H. Kennedy, W. P. Kennedy, G. G. Brown, H. G. Somerville, Margaret Leslie, J. McConnell, A. Madwar, Dorothy Williams, R. L. Allan, L. C. Leslie, H. Michaelson, Agnes F. Millar, R. T. Amour, J. E. Morrison, J. W. Gregory, W. V. Anderson.

Out of 113 candidates entered the following have passed and have been admitted L.R.C.P.E., L.R.C.S.E., L.R.F.P. and S.G.:—

Betty C. Hamilton, E. A. Downes, J. Campbell, D. A. Herd, A. J. A. Gray, O. Stern, J. L. Dudgeon, C. V. Salisbury, S. K. Pillai, M. J. S. Pillai, A. M. D'Cotta, Maud Heaton, H. S. Lawrence, A. F. B. Mackay, A. El Sayed El Khishin, A. B. Meadis, R. Rajaretnam, Tambar, N. S. Fraser, C. L. X. S. Muttukumar, I. MacG. Chisholm, A. M. Fraser, D. Bendel, B. Schulman, F. E. L. Stewart, H. Lazarus, H. M. C. de Silva, B. S. Swani, E. H. B. Gooch, W. D. Alvis, A. Jacorovitch, R. A. F. M. Saunders, A. J. F. Almeida, F. A. Silva, J. S. Goonting.

LONDON INTER-COLLEGIATE SCHOLARSHIPS BOARD.

THE following awards have been made on the results of recent examinations held by the Board:

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—Bucknill Scholarships: (100 guineas), E. Galinsky; (60 guineas), D. A. Andersen. Exhibitions (55 guineas each): Freida Yarnalinsky, J. W. James.

KING'S COLLEGE.—Warneford Medical Scholarships: (£120), J. F. Jarvis; (£120), J. C. Winteler. Sambrooke Scholarship in Medical Science (£50), G. B. Davis.

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—Scholarship in Science (£50), H. Kirman.

LONDON (ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL) SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FOR WOMEN.—St. Dunstan's Medical Exhibition (£180): M. M. C. Loudon. Isabel Thorne Scholarship (£30): M. E. Majour. Mabel Sharrman-Crawford Scholarship (£30): B. F. Goldsmith.

LONDON HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE.—Price Scholarship in Science (£100): A. Birnbaum. Science Scholarship (£50): C. E. Langley.

Medical Notes in Parliament.

[FROM OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT.]

THE parliamentary session was ended this week, arrangements being made to prorogue the House on August 3rd till November, when a new session will begin and last into the new year. All outstanding estimates were voted, debates arising on the Scottish Estimates and those for the Ministry of Health. On the latter the Labour Party arranged to discuss slums, the administration of the Poor Law, and the position of the Welsh Board of Health.

The following bills passed through various stages in the House of Lords. On July 27th the Offices (Scotland) Bill was read a third time. On July 30th the MARQUESS OF SALISBURY moved the second reading of the Registration (Births, Deaths, and Marriages) Bill. Lord STRACHEY moved the rejection of the bill, and the debate was adjourned. The Criminal Law Amendment Bill was read a second time on July 30th, and passed through Committee the next day. On July 31st the Rag Flock Amendment Bill and the Merchant Shipping (Line Throwing Appliance) Bill were read a second time. The Marriage (Prohibited Degrees of Relationship) Bill passed through Committee.

It has been necessary to hold over a few notes on matters connected with medicine dealt with in Parliament this week.

National Health Insurance.

On July 25th, in answer to Mr. Haydn Jones, Sir KINGSLEY WOOD said that during 1927 £5,400 had been discounted from the accounts of chemists who supplied drugs and appliances in Wales at a cost of 29½d. per insured person. It was untrue to say that the surplus which arose in Wales had been taken to meet deficiencies in England.

On July 26th Mr. CHAMBERLAIN told Mr. Short that he knew the East Sussex Insurance Committee had, on July 3rd, expressed the view that a practitioner should not cease to prescribe drugs which he believed to be reasonably necessary for the adequate treatment of panel patients. Mr. SHORT asked whether Mr. Chamberlain knew that regional medical officers had recently brought pressure upon panel doctors respecting their prescriptions, thereby limiting their discretion in prescribing medicines for panel patients. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said the duty of insurance practitioners was to prescribe proper and sufficient medicines, and the interviews arranged between certain practitioners and regional medical officers were solely to secure that this duty was performed.

The Noise Nuisance.

Sir W. JOYNSON-HICKS, in a reply on July 26th to Sir Robert Thomas, said he was aware there was much complaint, he thought with good ground, against the noise of urban streets. He had done all in his power to see the nuisance was abated, so far as that was possible by police action under present powers. He would discuss with the Ministers of Health and Transport whether anything further could be done. He had noticed that a medical authority at the recent meeting of the British Medical Association had estimated the loss in efficiency to the nation owing to these noises at £1,000,000 a week. Mr. LANSBURY asked whether Sir William would communicate with the London County Council and ask them to keep their tramway tracks in order so as to prevent noise. Sir WILLIAM said he thought it would be the duty of the Minister of Transport to communicate with the London County Council.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, on July 30th, told Major Edmondson that he had not received a resolution passed at the Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association at Cardiff, on July 24th, about the effect of noise on public health. He could add nothing to the statement made on the subject by the Home Secretary on July 19th.

Conjunctivitis among Artificial Silk Workers.—Reports from inspectors of the Home Office show, according to Sir W. JOYNSON-HICKS, that, except in one works, where the number of persons employed has largely increased, the number of cases of conjunctivitis among men and women in the artificial silk industry has decreased during recent months. This industry was receiving close attention from the medical inspectors and from the general staff of the Home Office, and much was being done to improve its conditions.

Proposed Cancer Hospital at Withington.—Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, answering Sir Thomas Watts on July 26th, said his attention had not been called to the proposed establishment of a cancer hospital in Palantine Road, Withington, a residential district of Manchester. Sir THOMAS asked whether, having regard to the depreciation in the value of property which would result, Mr. Chamberlain would set up an inquiry. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN answered that if, as he assumed, a voluntary hospital was to be established, he did not know that any action was open to him.

Early Treatment of Mental Patients.—Dr. VERNON DAVIES asked Mr. Chamberlain, on July 26th, if he was aware that the only hope of reducing the incidence of insanity and improving the

recovery rate was by altering the law so as to allow and encourage the early and skilled treatment of persons mentally ill; and whether he would, at any early date, give this matter his serious consideration and take the necessary action. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said he would be sorry to think that the only hope of reducing the incidence of insanity and improving the recovery rate lay in the measures which Dr. Davies suggested, but he fully realized the great importance of improving the facilities for early mental treatment, and hoped to be able to take the necessary action as soon as it was practicable to introduce legislation.

Tuberculosis Mortality Rate.—Sir KINGSLEY WOOD told Sir Robert Thomas, on July 25th, that the tuberculosis mortality rate for males between the ages of 15 and 25 had been little reduced since 1910, and that for females between the same ages it had increased, but at the present time the rate for both males and females between those ages appeared to be decreasing. The Ministry of Health had considered the discrepancy between the rate of decrease in the mortality from tuberculosis in the general population and that in these age groups, but the causes of this discrepancy were obscure. Investigation was proceeding, and the tuberculosis officers of local authorities would be asked to give special attention to the question.

Tuberculous War Pensioners.—Major TRYON, replying on July 26th to Major Cohen, said approximately 9,000 disabled men suffering from tuberculosis were discharged from treatment with allowances during the past twelve months. During the same period 5,000 cases were admitted to treatment with allowances. The conditions under which allowances were payable had not been changed, but Major Tryon had endeavoured to secure more effective co-operation between local tuberculosis officers and the medical officers of the Ministry of Pensions in the handling of cases of tuberculosis. The arrangements for reassessing had resulted in a substantial increase in the average rate of pension.

Notes in Brief.

At the suggestion of Dr. Vernon Davies, the President of the Board of Trade will consult with the Minister of Health about the suggested issue of an annual report on the health of the merchant service.

Mr. Chamberlain stated, on July 26th, that the committee which had inquired into the London Lock Hospital was considering its report. He could not say when it would be ready for publication.

Mr. Chamberlain knows of no reason for revising the regulations in force concerning the treatment of casuals, but officers of the Ministry of Health have been instructed to secure full compliance with the regulations.

The Scottish Board of Health has decided that the condition of the River Lochy does not warrant the local authority in calling on the proprietors to introduce a new water supply from another source.

All local authorities now provide for the medical treatment of school children.

The Minister of Health is not aware that there is any menace to the health of the inhabitants of the parish of West Thurrock from the sewage works of the West Kent Sewerage Board.

Medical News.

THE old students' annual dinner of St. Bartholomew's Hospital and College will be held on Monday, October 1st, at 7.30 o'clock, in the great hall of the hospital, with Sir D'Arcy Power in the chair. The honorary secretary is Sir Charles Gordon-Watson, 82, Harley Street, W.

THE annual meeting of the Smoke Abatement League of Great Britain, followed by a conference, will be held in Harrogate during the week-end commencing Saturday, September 29th, at the Harlow Manor Hydro. The office of the league is at 23, King Street, Manchester.

CONDUCTED visits, in aid of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London, will be made to the Tower of London on August 9th and 23rd and September 6th at 2.30 p.m. Mr. Walter Bell, F.S.A., will give addresses on the Tower and conduct parties round the building. Tickets (price 7s. 6d.) can be obtained from the secretary of the Fund, 7, Walbrook, E.C.4.

THE Central Association for Mental Welfare has organized two courses of training, each lasting three weeks and commencing on Saturday, September 8th; one is intended for persons engaged in the training of mental defectives in occupation centres, institutions, or mental hospitals; the other is for officers of local authorities and local associations for mental welfare engaged in the ascertainment and supervision of defectives. The courses comprise lectures and practical work, emphasis being laid, in that for persons engaged in providing training, on teaching methods, while for others the legal and administrative side receives more attention. Hostel accommodation has been secured at the centre at which the courses will be conducted in London.

The courses have been approved by the Board of Control. Further information may be obtained from the honorary secretary of the association, 24, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1.

AMONG the speakers at a study conference to be held at Oxford in September, under the auspices of the Industrial Welfare Society, is Dr. Millais Culpin, whose subject will be "Nervous disease and its significance in industry"—a question associated with work now being undertaken by Dr. Culpin for the Industrial Fatigue Research Board. The conference will take place at Balliol College, from September 7th to 11th, Dr. Culpin's lecture being on Monday, September 10th.

DR. EDWARD F. HOME, barrister-at-law, and neurologist to the Ministry of Pensions, has been appointed H.M. coroner for the county of East Sussex.

THE Minister of Health, on July 23rd, received a deputation from the representatives of twelve metropolitan borough councils, who urged the reconsideration of letters recently issued by the Minister announcing a reduction in the Exchequer grant for the supply of milk by maternity and child welfare authorities during the present financial year. In reply, Mr. Neville Chamberlain said the reduction had been made in view of the general need for economy. In the estimates of the Ministry of Health he had come to the conclusion that there were only two possible ways in which the necessary saving could be effected; one was to stop for the time being any further development of maternity and child welfare services, and the other was to make some reduction in the grants paid for the supply of milk. He had decided without any hesitation in favour of the latter course, but he wished to make it clear that he was not insisting that local authorities should reduce their expenditure on milk. All he had done was to intimate to local authorities the maximum expenditure for this purpose which he could recognize for grant during the present year.

THE second annual report of the Manchester, Salford, and District Mothers' Clinic records that during the year the clinic has given advice to 334 new applicants, making 757 since it opened in March, 1926. A statistical examination of the first 600 case papers of the clinic has shown they record 2,331 previous pregnancies, the number of living children being 1,783, showing a loss of 578, or 24.8 per cent., of all pregnancies. Nearly half of all losses were due to miscarriages, of which a considerable number were definitely recorded as self-induced abortions. The hope is expressed that the newly appointed official committee on maternal mortality will give due hearing to experienced workers in birth control clinics, who, it is pointed out, have had a unique opportunity to hear the unvarnished histories of mothers.

THE forty-third annual medical report of the Trudeau Sanatorium has been issued, and is combined with the twenty-third medical supplement for the year ending September 30th, 1927, and the eleventh collection of the studies of the Trudeau Foundation. These studies, which are mainly reprints of articles published in current medical literature, include a discussion by Drs. Lawrason Brown and H. L. Sampson of the curability of intestinal tuberculosis, an account of immunity in tuberculosis by S. A. Petroff, and the report of a case of primary pulmonary mesothelioma.

THE last report of the Old Cairo and Menouf Medical Missions, Egypt, which are under the aegis of the Church Missionary Society, shows that in spite of political troubles and economic depression—which at times decreased attendance at the hospitals—a vast amount of work has been carried on at these institutions. At the Old Cairo hospital new out-patients numbered 21,567 in 1926 and 21,903 in 1927, while the numbers of in-patients in the two years were 8,913 and 8,644 respectively. Most of the latter were ankylostomiasis cases, 13,167 being treated in the two years. Otherwise, surgical treatment accounted for the greater part of the work, 9,677 operations being performed. The smaller hospital at Menouf dealt with over 5,800 new patients in this period, while the three dispensaries, the camp hospital, and the welfare centres cared for many more. It is stated in the report that the group receives patients every year from about 1,000 villages; most of these are, of course, in the Nile delta, but some patients travel from remote parts of Upper Egypt and the Sudan for treatment, and a number have come from Mecca. During the past two years the organization has been handicapped by the inadequacy of the European staff, particularly at Menouf, where the work was carried on from November, 1926, to the end of 1927 without a regular European doctor. There is thus urgent need for reinforcements from England, both of doctors and nurses.

THE first Latin American Congress of Neurology, Psychiatry, and Legal Medicine will be held at Buenos Aires in the second fortnight of September, under the presidency of Professor Arturo Ameghiano.

THE German Society for Diseases of Digestion and Metabolism will hold a congress at Amsterdam from September 12th to 14th, when the following subjects will be discussed: physiology and pathology of hunger, introduced by J. Hudig of Apeldoorn, van Leersum of Amsterdam, Morgulis of the United States, and Determann of Wiesbaden; relations between the small intestine and diseases of the blood, introduced by Morawitz of Leipzig and Nordmann of Berlin; relations between the liver and diseases of the blood, introduced by Schottmüller of Hamburg; tropical diseases and the blood, introduced by Schüffner of Amsterdam; diagnostic and therapeutical errors in alimentary diseases and their prevention, introduced by von Bergmann, Kuttner, and Berg of Berlin, and von Haberer of Düsseldorf; importance of raw meat, introduced by Friedberger of Berlin, Scheunert of Dresden, and Stepp of Breslau. Further information can be obtained from the general secretary, Professor R. von den Velden, Bamberger Str. 49, Berlin, W.

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.**

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QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

DERMATITIS EXFOLIATIVA.

"W. M. B." wishes for suggestions for treatment of a case of dermatitis exfoliativa in a man over 50 years of age. It is of five years' duration. He asks if glandular treatment is of any avail in such cases, and if "light" treatment has been tried with success.

ADIPOSIITY OF BREASTS.

"W. A. R." would be glad to have suggestions for the treatment of a lady who has marked adiposity of the breasts and abdomen. He asks if ultra-violet ray treatment would be beneficial.

DRESSING FOR FISTULA.

"R. F." would like to hear of a dressing suitable for the skin of the abdomen in a patient aged 72 years, following laparotomy for intestinal obstruction (benign), who developed a fistula high up in the small intestine, the discharge causing intense pain and inflammation.

RATE OF FLUID ABSORPTION BY THE BODY.

DR. A. H. SKINNER (Hankow) writes: Are there any experiments showing the comparative rates of absorption of fluids injected under the skin and into the peritoneal cavity? The fluids under consideration are physiological saline, isotonic glucose solution, and horse serum. The matter is of importance in cholera where it is not always possible to give all patients in an epidemic the routine intravenous saline. I see that recent work has shown glucose given per rectum to be useless. I have seen it stated that a shipwrecked crew without water can be spared the pangs of thirst by the administration of sea water per rectum. Is there any experimental proof of this?

INCOME TAX.

Allowance for Garaging Cars.

"T. C." and his assistant make use of one car and three cycles. There is one garage at the surgery and another at "T. C.'s" private house. What should he deduct for the cost of garaging? Would a commercial rate of 7s. 6d. for the car and 2s. 6d. for each cycle be reasonable?

* * * The amount of the deduction must be determined by the actual facts of the case, but the commercial rate basis may be