

Memoranda

MEDICAL, SURGICAL, OBSTETRICAL

CONGENITAL GLOTTIC STENOSIS

Congenital glottic stenosis is a rare condition. Sir StClair Thomson, in his textbook, mentions twenty-two recorded cases.

A boy, aged 5, was referred to me on February 27th, 1933, by Dr. Nancy Bryce on account of a hoarse voice and stridor. His mother said that soon after his birth his cry was noticed to resemble that of a kitten; he had always had a hoarse voice and noisy breathing. The hoarseness was more marked during a cold, but there had never been aphonia. The noisy respiration increased on exertion. He was a bottle-fed baby, and had had convulsions at fifteen months, when he had had nine fits in one day. Two years and nine months ago he had had what the mother described as coma from 8.30 a.m. until 4 p.m., when he had completely regained consciousness and had appeared normal. He was stated to have had influenza and bronchitis, and, last year, measles and chicken-pox.

The patient was admitted to the Torbay Hospital on March 20th, 1933, and on the following day a direct laryngoscopy under general anaesthesia revealed a web attached to the margins of the anterior halves of the vocal cords and occupying the intervening space. There was a suggestion of translucency about the web, and the colour was the same as that of the cords. The posterior margin was crescentic. A Paterson's laryngeal forceps was inserted closed, in order to ascertain the tension of the web, but it completely occluded the glottis and had to be withdrawn. On account of the slightness of the patient's symptoms, of the knowledge that these congenital webs are thick, wedge-shaped masses of tissue, and of the doubtful value of operative attempts at removal, I decided to leave the condition untreated. A general examination by Dr. J. M. Jarvie elicited a faint localized systolic bruit in the fourth intercostal space just within the nipple line, and an inspiratory wheeze over the upper part of the left lung. The patient has stridor, chiefly inspiratory, but after moderate exertion there is marked inspiratory and expiratory stridor.

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RECURRENT RENAL CALCULI

The following case may be worth recording in association with the case described by Mr. McAdam Eccles in the *Journal* of July 15th (p. 102).

A lady, aged 61, who had lived much in India, had had attacks of renal colic for the previous ten years, sometimes on the left and sometimes on the right side, and in 1930 she passed a stone. In 1931 stones were visible in the radiograms of both kidneys, and Dr. H. L. Ormerod and I regarded operation as imperative owing to right-sided pyonephrosis with rigors. Since that time she has had altogether four nephrolithotomies on the right side and two on the left, guided both before and after operation by x-ray photographs: *Right*.—April 14th and August 11th, 1931; February 8th, 1932; and January 11th, 1933. *Left*.—May 5th, 1931, and January 27th, 1933. No cystin crystals were detected microscopically.

On each occasion the urine was foul. The kidney was washed out thoroughly with the patient in the inverted position and a tube inserted for subsequent flushing. At one time the urinary output was only five ounces daily for a few days. All the usual urinary antiseptics were given, but the urine remained alkaline and foul throughout. In January, 1933, after the bilateral operations, active yeast and glucose were injected into both kidneys after the daily flushing. This experiment, perhaps unique, was successful, and the urine became strongly acid for at least two months. As a control specimens of the foul urine were put out daily and yeast and glucose added. By each evening the specimens had become acid, had lost the foul odour, and had the smell of fresh beer; next morning the smell was that of stale beer in an acid specimen.

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Reviews

THE ADOLESCENT GIRL

The value of *Case Studies of Normal Adolescent Girls*¹ lies in the technique of the system on which they have been investigated. This is Miss ELSIE SMITHIES's contribution to scientific psychology. There is evidently nothing she does not know about schoolgirls. Her method and her industry together—both exemplary—have perfected her original gifts of psychological insight. The technique consists of a very elaborate scheme of case-taking and record-making by a team of collaborators in and out of school. A "battery of tests" is used to work out the I.Q. Some of these are novel, as for instance the "Chicago intelligence profile." It is realized that not all need be used in every case. Reports are filed and discussed, and the diagnosis is extracted. An agreed plan of treatment is carried out by co-operation between home and school, pupil, teacher, and parents. In Miss Smithies's school, time-tables are arranged and modified to suit individual girls.

The material is provided by a "seething mass of misfits," such as are known to every educational or medical psychologist, from a big American high school. One "superior student" is reported on by way of comparison—a most instructive exercise. The rest are the usual type of neurotic manifestations, exhibitionism, voluntary retardation, etc., traced to the usual sources—parental dominance, insecurity, physical abnormality. All the causes are, of course, environmental, but the immense effect of physical conditions in infancy and childhood is strikingly brought out. The enormous importance of periodical medical examination in childhood and adolescence becomes once more apparent. "The most frequent and most baffling condition with which we have to cope" is, "with fear of misapprehension," stated to be "an inferiority complex." There is refreshingly little of the girl-boy relationship in these studies. The author insists that the physical demands of the adolescent, of whose struggles she is compassionately aware, must be balanced against the moral necessity for that repression which begets moral strength. She seems almost overwhelmed on their behalf by the confusion of modern ideas and the rush of modern life, into which girls are plunged too young and too rapidly. "Our children skip from the mental and social age of 12 almost overnight to that of 18."

Results from treatment depend, of course, on the degree of success achieved in modifying environment. "The outlook is hopeful because social and scholastic adjustment has been made before Clara has outgrown the period of adolescence"—an enormously important point. But in a case of divorced parents "the damage done to a young, impressionable child by two so-called intelligent, cultured adults has left a permanent scar."

The last chapter, summarizing experience gained, should be read before the detailed cases. It meets some possible criticisms and restores confidence in the author's objective attitude. There is nothing actually new in the book, but it offers a beaten path to psychological knowledge of adolescent girlhood, and lights it with a clear and sympathetic understanding. The author's essential sanity is proved by her concluding sentence, "Do not permit any person to brand a girl as a problem case" (italicized). The book is well printed on light, rough paper; it has a lively orange jacket and a demure dark blue binding; also an excellent bibliography. It will be useful to all who are interested in psychology, including the amateur, for whom it contains most solemn warnings. School

¹ *Case Studies of Normal Adolescent Girls*. By Elsie M. Smithies, M.A. London and New York: D. Appleton and Co. 1933. (Pp. ix + 284. 8s. 6d. net.)

England, and shortly afterwards became a member of the surgical staff of the Nottingham General Infirmary, and in due course was elected honorary surgeon, and later consulting surgeon. He had held office as president of the Nottingham Medico-Chirurgical Society, and during the war was consultant surgeon to the Bagthorpe Military Hospital. For his war service he received the honour of C.B.E. in 1919. Mr. Anderson was for nearly thirty years a member of the British Medical Association.

The following well-known foreign medical men have recently died: Dr. LEO LANGSTEIN, extraordinary professor of children's diseases at Berlin University and director of the Kaiserin-Auguste Viktoria House for combating infantile mortality, aged 57; Professor JULIANO MOREIRA, the leading psychiatrist of Brazil; Dr. VACLAV RUBESKA, formerly professor of obstetrics and gynaecology at the Karl University, and director of the Foundling Hospital at Prague, aged 79; Dr. VICTOR MUCHA, extraordinary professor of dermatology and syphilology at Vienna, aged 56; Hofrat Professor VIKTOR RITTER VON HACKER, an eminent Vienna surgeon, aged 81; Dr. EUGÈNE EEMAN, emeritus professor of oto-rhino-laryngology at Ghent; and Dr. LUIS SAMENGO of Buenos Aires, well known for his work in the same branch of medicine.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

The Right Hon. Lord Macmillan and Sir Edwin Cooper Perry, M.D., have been reappointed Crown Members of the Court for a further period of five years from October 1st.

Dr. R. A. McCance has been recognized as a teacher of biochemistry at King's College Hospital Medical School (Faculty of Science).

Dr. B. H. Stewart has been appointed a member of the King's College Delegacy for the remainder of the year ending February 28th, 1934, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Sir Arnold Wilson.

Grants have been made out of the Thomas Smythe Hughes Medical Research Fund and the Beaverbrook Fund for the year 1933-4 for the following researches to be carried out at the Institution designated: To Donald Hunter, M.D., for special assistance in connexion with his study of the relationship of disordered haematopoiesis to bone disease (London Hospital). To Professor M. F. Lucas Keene, M.B., B.S., and Evelyn Everard Hewer, D.Sc., for the services of a histological technician, material, and microphotographs, if necessary, in connexion with research into the development, myelination, and connexions of the fibre tracts of the brain stem and thalamencephalon in the human foetus and infant, which is an extension of an earlier investigation in myelination (London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women).

Academic Diplomas in the following subjects are to be designated Academic Post-Graduate Diplomas: anthropology, archaeology, bacteriology, clinical pathology, comparative philology, medical radiology, psychology, public health, sociology and public administration, teachers'.

The following will be the syllabus in Psychology for the examination for the Diploma in Psychological Medicine for examinations held in and after 1935: Definitions and methods of investigation; cognition, conation, and affect; instinct and habit, attention, interest, and memory; the development of personality, intelligence, temperament, and character; the unconscious, the principles and methods of analytical psychology; psychological tests.

The Senate has appointed Professor W. Wright, D.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., L.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., a member of the Council of the East London College, and Dr. E. F. Rabey has been nominated as Governor of Highbury County School.

The celebration of Foundation Day in 1933 will take place on Friday, November 24th, instead of on Thursday, November 23rd.

A course of five Heath Clark Lectures, on "The Normal and Subnormal Mind," will be given by Professor C. L. Burt, D.Sc., Professor of Psychology in the University, at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine on Wednesdays, October 18th, 25th, November 1st, 8th, and 15th, at 5 p.m.

A Semon Lecture, on "The So-called Associated Paralysis of the Larynx and Pharynx (Multiple Cranial Nerve Palsy)," will be given by Professor H. Burger, Professor of Otolaryngology and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine in the

University of Amsterdam, at the rooms of the Royal Society of Medicine on Thursday, November 2nd, at 5 p.m.

The University medal at the M.B., B.S. examination for internal and external students, May, 1933, has been awarded to Albertine L. Winner (University College Hospital).

The appointment of Professor H. W. Florey, Joseph Hunter Professor of Pathology in the University of Sheffield, to the Sir William Dunn Chair of Pathology at Guy's Hospital Medical School was erroneously announced on July 27th.

LONDON INTER-COLLEGIATE SCHOLARSHIPS BOARD

The following awards of entrance scholarships and exhibitions have been made on the results of the Board's examinations: King's College Hospital Medical School: *Science Scholarship*: G. Beven. London Hospital Medical College: *Prize Scholarship*: L. Grundstein. *Science Scholarship*: W. H. J. Baker.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

The following awards have been made in the Faculty of Medical Sciences at University College: *Entrance Scholarship*: B. Brownscombe. *Entrance Exhibitions*: G. B. Jones and J. I. P. James. *Bucknill Scholarship*: D. F. Eastcott. *Bayliss-Starling Memorial Scholarship (Physiology)*: L. Young. *Cluff Memorial Prize (Anatomy, Physiology, Pharmacology, and Chemistry)*: K. D. Fraser. *Ferrière Scholarship* (tenable at University College Hospital Medical School): D. V. Davies. *Sharpey Scholarship (Physiology)*: E. G. Murphy.

LONDON (ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL) SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FOR WOMEN

The following awards of scholarships have been made for 1933-4: *St. Dunstan's Exhibition*: R. C. Cassell. *A. M. Bird Scholarship*: A. E. Burch. *Mrs. George M. Smith Scholarship*: Y. Garland. *Special Mrs. George M. Smith Scholarships*: J. Simmons and R. Caggan. *Mabel Sharman Crawford Scholarship*: D. K. Paterson. *Dr. Margaret Todd Scholarship*: D. M. Gladwell. *Lewis Memorial Scholarship*: M. L. Penwill. *Sarah Holborn Scholarship*: A. Jones. *A. M. Bird Clinical Scholarship*: A. J. McNairn. *Alfred Langton Scholarship*: B. E. Barsby. *Ellen Walker Bursary*: B. J. Travers. *Flora Murray Bursary*: J. M. Cass. *Special A. M. Bird Bursaries*: E. J. R. Browne, J. C. Goodchild, I. H. Lamey, A. L. Musgrave, G. J. Greenhalgh.

Post-Graduate Scholarships

A. M. Bird Post-Graduate Scholarship in Pathology: D. Woodman. *Mabel Webb and A. M. Bird Research Scholarship*: U. Shelley. *Edith Pechey Phipson Post-Graduate Scholarship*: Hope Trant.

Provided there be a candidate of sufficient merit, a Paul Philip Reitlinger Prize of £30 will be awarded on December 3rd for the best essay on "Contingency." Candidates must be matriculated students of the University of not more than 25 years of age on October 1st, who have not proceeded to a degree, or passed the examinations required for a degree, in any university. Essays must reach the University not later than October 1st.

The Services

DEATHS IN THE SERVICES

Colonel Henry Davis Rowan, late R.A.M.C., died at Bedford on June 6th, aged 71. He was born on March 7th, 1862, was educated at Edinburgh, where he graduated M.B., C.M. in 1883, and entered the Army as surgeon on August 1st, 1885, becoming colonel on March 1st, 1915, and retiring on March 7th, 1919. He served on the North-West Frontier of India in the Hazara campaign of 1888, gaining the frontier medal with a clasp; and in the war of 1914-18, in Gallipoli, where he was A.D.M.S. of the 10th Division, and in France. He received the Legion of Honour, as Officer, in 1917.

Lieut.-Colonel Henry Lawrence Esmonde-White, R.A.M.C. (ret.), died at Hounslow on July 27th, aged 77. He was born on July 3rd, 1856, was educated in the school of the Irish College of Surgeons, and took the L.R.C.S.I. in 1878 and the L.K.Q.C.P. in 1879, and subsequently the M.K.Q.C.P. in 1886, and the D.P.H. of the Irish Colleges in 1906. Entering the Army as surgeon on March 6th, 1880, he became lieutenant-colonel after twenty years' service, and retired on July 3rd, 1911. He served on the North-West Frontier of India in the Chitral campaign of 1895, with the relief column, and received the Frontier medal with a clasp, and on August 5th, 1914, rejoined for service in the war of 1914-18.

Medical News

The St. Bartholomew's Hospital Old Students' dinner will be held in the Great Hall, at 7 for 7.30 p.m., on Monday, October 2nd, with Lord Horder in the chair. The honorary secretaries are Sir Charles Gordon-Watson and Mr. Reginald M. Vick.

The annual dinner of the Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics will be held at the Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, on Wednesday, September 20th, at 7.30 p.m.

The Fellowship of Medicine and Post-Graduate Medical Association has arranged for the following courses to take place during September: on diseases of infants, at the Infants Hospital, Vincent Square, September 4th to 16th, to take place every afternoon; on psychological medicine, at the Bethlem Royal Hospital, Beckenham, September 5th to 29th, on Tuesdays and Fridays at 11 a.m.; on medicine, surgery, and the specialties, at the Westminster Hospital, S.W.1, from September 18th to 30th, to occupy the whole of every day; on diseases of the chest, at the Hospital for Consumption, Brompton, from September 25th to 30th; on proctology, at the Gordon Hospital, Vauxhall Bridge Road, in the afternoons, from September 25th to 30th; on rheumatism, at the Royal Mineral Water Hospital, Bath, during the whole of Saturday, September 30th, and Sunday, October 1st. In addition to the above a special tutorial course (for men graduates only) in medicine, surgery, and midwifery has been arranged to take place from September 29th to October 3rd, inclusive, at the Connaught Hall of Residence, 16, Torrington Square, W.C.1. Intensive lectures and demonstrations will be given the whole of each day, and will deal with the clinical conditions in which recent developments have occurred. Post-graduates attending this course will reside at the Connaught Hall. Full details are now ready and can be obtained from the secretary of the Fellowship of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, London, W.1.

A post-graduate course in diseases of the heart and blood vessels will be held at the Broussais Hospital in Paris from October 9th to 21st, under the direction of Dr. C. Laubry. The main topic will be the new views held with regard to certain of the more important cardiac syndromes. In addition to lectures there will be opportunity for clinical work. A diploma will be awarded at the conclusion of the course. The fee is 150 francs. Further information is obtainable from Dr. H. Dany, l'Hôpital Broussais, Rue Didcot 96, Paris 14.

A post-graduate course in internal medicine has been arranged to take place in Berlin from October 2nd to 14th. The course will include clinical work and pathological and other demonstrations. Details are available on application to the office of the International Post-Graduate Courses, Kaiserin Friedrich Haus, 7, Robert Koch Platz, Berlin, N.W.7.

The Fellowship of Medicine announces that a course in infants' diseases, specially arranged for medical officers of welfare centres, members of the London Public Medical Service, and others interested in nutritional disorders and dietetics, will be given at the Infants Hospital, Vincent Square, Westminster, S.W., from September 4th to 16th. The fee for the full course is £3 3s., and the names of qualified practitioners wishing to attend the course (the number is limited to fifteen) should be sent to the secretary, 1, Wimpole Street, W.1, by September 1st.

The London County Council announces that a three-months course of lectures and demonstrations, in connexion with instruction in hospital administration for the D.P.H., will be given at the North-Western Hospital, N.W.3, and at the Brook Hospital, S.E.18, from October 2nd, on Mondays and Wednesdays at 9.30 a.m., and alternate Saturdays at a time to be arranged. These courses comply with the requirements of the revised regulations of the General Medical Council, which came into operation in 1931, and the fee for each is £3 13s. 6d. A course may, however, be taken under the previous regulations at a fee of £4 4s. Medical men desiring to attend either course

must pay the requisite fee beforehand to the Medical Officer of Health, London County Council, Public Health Department (Special Hospitals), County Hall, S.E.1, giving full name and address.

The London County Council has decided that the fees to be charged in respect of courses of medical undergraduate and post-graduate instruction at hospitals for infectious diseases and small-pox shall be as follows: Course in diagnosis and treatment of fevers, £3 3s. for two-months course; course in clinical practice and hospital administration (for candidates for the D.P.H.), £3 13s. 6d. for twenty-four demonstrations, and £4 4s. for thirty demonstrations; course in diagnosis and treatment of small-pox (in cases in which a fee is payable), £1 1s. for three demonstrations.

King Edward's Hospital Fund for London has received the gift of freehold property to the value of about £18,000. This is to form part of the permanent capital endowment of the King's Fund, but is to be kept separate as a permanent memorial to the late William and Francis Radford from a member of the family.

During the last four years there has been a considerable increase of epidemic poliomyelitis in Germany. In 1931 there were 1,613 cases with a case fatality rate of 11.2 per cent., and in 1932, 3,735 cases with a fatality rate of 8.4 per cent. Probably many more mild and doubtful cases have been notified than formerly.

Professor August Gärtner, the doyen of German hygienists and former occupant of the chair of hygiene at Jena, has recently celebrated his eighty-fifth birthday.

The King of the Belgians has been made a doctor *honoris causa* of Strasbourg University.

A bust of the Nobel prizeman Dr. Fritz Pregl, professor of chemistry at Graz, has recently been unveiled in the hall of the University.

Letters, Notes, and Answers

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

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The address of the Irish Office of the British Medical Association is 18, Kildare Street, Dublin (telegrams: *Bacillus, Dublin*; telephone: 62550 Dublin), and of the Scottish Office, 7, Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh (telegrams: *Associate, Edinburgh*; telephone: 24361 Edinburgh).

QUERIES AND ANSWERS

Stammering

"H. E." asks for suggestions for the treatment of a young man of 20, who began to stammer at the age of 5, following a long illness, during which he was treated and nursed by his parents. When 17 years of age he was sent abroad for a year, and came back practically cured; but the stammering gradually returned, and at the present time he has great difficulty in producing any sounds at all in the home circles, though he is very much better out of them, and spends half the year at his university. His mother stammered as a child, but outgrew it.