

**B.C.G. Vaccine**

SIR,—I am grateful to Dr. G. Gregory Kayne for drawing my attention to the dilution of the parenteral B.C.G. (BCG-SC) issued by the Institut Pasteur, Paris (*British Medical Journal*, October 27th, p. 791). I was working in America with a strength of 0.1 mg. in 0.1 c.cm.; this is a convenient quantity for an intradermal injection, and can be quite accurately measured in a Mantoux syringe. I was under the impression when I wrote my book that this was the strength issued by the Institut Pasteur.

Since reading Dr. Kayne's letter I have written to Paris to see if such a strength could be specially made for intradermal use, or whence it could be obtained; I will inform him as soon as any arrangement has been reached.

Instructions that the vaccine should be used within ten days of its preparation are issued with each ampoule of B.C.G.—I am, etc.,

Henley-on-Thames, Nov. 3rd.

K. NEVILLE IRVINE.

**"The Angel of Death"**

SIR,—When I read Mr. G. Gordon-Taylor's excellent address on "Bad Surgical Risks" in your issue of October 27th I realized that between us we had very completely destroyed the famous passage from the speech of John Bright on the Crimean War, which runs as follows: "The Angel of Death has been abroad throughout the land; you may almost hear the beating of his wings."

I quoted from memory at the Association of Surgeons meeting in Birmingham, and in doing so unconsciously paraphrased the quotation to make it applicable to my subject. The words I actually used were as follows: "The Angel of Death is hovering o'er them, so close that they can almost hear the fluttering of his wings." I think the paraphrase was justified, though I admit that the use of the word "fluttering" instead of "beating" robs the passage of much of its power and beauty. For the final form as given by Mr. Gordon-Taylor I must disclaim all responsibility.—I am, etc.,

Manchester, Oct. 30th.

GARNETT WRIGHT.

**Universities and Colleges****UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD****Radcliffe Prize**

The next award for the Radcliffe Prize will be made in 1935. The prize, which is of the value of £50, is awarded by the Master and Fellows of University College, Oxford, every second year for research in any branch of medical science, comprised under the following: human anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, pathology, medicine, surgery, obstetrics, gynaecology, forensic medicine, hygiene. The prize is open to all graduates of the University of Oxford who have proceeded, or are proceeding, to a medical degree in the University. Candidates must not have exceeded twelve years from the date of passing the last examination or the Degree of B.A., and must not, at the date of application, be Fellows on the foundation of Dr. John Radcliffe. Candidates must send in their memoirs to the Secretary of Faculties, at the University Registry, Oxford, on or before January 1st, 1935. The award will be made in March, 1935. No memoir for which any University prize has already been awarded is admitted to competition for the Radcliffe Prize; and the prize will not be awarded more than once to the same candidate.

**Board of the Faculty of Medicine**

The Board has co-opted Dr. E. W. Ainley Walker, Fellow of University College, and Dr. A. M. Cooke, Jesus College, for the statutory period of two years. The Board has appointed Dr. O. L. V. S. de Wesselow, Corpus Christi College, to be an Elector to the Professorship of Pharmacology, vice Sir Charles Sherrington, who retires under the age limit.

**Professor of Pathology**

The Electors to this Professorship propose shortly to propose to an election of a Professor in the place of the late Professor Georges Dreyer. Candidates should send in their names, with eight copies of any statement, references, and testimonials that they may think it desirable to submit, so as to reach the Registrar not later than December 22nd. Candidates are requested to state the earliest date on which they could take up their duties. The choice of the Electors will not necessarily be limited to those who apply. The stipend of the Professorship is £1,200 a year, in addition to which there is a special allowance of £200 in respect of duties as Head of the Department. Subject to the provisions of the Statute, Tit. IV, Sec. III, cls. 5 and 6 a non-stipendiary professorial Fellowship at Lincoln College is attached to the Professorship. In accordance with the provisions of the University superannuation scheme the Professor will be required to become a member of the Federated Superannuation System for Universities.

During the illness of the Regius Professor of Medicine official correspondence intended for Sir Farquhar Buzzard should be directed to Professor J. A. Gunn, Department of Pharmacology.

**UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE**

The Appointments Committee of the Faculty of Biology "B" gives notice that it will shortly proceed to appoint a university demonstrator in pathology. The appointment will be governed by the statutes of the University, and particulars as to stipend and duties may be obtained from Professor Dean, at the Department of Pathology (Tennis Court Road, Cambridge), to whom applications should be sent on or before December 1st.

At a congregation held on November 3rd the following medical degrees were conferred:

M.D.—A. Barnsley, A. Eckford, W. E. Chiesman.

M.B., B.CHIR.—E. V. Bevan, H. B. May, J. Metcalf, F. E. Pilkington, R. L. Benison.

M.B.—T. A. Ratcliffe.

B.CHIR.—J. H. Conyers.

**The Molteno Institute**

During the inquiry, as the result of which the General Board proposed regulations for the Molteno Institute of Parasitology, it formed the opinion, both on general grounds and on the particular ground of the temporary association of the Quick Professorship with the Directorship of the Institute, that it would be to the advantage, both of the University and of the Institute, if the scope of the latter was widened. Professor Nuttall has now consulted Mr. Molteno, who cordially approves the proposal to change the title of the Institute to the Molteno Institute of Biology and Parasitology. The Faculty Boards of Biology "A" and "B" have expressed their concurrence, and appropriate recommendations are published in the *University Reporter*.

**UNIVERSITY OF LONDON****LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE**

Kenneth Mellanby, B.A., Ph.D., has been appointed to the Wandsworth Scholarship for Research in Tropical Medicine for a period of two years.

The following degrees were awarded by the Senate on October 24th:

PH.D. IN ANATOMY.—Ralph Brooke (Guy's Hospital).

PH.D. IN HELMINTHOLOGY.—Phyllis Annie Clapham (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine).

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND**

A meeting of the Senate was held on October 25th, under the chairmanship of the Chancellor, Mr. Eamon de Valéra.

The reports of the examiners on the autumn examinations were considered, and passes, honours, etc., awarded in connexion therewith. The reports of the examiners in connexion with travelling studentships and other prize examinations were also considered, and the following among other awards were made: *Dr. Henry Hutchinson Stewart Medical Scholarships*: (in Anatomy) J. Burke, University College, Cork; (in Physiology) R. G. Barry, University College, Cork; P. F. Brennan, University College, Dublin; J. Burke, University College, Cork. *Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Browne Gold Medal*: Paula Mecklenburg, University College, Dublin.

The Senate decided that a special first University examination in Medicine should be held in March, 1935, for students who have completed the lectures therefor; that the Dr. Henry Hutchinson Stewart scholarships in arts, in medicine, and in mental and nervous diseases should be offered for competition in 1935; and that travelling studentships in chemistry and mathematical science should be offered for competition in 1935 as additional travelling studentships.

**Total Blindness from War Service.**—On November 6th Major TRYON told Lieut.-Colonel Moore that during the last five years eighty-six cases had been admitted to pension in respect of eye disabilities resulting from war service. Of these, two were cases of total blindness.

**The "Silent Zone" and Road Safety.**—Mr. HORE-BELISHA informed Mr. Robinson that the institution of the "silent zone" had met with overwhelming approval. It was not primarily instituted to promote safety but to increase the opportunities for rest and recuperation of workers and the sick. This purpose had been achieved without any increase in the number of accidents being attributed to the new regulation. He was not at the moment prepared to make a general prohibition of the use of motor horns and other noisy indications of approach. Mr. Hore-Belisha informed Dr. Salter, on November 5th, that from July 9th, 1934, the date on which uncontrolled pedestrian crossing-places were first laid down in the metropolitan police district, to October 31st inclusive, four persons were killed and 194 injured on these uncontrolled crossings.

#### Notes in Brief

An explanatory circular to local authorities on the Shops Act, 1934, will shortly be issued.

Persons in receipt of poor relief in England and Wales—including dependants but excluding rate-aided patients in mental hospitals, persons in receipt of domiciliary medical relief only, and casuals—on October 13th, 1934, numbered 1,310,668. Of these, 134,854 were chargeable in Wales with Monmouth.

## Medical News

The fifty-seventh anniversary dinner of the Cambridge Graduates' Club of St. Bartholomew's Hospital will take place on Wednesday, November 21st, at 7.30 p.m., at the May Fair Hotel, with Professor Francis R. Fraser in the chair. The honorary secretaries are Dr. H. N. Burroughes and Mr. Reginald Vick.

The annual dinner of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Club will be held at the Trocadero Restaurant on Thursday, November 22nd, at 8 p.m., when Dr. Lewis R. Yealland will occupy the chair. Price of dinner, exclusive of wine, 12s. 6d., to be paid in advance. Members are asked to notify Dr. Bertram H. Jones (honorary secretary), 47, Queen Anne Street, W.1, of intention to be present, stating number of guests. (Lady guests may be invited.)

A meeting of the Tuberculosis Association will be held at 26, Portland Place, W., on Friday, November 23rd, at 5.15 p.m., when Dr. L. S. T. Burrell will deliver his presidential address, on "Tuberculosis Reinfection in Adults." At 8.15 p.m. Dr. G. T. Hebert will read a paper on "The Termination of Artificial Pneumothorax Treatment."

The Royal Sanitary Institute will hold a joint meeting with the Yorkshire branch of the Society of Medical Officers of Health at Huddersfield Town Hall on Friday, November 16th, at 6 p.m., when there will be discussions on "The Huddersfield Scheme for Maternity and Child Welfare Work," to be opened by Dr. John M. Gibson, and on "Recent Housing Developments in Huddersfield," to be opened by Mr. G. Crossley.

A course of twelve illustrated lectures on the geology and scenery of the Hebrides will be given by R. M. Craig, D.Sc., in the lecture theatre of the Imperial College of Science, Exhibition Road, South Kensington, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 5.30 p.m., from November 26th to December 21st, inclusive. Admission free.

The Central London Throat, Nose, and Ear Hospital (Gray's Inn Road, W.C.) has arranged a week-end course in laryngology, rhinology, and otology, specially suitable for general practitioners, on Saturday and Sunday, December 1st and 2nd, at 10.30 a.m. The fee for the course is £1 1s. 6d., and the names of those wishing to

attend should be sent to the secretary-superintendent as soon as possible.

Dr. Leonhard Seif of Munich will give a course of three lectures on November 20th, 23rd, and 26th, at 8.30 p.m., on "The Principles and Practice of Individual Psychology." The course, which has been arranged by the Child Guidance Council for members of clinic staffs and others, will take place at the Institute of Medical Psychology, Malet Place, W.C. Admission free.

The Royal Photographic Society is holding an exhibition of cinematography at 35, Russell Square, W.C. It is designed to show recent advances with special reference to the progress achieved in design of apparatus and the extension of the sound film to substandard sizes—developments which bring "talkies" into the class room, the social centre, and the home, and open up a new field in educational, cultural, and entertainment possibilities. The exhibition will be open, free, to the public until November 30th, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and on Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

A general course of post-graduate instruction, arranged by the University of Durham College of Medicine, opened at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on October 11th, and will be continued on Thursdays at 1.30 p.m. to December 13th, with the exception of November 15th, which date has been left vacant so that members may attend the scientific demonstrations arranged by the North of England Branch of the British Medical Association. A special course in midwifery and gynaecology is being held on Wednesdays at 3 p.m. Classes for clinical instruction in medicine and surgery, or lecture-demonstrations, will be continued every Sunday at 10.30 a.m. to December 16th. All medical practitioners are invited to attend these classes, for which there is no fee, and particulars will be given week by week in the diary column of our *Supplement*.

The Fellowship of Medicine (1, Wimpole Street, W.1) announces that lecture-demonstrations will be given at 11, Chandos Street, W., on November 13th and 20th, at 2.30 p.m. At the same place Dr. Christie will lecture on diet of the obese and thin, on November 14th at 8.30 p.m. Forthcoming courses include gynaecology at the Samaritan Hospital, November 17th and 18th; proctology at St. Mark's Hospital, all day, November 19th to 24th; rheumatism at the British Red Cross Clinic, Peto Place, N.W., on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8.30 p.m., November 20th to December 6th; infants' diseases at the Infants Hospital, every afternoon, November 26th to December 6th; dermatology at the Blackfriars Skin Hospital, every afternoon November 26th to December 6th. A special M.R.C.P. course in chest diseases will take place at the Brompton Hospital on Wednesdays and Fridays, for four weeks, from December 12th to January 11th (excluding the Christmas week). Courses of instruction are open only to members and associates of the Fellowship.

The ninth Pan-American Sanitary Congress will be held at Buenos Aires from November 12th to 22nd, when papers will be read on hospital organization, venereal disease, small-pox, malaria, undulant fever, leprosy, yellow fever, milk, infantile mortality, tuberculosis, school hygiene, narcotics and alcoholism.

The eleventh Voyage Médical International on the Riviera, organized by the Société Médicale du Littoral Méditerranéen, will take place from December 26th to January 3rd, under the presidency of the dean of the Faculty of Medicine of Paris. The principal places to be visited are Nice, Cannes, Menton, Monte Carlo, Beaulieu, Grasse, and Vence. Further information may be obtained from the Federation of the Health Resorts of France, Tavistock House (North), Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

The issue of *Paris Médical* for October 20th is devoted to diseases of the kidneys and urology.

Mrs. Stanley Baldwin opened the new private wards at the Hendon Cottage Hospital, N.W., on the afternoon of Wednesday, October 31st.

A short ceremony in connexion with the transfer of Heatherwood Hospital, Ascot, to the London County Council by the United Services Fund took place at the hospital on November 2nd, when the title-deeds of the hospital were formally handed over by Major-General Lord Lock (chairman of the council of management of the United Services Fund). Mr. Somerville Hastings, F.R.C.S. (chairman of the Hospitals and Medical Services Committee of the L.C.C.), accepted the gift on behalf of the Council.

Dame Edith Powell, widow of Sir Richard Douglas Powell, first baronet, left £48,562. Her bequests included £1,000 to the Royal College of Physicians of London as a memorial of her husband, who was President from 1905 to 1910.

The King has granted permission to Dr. C. E. G. Beveridge to wear the insignia of the fourth class of the Order of the Nile, conferred upon him by the King of Egypt in recognition of valuable services rendered.

The chairs of medical pathology, medico-surgical anatomy, and operative medicine, and nine assistant professorships in the Paris Faculty of Medicine have recently been abolished. On the other hand, chairs for medical anatomy, dietetics and physiotherapy, hydrology and climatology, have recently been founded at Geneva University.

The American Congress of Physiotherapy has awarded its highest distinction, the Gold Cross, to Dr. Henri Bordier, professor of medicine at Lyons, for his studies in the physiology of high-frequency currents, to Dr. Oscar Bernard of Saint-Moritz, and to Dr. Franz Nagelschmidt of Berlin.

Dr. Gudmundur Hannesson, professor of anatomy and hygiene at Reykjavik, has been awarded the gold medal of honour by the University of Hamburg, and Dr. T. von Györy, professor of the history of medicine at Budapest, the Karl Sudhoff medal.

## 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.**

**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. Authors over-seas should indicate on MSS. if reprints are required, as proofs are not sent abroad.

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 NUMBER** of the British Medical Association and the *British Medical Journal* is EUSTON 2111 (internal exchange, four lines).

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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, Drumshuegh Gardens, Edinburgh (telegrams: *Associate, Edinburgh*; telephone: 24361 Edinburgh).

## QUERIES AND ANSWERS

### Treatment of Chronic Nasal Discharge

Dr. P. LIONEL GOITEIN (London, W.1) writes: In searching for a "hopeful" formula for this distressing symptom, is it within the bounds of possibility that your correspondent "M. S." (October 27th, p. 796) has been working too exclusively from the physical angle, and has overlooked what has proved (at least in my hands) a very

helpful approach—namely, the psychological? "M. S." does not state whether the sinus and antra operations were necessitated by, or resulted in, this symptom. If non-purulent, I should like to emphasize from experience that psychotherapy can be trusted to dispel the symptom in question often quite dramatically. The nose is frequently utilized as a safety-valve for solving emotional conflicts, and other tensions, with copious rhinorrhoea. Hence, vicarious menstruation and the like anomalies. Certain hysterics and obsessionals are only too happy to side-track the issues in physical treatment. I recently had a patient with diuresis and enuresis, complicated by the nasal symptom referred to, who had run the gamut of sensitization, cauterization, catheterization, etc., to both organs, and who was relieved of bed-wetting in the early weeks of treatment. Similarly, one usually finds the adenoidal (and sinusoidal) conditions clear up—as they did in this case—soon after, and this without recourse to aught but modern psychological technique. While this is not vaunted as the treatment *par excellence* of all the mucorrhoeas, its use (in the absence of gross traumata or infective agents) is undoubtedly well justified.

### Treatment of Trichophyton Infection

"AGRESTIS" (East Lothian) writes: There have been lately in your columns many communications on the treatment of this troublesome condition, but it has struck me that none of the writers has stated that his own particular method has cured himself. If the criterion of treatment is cure, I may feel some slight justification for writing now. I have for many years suffered intermittently from the condition, and after trying a variety of applications which produced not the slightest benefit, I fell back upon a simple, and what appeared to me to be a logical, form of treatment. Moisture is necessary for the growth of all moulds, and if a part is kept dry the soil is rendered less suitable, or at any rate conditions for growth become less favourable. Relative dryness can be ensured by the insertion of small strips of boric lint in the interdigital spaces. The strips should be in size about one inch by one-half inch, and they should be pressed well into the affected spaces. In my own case a fairly extensive and long-standing infection was comparatively quickly healed by this simple method, and recurrences in the favourite site of the fourth interdigital space are very quickly "scotched" by it. I can certainly recommend its trial, in association with the implied methods of cleanliness. The strips should be renewed night and morning.

### Treatment of Ménière's Disease

Dr. R. H. BOTHAM (Manchester) writes: In answer to "Inquirer" (*Journal*, November 3rd, p. 843), I can recommend him to try the method of treatment of Ménière's disease set forth by Dr. W. S. Thacker Neville in an address to the Darlington Division of the B.M.A. in March, 1931. The address was published subsequently in the *Journal* of July 11th, 1931 (p. 54). The method is simple, and consists in the elimination of all salt from the diet, and the reduction of the fluid intake to the lowest endurable point. The object aimed at is the reduction of fluid pressure in the vestibule and semicircular canals. In my own case the attacks ceased at once after beginning treatment.

### Income Tax

#### Interest on Borrowed Capital

"R. S." pays £300 a year interest, and last year deducted £75 therefrom, being income tax at 5s. in the £. What is the position if the tax payable in respect of his profits—and any other income he may have, for example from owning his own premises—comes to less than £75?

\*\* His minimum liability for the year is £75; when he has paid that and no more he has merely handed over the tax which he deducted—collected so to speak—on behalf of the Revenue, and has ultimately borne no tax himself.

#### Debts Outstanding on Retirement

"R. F." has retired, and the inspector of taxes wants him to pay tax on debts owing to him.

\*\* The inspector is probably right, in the circumstances, to insist on the last year's account being made up on a basis that shall adjust the cash receipts to an "earnings basis." Consequently any increase during that year, of the value of the debts on the books, can be brought into the calculation. But this does not mean that the amount (or value) of the debts at the end of the period can be brought in as receipts without deducting the corresponding total at