

entirely or partially "ceased to be." On the contrary, homoeopathy from its inception has been, and still is being, practised by that growing minority of the profession which has had sufficient curiosity to put it to the clinical test.

Some of the views expressed by Sir Humphry in this connexion call for strong comment. He appears to regard the doctrine of signatures and the law of similars as being synonymous. This is certainly a novel and, I think, a quite original conception. The two things have nothing in common whatsoever.

More amazing still, however, is the remark: "... the professed principles and practice of homoeopathy do not appeal in the light of medical science." In point of fact they *do* appeal to hundreds of doctors who have received a sound training in medical science, and some of whom are generally recognized for their scientific genius. I might mention, for example, Professor Bier of Berlin University, and the late Mr. Maddox, both of whose names are of world-wide repute on account of their scientific work. On such evidence alone I would assert that Sir Humphry's remark is a gross misstatement of fact. But in addition homoeopathy receives support from the progress of medical science itself. Many of the scientific discoveries of the past hundred years have confirmed the truth of Hahnemann's principles, while not one has even tended to destroy them. That assertion is supported by fact. Can Sir Humphry say the same of his statement? Can he mention any scientific truth which disproves one homoeopathic principle?

The present-day practice of homoeopathy is governed by the unchanged fundamental principles which were enunciated by Hahnemann over a century ago. These principles owe their immutability, in my opinion, to their having been founded on the rock of scientific experiment and observation, and not on the shifting sands of conjecture and hypothesis.—I am, etc.,

St. Annes-on-Sea, July 23rd.

G. RUTHVEN MITCHELL.

Recovery after Cardiac Arrest

SIR,—I am indebted to Dr. C. Langton Hewer for his letter in the *Journal* of July 20th (p. 135), in which he points out that auricular puncture is more likely to succeed than ventricular puncture in a case of cardiac collapse. I notice also that he has special curved needles five inches long, and I should be pleased if he could inform me who manufactures these needles for him. In concluding, I should like to correct an error in the dosage of adrenaline, which I overlooked in correcting the proof of my original memorandum (*Journal*, July 13th, p. 64). The dose of adrenaline given was, of course, not 5 c.cm., but 5 minims of the 1 in 1,000 solution, and was repeated after three minutes: the total dose was 10 minims and not 10 c.cm.—I am, etc.,

Birkenhead, July 20th.

R. A. GRANT.

Tuberculosis Rates

SIR,—As reported in the issue of the *Journal* of July 20th, the Minister of Health has supplied us with the tuberculosis death rate for thirteen years. To judge the present position of the disease we should have the number of pulmonary cases alive on December 31st in each year. This would give us the true state of affairs. The life of a case of tuberculosis of the lungs is more prolonged than it was a few years ago. The Minister has the return of existing cases from the county council medical officers at the end of each year, and unless we have those figures

I think the death rate figures are of modified value in indicating the present position.

Until strict segregation of all positive lung cases is carried out the disease will not die out or be exterminated. We are likely, with the present rate of notifications, to have more than a million people notified in the next twenty years; more than a million people infected, all from pre-existing cases in humans, animals, or birds—for the sole reason that prevention is in its infancy as now practised in this country.

People are now alive to the infectiousness of the disease, and strong measures would probably meet with less opposition than was displayed when the notification of the disease was initiated.—I am, etc.,

PRIDEAUX SELBY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Lynsted, July 20th.

Blistering for Arthritis

SIR,—The value of blistering in the treatment of rheumatoid and osteo-arthritis has perhaps not been fully appreciated. A patient of mine, a man aged forty-eight years, had suffered from osteo-arthritis in the left ankle-joint for some two years. His treatment had included massage, ionization, radiant heat, and x-ray therapy. There had been no improvement. Last summer, contrary to my advice, he went swimming; on the occasion of his first aquatic adventure he was badly sunburnt. The skin over his ankle-joint blistered severely. The surprising sequel was that in about three weeks' time his trouble had completely disappeared. Whereas previously he had suffered excruciating pain when walking, locomotion was now normal. Since then, with encouraging results, I have treated three cases of osteo-arthritis by blistering the affected joints with emplastrum cantharidis. In all three some improvement has been observable.—I am, etc.,

Auckland, New Zealand, May 25th. JOHN P. HASTINGS.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

At a congregation held on July 20th the following medical degrees were conferred:

D.M.—J. F. Brock, J. H. Hunt, C. W. Flemming, C. R. Lane.
B.M.—M. C. Chapman, J. C. Penton, D. F. G. Moir, K. B. Dawson, J. R. Hollick, C. Hollins, N. Leitch, A. P. Meiklejohn, W. E. Henley, D. H. Hertz, W. R. Trotter, J. W. A. Turner, R. Bevan, E. M. Buzzard, C. F. Hamilton-Turner, P. C. Alexander, P. G. Burgess, H. Burton, W. J. C. Anstie.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

DIPLOMA IN MEDICAL RADIOLOGY AND ELECTROLOGY.—*Part I*: D. P. Bali, A. Pollitt, I. G. Williams. *Part II*: D. P. Bali, J. L. Dobbie, T. P. Eustace, L. Freeman, A. H. Gibson, D. Glass, P. R. Goodfellow, T. A. Green, B. T. Hooper, W. G. S. Hopkirk, A. S. Johnstone, Z. J. Joseph, A. H. Jowell, D. R. McPherson, S. Mukerjee, H. S. Rassim, Beatrice M. Willmott.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

At a meeting of the Senate on July 17th James Whillis, M.D., M.S., F.R.C.S., was appointed to the readership in anatomy (Guy's Hospital Medical School) from October 1st, and on July 19th E. P. Stibbe, F.R.C.S., was appointed to the readership in anatomy (King's College) from October 1st.

LONDON HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE

The "Price" University Scholarship in Anatomy and Physiology of the value of £100, open to students of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, has been awarded to A. J. Daly of King's College, Cambridge.

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE

The following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated.

ACADEMIC POST-GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN BACTERIOLOGY.—J. L. Charlton, D. P. Crowle, S. C. Dalrymple, S. Dattilo-Rubbo, J. H. S. Gear, T. S. Gregory, M. H. Salaman, D. F. Stewart, Frances R. Wang, H. Wilkinson.

LONDON (ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL) SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
FOR WOMEN

The following awards of scholarships for 1935-6 are announced: *St. Dunstan's Medical Exhibition*: A. M. Jeans. *Mrs. George M. Smith Scholarship*: M. C. Smith. *Mabel Sharman Crawford Scholarship*: R. E. M. Bowden. *Bostock Scholarship for Women*: A. Glynn. *Dr. Margaret Todd Scholarship*: I. S. Chalmers. *Sarah Holborn Scholarships*: G. M. E. Keevil, M. L. Mittell (special). *Fanny Butler Scholarship*: F. M. Roberts. *A. M. Bird Clinical Scholarship*: M. D. Thomas. *Alfred Langton Scholarship*: E. B. Palmer. *Flora Murray Bursary*: B. E. Barsby. *Ellen Walker Bursary*: D. M. Carr. *Special A. M. Bird Scholarships*: L. M. Bates, E. M. Cumming, J. E. Grant, E. A. Nettell. *A. M. Bird Post-Graduate Scholarship in Pathology*: Margaret A. Jennings, B.M., B.Ch. *Mabel Webb and A. M. Bird Research Scholarship*: F. Charlotte Naish, M.B., B.Ch.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

A graduation ceremonial was held on M'Ewan Hall on July 17th. The following degrees and diplomas were conferred:

HON. LL.D.—A. N. Richards, Sc.D., Ph.D., Professor of Pharmacology in the University of Pennsylvania.

M.D.—A. A. F. Brown, J. A. Burgess, *J. A. Douglas, G. A. H. Gumley, T. B. Harvey, R. L. Langley, R. P. A. Macaulay, D. T. McDonald, A. A. Miller, A. A. Robertson.

D.Ph.—H. Schild, H. K. Sinha (*in absentia*).

M.B., B.Ch.—H. M. Adam, J. D. Allan, J. Allison, G. F. Anderson, K. C. Balfour, P. M. Barclay, Betty B. Barnettson, †A. F. M. Barron, M. Bhattacharjee, D. B. Black, J. B. Borthwick, I. Bortz, W. R. Brewer, A. K. Brooke, S. Brown, †T. H. Brown, R. T. Campbell, J. E. S. Carmichael, W. I. Chalmers, W. A. Coe, C. H. Comrie, W. R. M'K. Couper, J. M. Crawford, W. T. Cumming, H. A. Deverell, H. L. de Waal, J. M. Dick, C. Donald, J. Duncan, J. du Toit-le Roux, Hermione K. E. Egerton, J. N. I. Emblin, †M. R. Ewing, S. Falk, J. A. Farfor, Jean A. Forbes, J. W. Forbes, †I. T. Fraser, H. Friedman, the Hon. A. G. Gathorne-Hardy, Mary D. Gibson, J. Gillan, I. C. Gilliland, †J. C. R. Greig, R. S. Hardie, J. P. Harger, M. S. Harvey, N. S. Hepburn, T. Hepburn, D. S. Hiddleston, M. Hunter, R. M. M. Hunter, J. J. M. Jacobs, J. Jamieson, W. H. Kinstry, T. A. Knowling, J. C. Lees, W. Limont, M. G. Low, †D. A. Lowe, A. Lutton, S. Lyons, A. M'Diarmid, V. P. M'Donagh, A. M. MacDonald, N. Macdonald, A. M. M'Farlan, T. C. MacInnes, A. C. Mackenzie, A. M. Mackenzie, J. MacKenzie, E. W. Macmillan, M. C. Macqueen, M. S. H. Makarim, O. A. S. Marais, E. G. L. Mark, W. H. C. Masters, J. S. Maxwell, F. O. Mell, Margaret MacK. Methven, G. R. Millar, B. Miller, R. A. Miller, R. Morrison, I. A. Murray, M. Niazi, J. C. Nicholson, A. A. Orr, H. G. Page, J. Park, A. Paterson, J. T. Paterson, H. O. Paton, J. H. Patterson, M. C. Pinkinsky, A. I. Pirie, J. E. Place, H. J. Pratap, A. G. Proverbs, †J. F. Riley, A. J. A. Robertson, K. V. A. Rodgers, J. M'G. Rogan, Leah Rosenbloom, J. B. Ross, C. S. Russell, D. Ryness, J. Scott, W. Serle, W. Simpson, Joan J. V. Spurway, H. Stalker, C. P. Stevens, D. Stevenson, N. F. Stocks, E. W. Stout, A. W. B. Strahan, Marian E. Sturrock, E. C. S. Talbot, A. N. Taylor, Alta F. Thompson, J. W. Thompson, C. H. Thomson, E. L. Thomson, G. M. Thomson, J. Tillman, C. H. Tomlinson, G. F. Valentine, Wilhelmina J. Wagenmaker, R. M. Warren, J. D. Watt, A. B. Weir, Frances M. H. Wilkinson, N. V. Williams, C. M. Wilson, J. F. Wilson, J. L. Wilson, †W. M'I. Wilson, K. M. Wood, D. Wyllie, P. B. Zollott.

DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC HEALTH.—J. F. Caithness, G. W. Gale (*in absentia*), D. R. Huggins, D. J. Morrison, H. P. Tait, C. A. Green, Elspeth M. Warwick, H. Waters.

DIPLOMA IN TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE.—C. Bowesman, A. B. Guild, A. Scott.

DIPLOMA IN PSYCHIATRY.—I. S. Campbell (*in absentia*), M. A. Kasr, C. M. Ross.

DIPLOMA IN RADIOLOGY.—J. A. C. Fleming, J. P. M'Gibbon, A. G. G. Melville, R. E. Verney.

* Commended for thesis. † Passed with honours.

The following prizes were presented: *Cameron Prize in Practical Therapeutics*: Julius Wagner-Jauregg, M.D., Emeritus Professor of Psychiatry and Neuropathology in the University of Vienna, in recognition of his discoveries regarding the malarial treatment of general paralysis. *Ettles Scholarship and Leslie Gold Medal, and Mouat Scholarship*

in the Practice of Physic: M. R. Ewing. *Scottish Association for Medical Education of Women Prize*: Frances M. H. Wilkinson. *Murchison Memorial Scholarship in Clinical Medicine*: W. M'I. Wilson. *Buchanan Scholarship in Midwifery and Gynaecology*: I. T. Fraser. *James Scott Scholarship in Midwifery and Gynaecology, and Wightman Prize in Clinical Medicine*: T. H. Brown. *Beane Prize in Anatomy and Surgery*: T. H. Brown and I. T. Fraser (equal). *Conan Doyle Prize*: J. N. I. Emblin. *Annandale Gold Medal in Clinical Surgery*: W. Simpson. *Royal Victoria Hospital Tuberculosis Trust Gold Medal*: D. A. Lowe. *Murdock Brown Silver Medal in Clinical Medicine*: A. F. M. Barron. *Dorothy Gilfillan Memorial Prize*: Margaret MacK. Methven. *Pattison Prize in Clinical Surgery, and Sir Robert Jones Prize in Orthopaedic Surgery*: Alta F. Thompson. *Syme Surgical Fellowship*: J. J. M. Brown. *Freeland Barbour Fellowship*: N. G. Steere. *M'Cosh Bursary*: F. J. C. Herrald. *Gunning Victoria Jubilee Prize in Public Health*: C. A. Green. *Gunning Victoria Jubilee Prize in Medicine*: I. MacKenzie and C. E. van Rooyen (jointly). *Wellcome Medals and Prizes in the History of Medicine*: Gold Medal, I. A. G. MacQueen; Silver Medal, E. J. Busher. *Cunningham Memorial Medal and Prize in Anatomy*: D. M. Sheppard; *prox. acc.*, J. M. Barkla.

An address was delivered to the new graduates by the Promotor, Professor R. W. Johnstone, C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.S.Ed., F.C.O.G.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH

A quarterly meeting of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh was held on July 16th, with the President, Dr. Edwin Bramwell, in the chair.

Dr. Sorab Kaikoshru Engineer (Bombay) and Dr. Alexander Hay Rintoul (Crieff) were introduced and took their seats as Fellows of the College.

Drs. Joseph Bryant (Khartum), Hanna Barsoum (Alexandria, Egypt), Ratan Kumar Misra (Delhi, India), and Pritam Varialsing Karamchandani (Waziristan, India) were elected Fellows.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF EDINBURGH

At a meeting of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh held on July 17th, Dr. A. A. H. Sinclair, President, was in the chair.

The following, having passed the requisite examinations, were admitted Fellows:

S. K. N. Chowdhury, E. Jonsson, P. C. Anderson, B. A. Armitage, H. Bell, A. A. Bonar, H. B. Boucher, J. A. P. Cameron, E. A. Davison, W. M. Dennison, K. C. Gharpure, J. P. Heron, B. Holden, J. M. Melvin, J. S. McGregor, D. J. P. Parker, E. R. Rankin, D. Swartz.

The Services

DEATHS IN THE SERVICES

Surgeon Captain John William Craig, R.N. (retired), died at Kirkcudbright on July 3rd. He was the eldest son of the late William Craig of Milnthorpe, Castle Douglas, and was educated at Edinburgh University, where he graduated M.B. and C.M. in 1893. Entering the Navy soon after graduation, he became surgeon commander on November 10th, 1910, and retired with an honorary step of rank as surgeon captain on January 1st, 1923. He served on H.M.S. *Agamemnon* in the Dardanelles, and was present at the evacuation of Suvla Bay.

Major Edmond Henry Myles, R.A.M.C. (retired), died at Folkestone on July 14th, aged 78. He was born at Limerick on December 10th, 1856, and was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he graduated B.A., M.B., and B.Ch. in 1878. Entering the Army as surgeon on March 6th, 1880, he became surgeon major after twelve years' service, and retired on December 6th, 1902. After retirement he was employed for a time in Guernsey in 1904. He served in the Burmese campaigns in 1885-9 (medal with two clasps) and in the Nile campaign of 1898, when he was present at the Battle of Khartum (medal, Egyptian medal, and clasp). His wife, Alice Caroline Myles, died four months ago.

Obituary

CHARLES GRAHAM GRANT, V.D., L.R.C.P. & S.Ed.

Late First Clerk of Arraigns, Central Criminal Court

We regret to record the death, at the age of 71, on July 17th, of Dr. Charles Graham Grant, who had a distinguished and varied career. He was the son of James Dundas Grant, an advocate in the Scottish Courts in Edinburgh, and the brother of Sir James Dundas-Grant. After studying medicine in Edinburgh and London, he qualified with the diplomas L.R.C.P. & S.Ed. in 1885. His first appointments were those of clinical assistant to the Central London Throat and Ear Hospital and clinical obstetrician to the Tower Hamlets Dispensary; he also served as a ship surgeon for a short time. There followed some twenty years of general practice in the East End of London, where he held the posts of surgeon to the H Division of the Metropolitan Police, medical officer of the Rotherhithe Tunnel works under the London County Council, surgeon to the Poplar Hospital, and medical officer of the East London district of the Post Office. Later on, in 1920, he published in his well-known book, *The Diary of a Police Surgeon*, a realistic account of his experiences in this capacity, which included the famous Sidney Street siege of 1911, at which he was officially present. The human interest of his writing, with its many pathetic, humorous, and macabre touches, made this a very popular book.

Dr. Grant was admitted to the Bar by Gray's Inn in 1910, but the war interrupted this new line of work soon after he had begun to immerse himself in it with his usual energy. Always a keen supporter of the old Volunteer Force, and ultimately a holder of its decoration for long service, he served in the Territorial branch of the R.A.M.C., retiring eventually with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, after having been principal medical officer at the camps at Richmond Park, Wimbledon, and Tadworth. Twenty years ago Dr. Grant was appointed First Clerk of Arraigns at the Central Criminal Court, Old Bailey; he always sat in the court of the late Common Serjeant, Sir Henry Dickens, with whom he maintained a close friendship. He published a well-devised little book entitled *Practical Forensic Medicine*, and in his earlier life he had often contributed to these columns on clinical and forensic subjects. He was elected a member of the British Medical Association in 1889, and was a vice-president of the Section of Forensic Medicine when the Association held its centenary meeting in London in 1932. Dr. Graham Grant was many-sided also in his hobbies and recreations. He wrote many songs and verses, and was a skilled pianist and organist, a great bridge player, and a good raconteur.

Dr. JESSIE H. GELLATLY, late assistant medical officer for Cambridgeshire, died in a Cambridge nursing home on June 30th after only a week's illness. Born in 1882, she was one of the earliest women students to pass through the Edinburgh medical school. She graduated M.B., Ch.B. in 1906, and M.D. 1910, the subject of her thesis being "The Glass Cubicle System of Isolation"; and in the same year she took the D.P.H. After acting as assistant medical officer with Messrs. Cadbury at Bournville for three years she was in 1914 appointed assistant medical officer at Cambridge. In 1916 she was granted leave for war work, and served with the R.A.M.C. first in Malta and then in Salonica. After the armistice she worked for the Serbian Relief Fund. On her return to Cambridge she was reappointed under the county council. For twenty-one years, until a week before her death, she carried out the various duties of her office, which included the visiting and inspection of nearly 130

schools twice annually. Her earlier visits were made on a bicycle. She was also giving regular courses of lectures on school hygiene to students of Homerton Training College for teachers, work for which her medical experience in schools specially fitted her. She was widely admired and respected in her public life for her brave and independent personality, and for the thoroughness and selflessness of her work. To a more intimate circle she proved a warm-hearted and loyal friend, whose shrewd judgement was always tempered by a generous, almost maternal, forbearance. She delighted to take a share in the upbringing of her friends' children, and this interest in healthy, happy children may well have been the motive for her life's work. Her friends and relatives are hoping to endow a child's cot at the local hospital in her memory. She leaves behind her many to whom her early death will prove an irreparable loss. Miss M. M. Allan writes: "For more than ten years Dr. Gellatly has lectured on school hygiene to the students of Homerton College. Her qualifications and experience made her contribution to the training of young teachers extraordinarily valuable, for her daily contact with the schools, with the problem of the maintenance of the health of school children, lent reality to her precepts. It was in this daily work in the schools that Dr. Gellatly made her most valuable contribution and formed some of her most lasting friendships. The school teachers in remote country districts found in her not only a wise counsellor but a friend interested in their personal lives, and in their homes as well as their schools she received a warm welcome."

We regret to record the death on July 12th of Dr. LEIGH DAY of Colchester, who was widely known as a first-rate general practitioner and a skilled surgeon, and had been in the past an enthusiastic worker for the British Medical Association. William Leigh Maule Day received his medical training at Oxford and Guy's Hospital. In 1902 he graduated M.B., B.Ch.Oxon, and obtained the diplomas M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. In Colchester he quickly built up a large general practice, with a specialist surgical side, and was surgeon to the Essex County Hospital, the Harwich Cottage Hospital, and the Severalls Mental Hospital. He was also medical officer to the Post Office and the Board of Education, an examiner for the General Nursing Council, and a medical officer for various insurance societies. During the war he held a commission in the R.A.M.C., and was a specialist in operative surgery with the rank of acting major at the Curragh from 1918 to 1919; at the end of the latter year his distinguished work was recognized by the award of the O.B.E. He was a medical referee under the Ministry of Pensions. Dr. Leigh Day joined the British Medical Association in 1903, and took at once a very active part in its activities. From 1905 to 1913 he was honorary secretary of the North-East Essex Division, and was a member of the Representative Body when the Association held its Annual Meeting at Liverpool. In March, 1914, he was presented with an engraved silver bowl by the members of that Division in recognition of his strenuous efforts on behalf of the medical profession generally and of the Division in particular. He contributed frequently to the columns of the *Journal* on surgical topics. He was a keen member of the Colchester Medical Society, and had been president. He had held office as chairman of the Essex Panel and Local Medical Committees.

The following well-known foreign medical men have recently died: Professor ALBERT PLEHN, formerly director of the Urban Hospital of Berlin, aged 74; and Dr. VICTOR MORAX, the eminent Paris ophthalmologist, member of the Académie de Médecine, aged 68.

We regret to announce, as we go to press, the death of Dr. JOSEPH HUNTER, who had been M.P. for Dumfriesshire since 1929. Dr. Hunter had held the offices of secretary and chairman of the Dumfries and Galloway Division of the British Medical Association, and for some years acted as representative to the Annual Representative Meeting.

mended by the Board provided the most effective means of securing that meals or milk were supplied to children who needed them in order that they might obtain full advantage from their education, and that under any other system many such children might be overlooked. While the system recommended by the Board was opposed by some local education authorities, many authorities selected children on the basis outlined in the circular. Mr. MORGAN JONES asked whether Mr. Stanley had taken advice on the legality of imposing on medical officers the onus of determining, before free milk or meals were provided, whether a child presented evidence of subnormal nutrition. Mr. STANLEY said all these points had been considered.

Dr. ADDISON asked if Mr. Stanley had availed himself of the advice given by experts a year ago on the necessity of these children receiving milk. No answer was returned.

N.H.I. Unclaimed Stamps Fund

Mr. THORNE, on July 18th, asked what was the balance in the unclaimed stamp fund in connexion with the National Health Insurance Act. Sir KINGSLEY WOOD replied that the annual balance in the national health insurance funds in respect of unclaimed stamps in recent years was estimated to be about £300,000, of which under the existing law nine-tenths was payable to the Central Fund and the remaining one-tenth was to be applied in such manner as might be prescribed. Final claims in respect of stamps were not received until long after the actual sales, so the total balance at any date cannot be ascertained until some years had elapsed. At the beginning of 1933 there was an estimated balance of about £850,000, which had not yet been divided between the Central Fund and other purposes for which the money was available. Some part of this balance must be reserved to safeguard the cost of the new maternity benefits under the present Bill. The Central Fund assisted approved societies.

Criminal Lunatics Bill

The Criminal Lunatics (Scotland) Bill passed through the report stage and was read a third time in the House of Commons on July 19th. During the report stage Mr. JAMIESON moved an amendment in fulfilment of a promise given to critics of the Bill in committee. Mr. Jamieson said his amendment, along with those inserted in committee, would provide that where a person serving a sentence was found to be insane, but his insanity was such that he was unsuitable to send to an ordinary asylum, he would be sent to a criminal lunatic asylum and opportunity would be given to have him examined by his own doctor. That doctor's report would be considered by the Secretary for Scotland, who would review the whole situation and make such order as might be necessary. On the expiry of the sentence, if the person was not yet fit to be set at liberty on account of his insanity and not fit to be sent to an ordinary asylum, certification to that effect would be given by two medical practitioners, one of whom was not to be in the prison service. An opportunity would be given at that time for the person to be examined by his own doctor, and the Secretary for Scotland, on receiving the reports, would consider the whole of the circumstances before making an order. Mr. Neil Maclean and Mr. Maxton thanked the Lord Advocate (Mr. Jamieson). Mr. MAXTON said he and his friends knew the difficulties that confronted those who were charged with the duty of dealing with the criminal lunatic, and were anxious not to make their task more difficult.

The House then agreed to the amendment and the Bill was read a third time without debate. It had already passed the House of Lords.

Medical Advice to Ministry of Health

On July 22nd Mr. R. S. HUDSON, replying to Mr. Whiteside, who asked if there was an independent tribunal of doctors to whom the Minister of Pensions referred in the event of divergence of opinion between the Ministry's doctors and other medical authorities, said that arrangements were in force which enabled him to obtain the independent advice of eminent specialists, nominated for the purpose by the

Presidents of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, in cases which presented serious doubt or difficulty on the evidence. Responsibility for the ultimate decision, except where an appeal could still be made to a statutory tribunal, must rest with the Minister. Mr. Whiteside further asked whether, as Henry Fisher of Brompton Row, Leeds, was totally unfit for work, and in view of the highest medical authority at the Leeds Infirmary his disability was due to a piece of shrapnel lodged in his chest, the Minister would consider increasing Fisher's pension. Mr. Hudson replied that in view of the strong opinion expressed by the surgeon at Leeds Infirmary, the whole case, including opinions in favour of the claim, was submitted to an eminent independent specialist nominated by the President of the Royal College of Physicians, who confirmed the view of the Department that, on the available evidence, it could not be said that Fisher's condition was due to the presence of a retained foreign body. Therefore Mr. Hudson could not increase the pension.

Supervisors of Manufacture of Pharmaceutical Preparations

Sir John Simon has promised to consider representations from Sir Ernest Graham-Little and others concerning the restrictions under the draft rules submitted by the Poisons Board of persons supervising the manufacture of pharmaceutical preparations containing any poison used in internal treatment of human ailments.

Coloured Population of Cardiff.—Mr. BALDWIN informed Captain Arthur Evans, on July 15th, that the report of the Joint Committee of the British Social Hygiene Council and the British Council of the Mercantile Marine on the conditions of the coloured and half-caste population domiciled in Cardiff would be considered by the departments concerned. Until that had been done it was not possible to say if a further inquiry into the subject was necessary.

Civilian Respirators.—Answering Mr. Mallalieu on July 18th, Sir JOHN SIMON said the respirators which the Home Office had at present arranged to obtain for civilian purposes would be supplied by the War Office. No orders had yet been placed for any other equipment for air raid precautions services.

Medical News

The House of the British Medical Association, including the Library, will be closed from 6 p.m. on Friday, August 2nd, to 9 a.m. on Tuesday, August 6th. For the purpose of necessary redecoration and repair the Library will be closed for three weeks from Saturday, August 10th.

The Royal College of Physicians of London will be closed for cleaning, etc., from Thursday, August 1st, to Saturday, September 14th, both days inclusive.

The Presidents and Councils of the Royal College of Physicians and the Royal College of Surgeons are holding receptions to meet the members of the International Neurological Congress on Tuesday evening, July 30th.

The annual meeting of council of the National Institute for the Deaf will be held in the Leo Bonn Memorial Hall, at the new headquarters, 105, Gower Street, W.C., on Tuesday, July 30th, at 3 p.m., with the president, Lord Charnwood, in the chair.

An International Congress for the Scientific Study of Population Problems will be held in Berlin from August 26th to September 1st, and will deal more particularly with births, racial hygiene, and the protection and maintenance of life. Papers will also be read on statistical inquiries; social, economic, and psychological topics affecting the community; and general questions relating to medicine, hygiene, and anthropology. Further information may be obtained from the Geschäftsstelle des Internationalen Kongresses für Bevölkerungswissenschaft, Einemstrasse 11, Berlin, W.62.

Under the auspices of the *Journal Suisse de Médecine* an international medical week will be held at Montreux from September 9th to 14th. Sir Henry Dale will read a paper on the pharmacology of ergot, and other speakers will deal with digitalis therapy and the prophylaxis of goitre. Vitamin and hormone therapy will also be discussed. Sessions have been arranged on internal pathology, paediatrics, cancer and radiotherapy, and balneology. Specially reduced terms will be available on the Swiss railways and in hotels. The fee for the congress is 10 Swiss francs. Further information may be obtained from the secretary of the Swiss Medical International Medical Week, Klosterberg 27, Basle.

The first International Congress on Transfusion of the Blood will be held at Rome from September 26th to 29th, when the following subjects, among others, will be discussed: the biological and clinical problems connected with the most recent indications for transfusion of the blood, by Professor A. M. Dogliotti of Turin; transfusion of the blood in infectious diseases, by Dr. A. Tzanck of Paris; the nature and treatment of haemolytic shock after transfusion of the blood, by Professor E. Hesse of Leningrad; and transfusion of the blood in the Army, by Professor A. Ritter of Münsterlingen.

The tenth International Congress of the History of Medicine, to be held at Madrid from September 23rd to the 29th, will include visits to Toledo, where the congress will be opened by the President of the Spanish Republic, the Escorial, the Silos and Guadalupe monasteries, receptions in Madrid itself, and an exhibition of manuscripts, books, and instruments of medico-historical interest. The chair at the scientific meetings will be taken in succession by Professors A. Capparoni of Padua, A. de Silva Carvalho of Lisbon, Victor Gomoiu of Bucarest, Laignel Lavastine of Paris, Sir Humphry Rolleston, the British delegate, and Professor G. Marañón, the president of the Congress. The Royal Society of Medicine will be represented by Dr. J. D. Rolleston and Dr. J. E. Halls Dally, and the University of Edinburgh by Dr. John Comrie.

The first Brazilian Congress on Cancer, which has been organized by the Brazilian Society of Medicine and Surgery, will be held at Rio de Janeiro from October 20th to 27th, when the subjects for discussion, among others, will be the clinical aspects of the precancerous stage, classification of cancer, and the mortality of cancer in Brazil. Further information can be obtained from the Executive Committee, Avenida Mem de Sa, Rio de Janeiro.

A post-graduate course in gynaecology will be held under the direction of Professor R. Proust at the Hôpital Broca, Paris, from September 16th to 28th. The fee is 200 francs.

The eleventh annual meeting of the American Association of the History of Medicine was dedicated to the memory of Joseph O'Dwyer of New York, who fifty years ago introduced his improved method of intubation for the treatment of laryngeal diphtheria.

With reference to the announcement of the twenty-eighth Voyage d'Etudes Médicales (*Journal*, July 6th, p. 46) we are now informed that circumstances beyond the control of the organizing committee have obliged them to cancel this tour.

The twelfth annual report of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, on the diphtheria mortality in the ninety-three cities of the United States with a population of 100,000 or over, shows that the diphtheria death rate per 100,000 inhabitants ranged from 1.63 for the Middle Atlantic States to 7 in the East South Central. Of the fifteen cities without a single death from diphtheria in 1934 four were in New England, four in the Mountain and Pacific States, three from both the Middle Atlantic and East North Central groups, and one from the West North Central group.

The issue of *Wiener medizinische Wochenschrift* for July 13th is dedicated, on the occasion of his seventieth birthday, to the well-known abdominal surgeon Professor Julius Schnitzler, brother of the late Arthur Schnitzler, the novelist and playwright, who was also a member of the medical profession.

A new medical society, named the "Viellon d'Ingres," has been founded in Paris for doctors who are fond of literature and the arts. Further information can be obtained from Dr. Groc, 14, Rue des Minimes, Paris.

The first meeting of the Italian Society of Haematology was recently held at Pavia, under the presidency of Professor Ferrata.

The King has confirmed the appointment of Dr. Lawson Gifford and Major Thomas John Hallinan, C.B.E., to be nominated members of the Legislative Council of the Island of Jamaica.

Professors A. Bochard and O. Nordmann have succeeded Professor Korte, who has reached the age of 82, in the editorship of the *Archiv für klinische Chirurgie*.

Professor Arthus of Lausanne has been awarded the Monaco prize of 100,000 francs for his work on the physiology of poisons.

Dr. Tanon, professor of hygiene in the Paris Faculty of Medicine and member of the Superior Council of Hygiene of France, has been elected a member of the Académie de Médecine in the Section of Hygiene.

The general mortality at Buenos Aires has fallen from 22.8 per 1,000 in 1855 to 20 in 1900, 14.3 in 1920, 12.7 in 1928, and 12.3 in 1931, and the typhoid mortality from 88.6 per 100,000 inhabitants in 1870 to 23.5 in 1900, 10 in 1920, 4.5 in 1928, and 2.7 in 1931.

Busts of Koch and Röntgen have been added to the German Museum at Munich, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of its foundation.

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

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QUERIES AND ANSWERS

Alopecia in Early Life

Dr. S. S. HOFFMANN (Ladysmith) writes: I shall be indeed grateful if any of your readers can suggest treatment in a case of alopecia areata which seems to be running a rapid and hopeless course. The patient is a girl aged 14. In addition to the usual rubefacients, ultra-violet ray treatment, and endocrine preparations, a careful search was made for a possible septic focus, but without success.

Car Sickness in Children

"H. V." writes: Will any readers advise me as to a remedy for "car sickness" in children? My small girl, aged 3½ years, is a real sufferer, and it is impossible to take her any distance without sickness coming on. As I am hoping to go away for my annual holiday shortly the question is becoming acute.