

Carbon Monoxide.—This gas has no smell, and, owing to its power of combining with haemoglobin, is dangerous. It is incorrect to suppose that it is normally present in harmful quantities in the products of combustion. The committee has examined a large amount of experimental and statistical evidence, which shows that any fears of carbon monoxide poisoning from flueless gas heaters as normally used are without foundation. There must be some serious defect in the appliance or in its installation for carbon monoxide to be produced in harmful amounts. The production of carbon monoxide from normal flueless gas heaters is less than 1 cubic foot per 1,000 cubic feet of gas burned, which under conditions of overheating might lead to a concentration in the room air of 10 parts per million, or one-tenth of that which is the safe limit for industrial workers under conditions of continuous exposure.

Summary

The committee has examined all the available evidence on the ventilation of flueless rooms and the warming of them by flueless heaters. Since the air change in such rooms may be as small as 1 per hour, it is open to serious doubt whether a degree of ventilation of this low order can be regarded as satisfactory whatever the nature of the heating, and whether this modern tendency in housing construction is, from the point of view of health and comfort, in the best interests of the community. More information is needed on this subject.

Any form of heating in small unventilated rooms which tends to lead to accumulations of hot stagnant air is objectionable. In this respect flueless gas heaters are no better and no worse than alternative appliances. Any risk to health from the inhalation of products of combustion from flueless gas heaters is discounted by the fact that, even with an air change as low as 1 per hour, discomfort from overheating would be experienced long before harmful concentrations of such products would be reached.

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS IN TUBERCULOSIS

The Medical Research Council announces that it has made the following awards of Dorothy Temple Cross Fellowships for the academic year 1935-6, under the terms of the benefaction in that name for research fellowships in tuberculosis:

GOFFREY BERNARD BROOK, D.Sc.Ed., M.R.C.V.S., Senior Assistant Veterinary Officer, Derbyshire County Council.

JAMES WALLACE CRAIG, M.D.Dub., Assistant Medical Officer, King Edward VII Sanatorium, Midhurst, Sussex.

ALFRED HENRY BRIAN RHODES, M.B.Glas., House-Physician, Brompton Hospital, London.

The July meeting of the London Association of the Medical Women's Federation was held at the British Post-Graduate Medical School, Ducane Road, Shepherd's Bush. After welcoming the members to this new school Professor Francis R. Fraser noted the broad differences between the types of clinical cases seen at Hammersmith Hospital of the London County Council, to which it was attached, and those seen at the voluntary hospitals. He showed some typical cases of rheumatoid arthritis, demonstrating the difference in mobility of joints and in general well-being between cases which had come under observation and treatment at an early stage and those which had been neglected. He emphasized the importance of keeping the joints moving, and the value of heat, however applied, in treatment. He also showed cases of osteoarthritis, and contrasted cases of heart disease in which the primary failure was on the right and on the left side. Finally Professor Fraser showed a child with blue sclerotics and fragile bones. After the meeting the members were shown round the pathological department of the school.

INTERNATIONAL NEUROLOGICAL CONGRESS IN LONDON

LATER PROCEEDINGS

The second International Neurological Congress, the early part of which was reported in the last issue (p. 223), ended its numerous and busy sessions on August 2nd. Before leaving London it was resolved, on the proposition of Professor VIGGO CHRISTIANSEN, to hold the third congress at Copenhagen four years hence. A large minority desired to meet in Paris, and the conflict of views almost led to "international complications." Three different methods of counting heads had to be employed before the Danish capital was chosen.

This second congress was predominantly German-speaking, but except in the business sessions there was no demand for interpretation, and apparently everybody understood everybody else. Even humour, which is the first thing to perish in translation, managed to "get across" the polyglot assembly. In the discussion on the hypothalamus, for example, there was general laughter at the description by a German speaker of how in a case of diabetes insipidus a transplant was made of the posterior lobe of the hypophysis from an alcohol addict, whereupon the patient, an abstemious man, developed an irresistible craving for cognac, for which he was treated in a psychiatric clinic!

Although the members sat closely to the scientific discussions, a certain amount of outside entertainment was enjoyed. An official reception was given at Lancaster House by the Government, and there were receptions also at the Royal College of Physicians, the Royal College of Surgeons, and the Royal Society of Medicine. Those interested in the social and institutional aspects of epilepsy spent a day at Lingfield Epileptic Colony, where 250 children and 200 adults are resident, and there an informal discussion took place on the types of institutional treatment in various countries. The congress banquet, followed by dancing, took place at Grosvenor House, Park Lane. Another event, not strictly of the congress, but held in association therewith, was the delivery by Professor OTFRID FOERSTER of Breslau of the Hughlings Jackson Memorial Lecture of the Section of Neurology of the Royal Society of Medicine. Professor Foerster discussed the motor cortex in man in the light of Jackson's doctrine. The lecture, which was delivered in B.M.A. House, is the subject of a leading article (see p. 260).

It was gratifying to observe the acclaim with which Hughlings Jackson's name was greeted by Continental neurologists. One of the papers, by Dr. OTTO SITTING of Prague, was on Jackson's views of consciousness and the unconscious, in which it was pointed out that Jackson held a view on the unconscious similar to that of Freud, an anticipation of the founder of psycho-analysis which seemed to have escaped notice up to now. Jackson held that if in disease, insanity, or the dream state the anatomical substrata of object-consciousness—the highest level—were put out of function, the anatomical substrata of subject-consciousness—the next lower level—were raised into greater activity. The positive symptoms of insanity thus came out of the unconscious. Dr. KINNIER WILSON, a Jackson disciple, who presided over this session, said how interesting it was to have one more instance of Jackson's anticipation of things which only became common knowledge after his time and were associated with another name.

Functions of the Frontal Lobe

An unfortunate feature of the congress was the tendency of many speakers to exceed the time limit, with the result that general discussion was constricted. On the morning

personality and friendly sportsmanship. The demands of active service called forth the best of his characteristics, and there his courage, his industry, and his conscientiousness in the face of danger or in the presence of fatigue was the subject of comment by all who knew him, either as brother officers or in the ranks. One who saw much service with him in France writes:

When I joined them (the 10th R.I.F.) I found that Dr. S. E. Picken, in spite of his youth and inexperience, had established himself as a very efficient medical officer, and had identified himself heart and soul with the battalion, which he served so faithfully till the end of the war. We have often seen him with absorbed and pitying face, skilful hands, and infinite patience, spending hours in trying to make the waiting easier for some tortured soul. Many to-day, looking at their visible scars, will bless Sammy Picken for smoothing the first hours of shock and pain, and for seeing that they were sent back with all speed to quieter regions. Sammy was a battalion M.O., a front line doctor, during all his time in France. It was his own choice. . . . I remember a dressing station, with a wooden cross at the entrance marking the grave of the previous medical officer, a distinguished V.C. with bar, and a "pill box" in the salient swimming with water, shelled night and day—a death trap, because from our point of view the door was turned the wrong way. These were some of the residences which Dr. Picken had to occupy in the performance of a duty he never shirked. He did not talk much, but he had a keen sense of humour, which made him a delightful companion. He rejoiced in the quaint sayings and extraordinary actions of his men, and he was in his glory when a "rag" was in progress, and was ever ready to lend a helping hand. When Sam Picken was promoted, when he was mentioned in dispatches, when he was decorated, there was no doubt about the approval of all who knew him. We felt no honour could repay him for what he had done for all of us, and indeed the honour he valued most was the enduring place which he held in the hearts of thousands of men. That he should have earned such a reputation for courage in a battalion that was noted all over the Western Front for its dash, its reckless bravery, its grim determination to do or die, speaks for itself.

W. HOWARD JONES, M.B., B.S.

Anaesthetist and Lecturer on Anaesthetics, Charing Cross Hospital

The sudden death, on July 26th, of Dr. W. Howard Jones, the well-known London anaesthetist, was briefly announced in last week's *Journal*.

William Howard Jones was born in 1881, and received his medical education in Manchester and at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, obtaining the English Conjoint diplomas in 1906 and the M.B., B.S. degrees of the University of London in 1913. For some years he was anaesthetist to the Metropolitan Hospital and to St. Mark's Hospital, and during the war he was a member of the visiting staff of the King George Military Hospital. At the time of his death he was honorary surgeon-anaesthetist at Charing Cross Hospital and lecturer on anaesthetics in the medical school; senior anaesthetist to the National Temperance Hospital in Hampstead Road; and anaesthetist to the Royal Ear Hospital, the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, and the Gordon Hospital for Diseases of the Rectum. He had long been an active member of the Anaesthetic Section of the Royal Society of Medicine, and was honorary secretary of the Association of Anaesthetists.

Dr. Howard Jones joined the British Medical Association in 1911, and at the Bournemouth Meeting last year was vice-president of the Section of Anaesthetics. Several papers by him appeared in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society of Medicine*; in particular, one on the use of chloroform and the abuse of ether, and another on percaïne as a regional and spinal analgesic with special reference to high thoracic nerve root block. He also

contributed articles on tracheal insufflation and intubation inhalation to the *Lancet*, and on spinal analgesia to the *British Journal of Anaesthesia*.

Mr. NORMAN C. LAKE sends the following appreciation:

The passing of Howard Jones deserves more than an ordinary obituary notice, for his death is one which can be said in truth to be a real loss to medicine. His contributions to our knowledge of spinal anaesthesia and its technique are so well known that it would be redundant to refer to them.

It was my very great privilege to co-operate, in some small way, with him during the preliminary work which led to his introduction of spinal anaesthesia with hypobaric large-bulk solutions of very dilute percaïne, and of my many interesting and pleasant memories of that period the one that stands out most distinctly is the unerring way in which his instincts and experience directed him to a correct solution of the many problems which arose in connexion with the work. The method is now so well known and universally used that it seems impossible to believe that only six years ago Jones was bemoaning the fact that there was then no chemical known sufficiently powerfully anaesthetic to allow of its use in hypobaric solutions without the addition of levitating agents. I mention this to show that the idea underlying the method was already present in his mind before he knew of percaïne.

His skill as an anaesthetist was, however, by no means limited to spinal administrations, but extended to all the many varieties of modern anaesthesia. Never once over the long period that he was associated with me did I have a moment's anxiety from the anaesthetic point of view—a wonderful record for over three thousand administrations, of which some six or seven hundred were high spinals administered by his own method. Rumours that the results of his method were not as good as had been stated were of course entirely without foundation. This is not the time to enter into a discussion of anaesthetic methods, but the truth is that in the long series mentioned above there was no fatality, no anxiety, and only two failures, due (as he himself was the first to acknowledge) to faulty technique. Such results indicate a skill of a very high order, and, in consequence, his services were in great demand from doctors and surgeons when they themselves had to undergo severe abdominal operations, and there can be no surer test of a man's real ability.

Of his personality much might be written, for it was a very well-marked and pleasant one. Anaesthesia in all its aspects was his main interest, and nothing gave him greater pleasure than to discuss his methods with the many distinguished visitors from all parts of the world who came to learn his technique. His interests, however, extended to many other subjects, including engineering, especially as applied to the construction of anaesthetic apparatus. He had a very complete workshop in his house in which he constructed a good deal of the apparatus which he used. His death has deprived medicine of a very original thinker, a wonderful technician, and a well-beloved man, a loss which it can ill afford.

The following well-known foreign medical men have recently died: Professor HUGO DE VRIES, founder of the theory of mutation, at Amsterdam, aged 87; Dr. GERMAIN ROGUE, honorary professor of clinical medicine at the Lyons Faculty of Medicine; Dr. PHILIPPE TISSIÉ, a pioneer of physical culture in France; Dr. F. LÜTZHÖFT, an eminent physician and medical historian of Copenhagen, aged 77; and Professor FRANCESCO CAMPIONE, director of the School of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Bari.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

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

B.M.—A. H. Hunt, T. W. H. Porter, A. Fearnley, K. C. Royes, N. E. R. Archer.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The John Lucas Walker Studentship for original research in pathology, valued at £300 a year for three years, has been awarded to Mrs. Muriel Elaine Adair, Ph.D., of Girton College. The Gwynneath Pretty Studentship for the encouragement of research in the aetiology, pathology, or treatment of disease, valued at £200 a year for three years, has been awarded to R. Passmore, B.M., of Brasenose College, Oxford, to whom also the Nita King Research Scholarship for original research in the aetiology, pathology, and prevention of fevers, valued at £58 a year for three years, has been awarded.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

The following have been recognized as teachers of the University in the subjects indicated in parentheses:

St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College: Dr. E. P. Cumberbatch (Physical Medicine).

St. Mary's Hospital Medical School: Dr. D. H. Brinton (Neurology); Dr. W. D. W. Brooks (Medicine); Dr. G. B. M. Heggs (Dermatology).

At a meeting of the Senate on July 17th it was reported that Professor A. E. Boycott had resigned the Graham Chair of Pathology at University College Hospital Medical School owing to ill-health.

A grant of £25 has been made out of the Thomas Smythe Hughes Medical Research Fund and the Beaverbrook Fund for the year 1935-6 to Dr. H. F. Rosenberg for apparatus and animals for an oscillographic investigation of electrotonic and action potentials in nerve, the research to be carried out at the Physiology Department of London Hospital Medical College.

The Senate resolved that the list of subjects in which teachers in the Faculty of Medicine may be recognized be amended by the addition of the subject "Physical Medicine."

The regulations regarding exemption from the second Examination for Medical Degrees, Part I, for internal students (*Red Book*, 1934-5, p. 203), were amended by the substitution for paragraph 3 (ii) of the following:

Students who have passed as internal students the B.Sc. (Special) Examination in Chemistry, or the B.Sc. (General) Examination with Chemistry, will be exempted from the course of study for the Second Examination for Medical Degrees, Part I, and from that Examination.

The regulations for the M.D. Examination, Branch V (Hygiene), for internal students (*Red Book*, 1934-5, p. 225), were amended as follows:

(1) By the addition of the words "unless specially exempted under Clause A below" after the word "previously" in the second paragraph under the heading "Branch V, Hygiene."

(2) By the addition of the following after the third paragraph under the heading "Branch V, Hygiene":

A. Candidates who have either

(i) Taken the M.B., B.S. degrees with honours in medicine, pathology, or forensic medicine and hygiene; or

(ii) Subsequently to taking the M.B., B.S. degrees conducted a piece of original work approved for the purpose by the University; or

(iii) Subsequently to taking the M.B., B.S. degrees had such exceptional experience in the branch in which they present themselves as may be approved by the University;

may present themselves for the M.D. Examination after an interval of one year only from the time of taking the M.B., B.S. degrees, provided that they comply in other respects with the conditions stated in the preceding paragraphs.

It was resolved that in and after 1936 the regulations regarding admission to the Third Examination for Medical Degrees (*Red Book*, 1934-5, p. 216; *Blue Book*, September, 1934, p. 259) be amended by the addition of the following footnote:

"Candidates who pass the Second Examination for Medical Degrees, Part II, in July of any year will be permitted to enter for the Third Examination for Medical Degrees in May three years later, provided that they have completed the required hospital and clinical appointments."

The regulations relating to exemption from the Second Examination for Medical Degrees, Part I (*Blue Book*, September, 1934, p. 246) were amended for examinations in and after 1936 by the deletion of paragraph 3 and the substitution therefor of the following:

External Students who have passed the B.Sc. Special Examination in Chemistry, the B.Sc. Special Examination with Chemistry as their subsidiary subject, or the B.Sc. General Examination with Chemistry, will be exempted from the Second Examination for Medical Degrees, Part I.

M. P. Ellis, M.D., F.R.C.S., has been re-elected to the Duveen Studentship for a further year.

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

A. C. Fisher has been approved by the Board of Examiners for the degree of M.D.

Medical Notes in Parliament

[FROM OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT]

In the House of Lords on Friday, August 2nd, the Royal Assent was given to ninety-three Acts. These included the India Bill, the University of Durham Bill, the Housing Bill, the Scottish Housing Bill, the British Sugar (Subsidy) Bill, the National Health Insurance Bill, the Restriction of Ribbon Development Bill, four Ministry of Health Provisional Order Confirmation Bills relating to various hospitals, the West Riding of Yorkshire Mental Hospitals Board (Superannuation) Bill, and St. Bartholomew's Hospital Bill.

The Voluntary Hospitals (Paying Patients) Bill was read a second time without debate in the House of Commons on July 31st. It has been sent to Standing Committee C, and there is a strong expectation that it will pass into law after the recess. It has already passed the House of Lords.

The Hours of Employment (Conventions) Bill was brought from the Lords on July 25th and received a first reading in the Commons. It proposes to implement draft International Conventions relating to the employment of women during the night and to hours of work in automatic sheet-glass works, and to amend the law relating to the hours of employment of women holding responsible positions of management who are not ordinarily engaged in manual work. The Bill will apply, with modifications, to Northern Ireland. The Night Work (Women) Convention (Revised), 1934, which the Bill is to implement, provides (Article 3) that: "Women without distinction of age shall not be employed during the night in any public or private industrial undertaking, or in any branch thereof, other than an undertaking in which only members of the same family are engaged." The competent authority in each country is to define the line which separates industry from commerce and agriculture. This convention does not apply to women in responsible positions as defined above.

A Bill to make provision for the employment of women and young persons in factories and workshops on a system of shifts was presented by Sir John Simon in the Commons on July 31st, and was read a first time.

The Voluntary Hospitals (Paying Patients) Bill had been on the order paper of the House of Commons for some time awaiting second reading after passing the House of Lords. Up to July 30th progress had not been made with it. A Lobby report asserted that the British Medical Association desired a further drafting amendment in the Bill.

B.M.A. Report on Alcohol and Road Accidents

On July 31st Sir FRANCIS FREMANTLE asked whether the Minister of Transport had considered the report of the committee of the British Medical Association on the influence of

Captain EUAN WALLACE replied that the Government would only recommend the use of respirators that would afford protection against all known forms of gas which it would be practicable to use in war, for periods believed to be sufficient for the wearers to reach safety. Persons who might have to remain at work in gassed areas would need respirators giving a longer period of protection. It was not at present possible to quote precise figures of the duration of protection of different types of respirators. There was no reason to anticipate any difficulty in the supply of materials for the full number of respirators required.

Health Conditions in Hopfields

Sir KINGSLEY WOOD told Sir Percy Harris on August 1st that his attention had been called to the report of the medical officer who visited the West Kent hopfields last year and inspected the camps. He did not consider that there would be any advantage in publishing this report, and he was not aware that any extracts from it had been quoted in the report of the local medical officer of health. After consideration of the report of its medical officer the Ministry addressed appropriate communications to the local authorities concerned, with whom it rested to secure proper conditions for the hop-pickers. Sir Kingsley added that he had arranged for one of the medical officers of his Department to visit some of the hopfields in Kent again this year, both before and after the arrival of the hop-pickers. He was also arranging for another of the medical officers to visit some of the hopfields in Worcestershire and Herefordshire.

Health in Offices

Captain Wallace is not at present able to make a statement about legislation for amendment of the Factory Acts. The position of offices in relation to provisions of the existing Public Health Acts is under consideration, but Captain Wallace doubts whether legislation of the character of the Factory Acts would be appropriate to offices.

District Medical Officer Appointments.—On July 25th Dr. O'DONOVAN asked if the Minister of Health knew that the last appointment of a medical officer for the Accrington No. 2 district was not made in accordance with Section 160 of the Public Assistance Order, 1930, which governed the residential qualifications of the district medical officer appointed. Sir KINGSLEY WOOD replied that Article 160 of the Public Assistance Order, 1930, empowered the county council in any particular case to depart for special reasons from the requirement that a district medical officer should reside within the district assigned to him.

Sick Leave of Civil Servants.—On July 29th Mr. DUFF COOPER informed Mr. H. Williams that statistics relating to the sick absences of some 50,000 established non-industrial Civil Servants in certain large Government departments, other than the Post Office, indicated that the average number of days sick leave per annum taken by men and women during the years 1932, 1933, and 1934 was: men (disabled), 11.8; men (others), 8.6; women, 12.9. Corresponding figures for the Post Office, relating to about 160,000 established persons, were: men (disabled), 15.1; men (others), 10.7; women, 12.2.

Paratyphoid in Essex.—Answering Mr. Thorne on August 1st, Sir KINGSLEY WOOD said twenty-one cases of paratyphoid were notified in the urban districts of Grays Thurrock, Purfleet, and Tilbury, and the rural district of Orsett, in the six weeks ending July 27th. The outbreak had been under investigation by the medical officer of health, and a visit had been paid by a medical officer of the Ministry of Health. All cases were promptly isolated and routine disinfection carried out. The cause of the outbreak had not yet been determined, but investigations were in progress.

School Meals and the Means Test.—Replying, on August 1st, to a discussion about the provision of school children's meals, Colonel MUIRHEAD said since March only thirty cases had been reported of children being withdrawn from school meals because that provision was taken into consideration in assessing the means of their unemployed parents. The Unemployment Assistance Board and the Board of Education were consulting on the matter. Complete reports had been called for, but were not yet in hand.

Diphtheria in Liverpool.—Asked about diphtheria cases occurring in Liverpool during the last seven years, Sir KINGSLEY WOOD, on August 1st, circulated the following information supplied by the local authority: Number of children under 10 years inoculated from 1928 to 1934 inclusive, 19,504; number of cases of diphtheria occurring in those children, 60; number of fatal cases, 4.

District Welfare Organization.—The Miners' Welfare Committee is approaching the various district committees with a view to separate surveys being made of the welfare facilities available in each district. A welfare organizer has recently been appointed for Northumberland, who will begin a survey of that district shortly.

Medical News

Dr. Griffith Evans, the Welsh medical and veterinary centenarian, to whose pioneer work in tropical pathology reference is made at page 274, celebrated his hundredth birthday at Bryn Kynallt, Bangor, on Wednesday, August 7th. Telegrams of congratulation were received by him from the King and Queen and the Prince of Wales, and Sir Frederick Hobday brought a scroll from the Royal Veterinary College signed by its president the Duke of Gloucester. Dr. Evans has been a member of the British Medical Association since 1874.

The National Baby Week Council (117, Piccadilly, W.1) is offering challenge trophies for propaganda: (a) The "Astor (1931)" and "Kettering" shields for the best propaganda on the welfare of the child from 2 to 5 years of age; (b) The "William Hardy" Challenge Shield and the "Gwen Geffen" Rose Bowl to women's institutes for the best scheme of maternity and child welfare propaganda for a rural area.

The prize distribution and conversazione of the Royal Dental Hospital of London School of Dental Surgery will be held at the hospital, 32, Leicester Square, W.C., on Friday, October 4th, at 8 p.m., when Sir Francis Dyke Acland, chairman of the Dental Board, will preside.

The American Chemical Society will hold its Californian meeting from August 19th to 23rd at San Francisco. On August 20th the Division of Biological Chemistry will combine with the Divisions of Agricultural and Food Chemistry and of Medicinal Chemistry for two sessions, the first being on elements required in small amounts in animal nutrition, and the second on vitamins. A further symposium, on proteins and amino-acids, will be held on August 21st.

A series of post-graduate lectures on tuberculosis will be given in the lecture theatre at King's College Hospital Medical School, on Thursdays at 9 p.m., from October 3rd to December 12th, both dates inclusive. The following is a detailed list of the lectures: October 3rd, Dr. J. L. Livingstone, diagnosis of early tuberculosis; October 10th, Dr. Wilfrid Sheldon, tuberculosis in children; October 17th, Dr. R. R. Trail, sanatorium treatment of tuberculosis; October 24th, Mr. J. B. Hunter, surgical treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis; October 31st, Dr. William Brand, the public health aspect of tuberculosis; November 7th, Dr. Hugh Davies, radiographic types of pulmonary tuberculosis; November 14th, Mr. St. J. D. Buxton, tubercle of bones and joints; November 21st, Mr. John Everidge, genito-urinary tuberculosis; November 28th, Mr. V. E. Negus, tuberculosis of ear, nose, and throat; December 5th, Mr. E. G. Muir, visceral tuberculosis; December 12th, Dr. E. Mapother, the psychology of the tuberculous patient. The lectures are free to all medical practitioners and to final-year students of King's College Hospital.

The forty-second Italian Congress of Surgery will be held at Bologna under the presidency of Professor Raffaele Paolucci from October 21st to 24th, when the following subjects will be discussed: cysts and tumours of the lung, and thrombosis, embolism, and mediastinitis, in conjunction with the Italian Society of Internal Medicine.

An international introductory course on homoeopathy is being organized by the Berlin Academy for Post-Graduate Medical Training from October 14th to November 9th in Berlin; fee 75 marks (40 marks for surgical assistant). During the course drugs will be tested on healthy persons. Those taking part will also be afforded facilities by the Association of Homoeopathic Physicians and the University Polyclinic. For detailed programmes application should be made to the Geschäftsstelle der Berliner Akademie für ärztliche Fortbildung, 7, Robert Koch Platz (Kaiserin Friedrich-Haus), Berlin, N.W.7.

The International Union against the Venereal Peril and the International League of Red Cross Societies have decided to hold an international maritime conference to study the questions relating to the prophylaxis and treatment of venereal diseases among trading seamen. The Geneva conference will be preceded by preparatory national conferences in each country.

The annual meeting of the council of the National Institute for the Deaf was held on July 30th at the new headquarters, 105, Gower Street, W.C. In the absence of Lord Charnwood, the president, Mr. M. Birley took the chair. The report for the past year recorded a further period of rapid expansion of work among the deaf. Satisfaction was expressed that the work of school medical services, infant welfare clinics, and special hospitals was reducing the incidence of acquired deafness among school children. The report also warned deaf persons against quacks, and advised them to seek medical assistance before purchasing aids to hearing. A list of approved firms who supply aids is kept at the institute.

The international Florence Nightingale medal has been awarded to Frau Friederike Zehetner of the Wilhelmina Hospital, Vienna.

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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QUERIES AND ANSWERS

Car Sickness in Children

Dr. A. HAWKYARD (Leeds) writes: I should like to thank the members of the B.M.A. who kindly answered my query about motor car sickness. My patient obtained most benefit from tablets called "White Wings," made in Ipswich, the composition, stated on the box, being natrii brom. 0.389 gram, hyoscin. hydrobrom. 0.216 mg.

Dr. SIDNEY MATTHEWS (Crawley) writes in reply to "H. V." with reference to car sickness: (1) Sit in front of car; (2) take small dose of chloretone before starting and repeat during journey if necessary.

Dr. W. E. BOYD (Glasgow) writes in reply to "H. V." (July 27th, p. 193): The symptomatology produced by cocculus suggests that it might prove of help. One powder of this drug in the 200 potency given prior to the journey, combined with glucose barley sugar during the journey, has helped many of my small patients and my own children. Nelson (Duke Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.) supply it.

Treatment of Tapeworm

Dr. S. P. WILSON (Wakefield) writes to suggest that "J. R. F. P." (August 3rd, p. 242) might like to try the method described by Dr. P. W. Philip in the *Journal* of March 9th, 1935 (p. 514)—namely, administering chloroform in simple syrup, followed by castor oil.

Income Tax

Replacements

"R. L." replaced five broken electric-light brackets in his surgery with new ones, and replaced the coal-fire grate by an anthracite stove—the grate needed repairing. The inspector of taxes claims that the expenditure represents alterations or improvements, and is not allowable.

* * The inspector is correct, but only as regards that part of the total expenditure which would exceed (a) the cost of replacing the brackets with similar ones plus (b) the cost of repairing the grate. That expenditure is, as it were, embedded in the total cost, and is allowable as being incurred on replacements and repairs.

LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

Preventive Medicine Up to Date

"H. E. G." writes: In this age of preventive medicine the following drama shows the attitude of the education authorities. *Act 1:* A girl attending the village school develops mumps. I give a certificate stating that her brother should be in quarantine, and should stay away from the county school, which he is attending. *Act 2:* His head master sends a note to the effect that the education mandarins care for none of these precautions, and that the boy should return to school. *Act 3:* My winged words on this attitude are evidently repeated, and not only wring the withers of the schoolmaster, but call forth a long explanation from the school medical officer, of which the gist, reading between the lines, is that the record of attendances and the money grants in connexion are of more account than the health of the community. *Act 4:* The brother develops mumps, having in all probability infected some of his schoolfellows, who would otherwise have escaped. The last laugh is certainly with me, and this only shows that sometimes that despised animal, the G.P., has more *vous* than the pundits in Government departments.

A Question of Nomenclature

Dr. JAMES C. WATT (Lindsey, Hadleigh, Suffolk) writes: May one protest against the use of such jargon as that of the title of the paper in the *British Medical Journal* of August 3rd—"Nutritional Iron-deficiency Anaemia." If it means anything, this title would seem to mean "Anaemia, accompanied, or caused by deficiency of iron, having a nutritional value." I think one may quite properly remark that the authors would have done better by sticking to English, and entitled their essay, "Anaemia due to Deficiency of Iron in the Diet."

"Punch" Among the Doctors

Original drawings illustrating medical humour, chiefly arising out of situations between doctor and patient, which have appeared in the pages of *Punch* during the past eighty-five years or so, are to be shown in the Pump Room at Bath for four weeks, opening on August 10th. The collection was first made for the Centenary Meeting of the British Medical Association, but many members of the profession may not have seen the drawings, and others will be glad to renew their acquaintance. Bath, which in its long history as a therapeutic centre has itself not been without its medical humour, seems to be a particularly appropriate place for such an exhibition.

Vacancies

Notifications of offices vacant in universities, medical colleges, and of vacant resident and other appointments at hospitals, will be found at pages 36, 37, 38, 39, 42, and 43 of our advertisement columns, and advertisements as to partnerships, assistantships, and locum tenencies at pages 40 and 41.

A short summary of vacant posts notified in the advertisement columns appears in the *Supplement* at page 100.