

case under investigation was always clear. Asked finally whether it was conceivable that tablets taken in this occasional way, and apparently not at all during the last three weeks, could have had any effect in accelerating death, Sir William Willcox replied that he was quite satisfied in this case that they could not.

Mr. F. E. HELMSLEY, general manager of the Yeast-Vite Company, said that the annual sale of the tablets exceeded thirteen hundred million. There had been no complaint as to any deleterious effect, but when amidopyrine was recently criticized by certain experts at the Poisons Board his company, from May of this year, substituted another constituent for amidopyrine, and all "yeast-vite" tablets issued since last June had had amidopyrine excluded. With regard to the formula on the bottle and packet, if a drug consisted of more than one constituent such formula had to be given.

The CORONER, in summing up, said that agranulocytosis was discovered in 1922 by Schultz, but he thought most of the cases in which amidopyrine was implicated were recorded during the last two years. Amidopyrine poisoning was very fatal, and it might be that some restraint should be placed on the sale of this drug. The view of the medical witnesses in this case, however, was that this was a death due to septicaemia in association with septic teeth, though Mr. Ryffell found in a section of the liver a substance which resembled pyramidon.

The jury agreed that death was due to septicaemia arising from dental sepsis, and the coroner returned a verdict to that effect.

ALLEGED TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASE BY UNREGISTERED PRACTITIONER

On November 9th and 28th, at Marylebone Police Court, before Mr. Reginald McKenna, Mr. Robert Vivian Storer of Cavendish Square, W., appeared on four summonses that, not being a qualified medical practitioner, he had, for reward, treated two patients for venereal disease, that he prescribed a remedy, and, by advertisement, offered to treat any person for the disease, contrary to the Venereal Diseases Act, 1917. In May last the General Medical Council ordered Mr. Storer's name to be erased from the *Medical Register*, following a charge of having advertised in the lay press a clinic for the treatment of these diseases (*Supplement*, June 8th, 1935, p. 248).

After the removal of his name from the *Register* Mr. Storer continued to advertise, and it was stated on behalf of the prosecution that to two men who answered his advertisements he stated that he could cure them, and asked for a fee of 100 guineas. They both said they could not pay such an amount, and in one case he reduced it to 40 guineas, but the man refused the treatment; in the other case the man paid 30 guineas and received a certain number of treatments.

In the witness-box Mr. Storer stated that he founded the "Cavendish Institute of Medical Research" in January, 1934. His research work on this subject had cost him £20,000. He had asked the General Medical Council whether his advertisements could possibly form a ground of complaint, but instead of giving him a definite reply the Council set its disciplinary machinery in action. Following the erasure of his name from the *Register* he had amended his advertisements, fully realizing that he was no longer allowed to treat venereal diseases, and he had made it clear that his service was only available for diagnosis. He referred persons who came to him, including those mentioned in the charge, to proper sources for treatment. On Mr. Storer's behalf it was contended that diagnosis was not a part of treatment, also that a man with Mr. Storer's qualifications and attainments was not the sort of quack against whom the Act was aimed.

The magistrate said that in his view diagnosis was undoubtedly a part of treatment, and for that reason alone the case against Mr. Storer was proved. Where there was conflict in the evidence he accepted that of the two witnesses who had gone to Mr. Storer for treatment. The skill or distinction of the defendant had no bearing on the case as against the definite prohibition laid down in the Act. He fined Mr. Storer a total of £80, with 20 guineas costs, on the summonses for treatment of patients, and a further £20 for advertising to treat the disease.

It was intimated that there would be an appeal on a point of law.

Medical Notes in Parliament

[FROM OUR PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT]

The Speech from the Throne was read by the Lord Chancellor in the House of Lords on December 3rd. The Lords that day completed its Debate on the Address, and Lord Luke presented the Voluntary Hospitals (Paying Patients) Bill, which was read a first time.

The King's Speech announced the forthcoming appointment of a Royal Commission to review existing provisions for the safety of workers in mines in the light of modern scientific knowledge. It announced that the improvement of school medical arrangements and the extension of physical education would receive the attention of the Government, in co-operation with local authorities and others. Bills raising the school age would be presented for England and Wales and for Scotland. The Government pledged itself to promote the development of the social services, and to take vigorous measures to improve the health and physique of the nation. It would press forward the work of slum clearance, and encourage the direct attack on overcrowding under the Housing Acts of 1935. A Bill would be introduced for the provision by local authorities, in co-operation with voluntary associations, of an organized service of salaried midwives. Ministers would give close consideration to further improvement of conditions in Scotland.

Speaking during the Debate on the Address in the House of Commons on December 3rd, Mr. BALDWIN said a Bill for the consolidation of the law relating to the safety, health, and welfare of factory workers would, he hoped, be introduced in Session 1936-7. Questions relating to physical education were to be discussed with local authorities. He begged the House to do its best to get the Maternity and Midwives Bill through this session before the summer recess. Mr. Baldwin announced that the introduction of Bills by private members would not be permitted till after Christmas.

The Commons continued the Debate on the Address on subsequent days of this week.

The Medicines and Medical Appliances Bill may be introduced in the House of Lords.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Pinsent-Darwin Studentship in Mental Pathology

An election to the above studentship will be made in January, 1936. The studentship is of the annual value of about £225, and is tenable for three years. The student must engage in original research into any problem having a bearing on mental defects, diseases, or disorders, but may carry on educational or other work concurrently. Applications should be sent before January 1st, 1936, to the secretary, Pinsent-Darwin Studentship, Psychological Laboratory, Cambridge. Applicants should state their age and qualifications, and the general nature of the research that they wish to undertake. No testimonials are required, but applicants should give the names of not more than three referees.

At a congregation held on November 30th the following medical degrees were conferred:

M.D.—E. H. W. Lyle, T. K. S. Lyle.
M.B., B.CHIR.—C. L. Collins, J. S. Cookson, B. T. Thorne,
A. H. M. Siddons.
M.B.—F. H. Finlaison, H. B. Tipler.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

The following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

POST-GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE.—(*With Special Knowledge of Psychiatry*): W. P. Berrington, J. R. P. Edkins.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON

The following candidates have passed in the subjects indicated:

SURGERY.—F. E. Bedell.
 MEDICINE.—E. E. LeFeuvre, M. A. Partridge.
 FORENSIC MEDICINE.—M. A. Partridge.
 MIDWIFERY.—H. Firman, O. A. L. Goode, N. R. James, F. R. Neubert, C. J. Roberts, G. N. Rodgers, J. W. Thomas, P. Tobin.

The diploma of the Society has been granted to H. Firman, E. E. LeFeuvre, and F. R. Neubert.

The following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

MASTERY OF MIDWIFERY.—Marion Bow, Maurice William Ginsberg, Hilda Linford, Hugh Temple Tate, Elizabeth Shanks Walker.

Medical News

The House of the British Medical Association, including the Library, will be closed for the Christmas holiday from 6 p.m. on Tuesday, December 24th, to 9 a.m. on Friday, December 27th (Library 10 a.m.).

The House and Library of the Royal Society of Medicine will be closed for the Christmas holiday from Monday, December 23rd, to Saturday, December 28th, both dates inclusive.

The Prince of Wales, president of the hospital, will open "Nuffield House," the new building for paying patients at Guy's Hospital, on Tuesday, December 10th, at 3 p.m. The new block will be open to the inspection of any members of the medical profession on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, December 11th, 12th, and 13th, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

The Voluntary Euthanasia Legalization Society, the formation of which has aroused so much interest, is holding its inaugural public meeting on Tuesday, December 10th, at 8 p.m. in the Great Hall, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, W.C.1. Lord Moynihan, president of the society, will take the chair, and the list of speakers includes Mr. C. J. Bond, F.R.C.S., Dr. Killick Millard, Lord Listowel, Sir Arnold Wilson, M.P., Miss E. Rathbone, M.P., and the Rev. Dr. F. W. Norwood. Admission is free.

The seventy-third annual meeting of the Royal Surgical Aid Society will be held at the Mansion House, E.C., on Monday, December 9th, at 4 p.m. The Lord Mayor will preside and will be supported by Professor G. Grey Turner, among others.

On December 12th Dr. Bruce Williamson will read a paper before the North London Medical and Chirurgical Society on "The Clinical Significance of the Cardiac Innervation." The mid-session address will be given by Dr. Bellingham Smith, on January 15th, on the subject of "Continued Fever." On February 13th Dr. W. R. M. Turtle will give a clinical demonstration at the St. Mary Islington Hospital. Dr. J. L. Livingstone will give an address on "Asthma" on March 13th. All the meetings will be held at the Royal Northern Hospital, Holloway Road, N., except the one on February 13th.

At a meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, on Tuesday, December 10th, at 17, Bloomsbury Square, W.C., Dr. Percival Hartley, director of the Department of Biological Standards at the National Institute for Medical Research, will give a lecture on "International Biological Standards for Drugs and Therapeutic Substances." The chair will be taken by the president at 8.30 p.m., and refreshments will be served after the lecture.

A discussion on "The Cause and Modern Treatment of Speech Disorders" will be opened by Dr. E. J. Boome at the Royal Sanitary Institute, 90, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W., on Tuesday, December 10th, at 5.30 p.m., with Dr. Ralph H. Crowley in the chair.

The Lord Mayor of London has issued invitations to a meeting in support of Red Cross work in Ethiopia at the Mansion House on Thursday, December 12th, at 3 p.m. Those present will include Lord Lugard, Sir Austen Chamberlain, and Sir Arthur Stanley.

A reunion for friends and students of the Post Certificate School will be held on Friday, December 13th, to meet Dr. John S. Fairbairn, chairman of the Central Midwives Board. Tea at 4 p.m. at St. John's Home, Watson Street, Deptford, S.E.8. Address at 5 p.m., on post-certificate work, by Dr. Fairbairn, at 77, Southampton Street, Camberwell, S.E.5. Conveyances are provided.

The Fellowship of Medicine announces the following special courses: dermatology at St. John's Hospital, January 2nd to 30th; cardiology at National Hospital for Diseases of the Heart, January 13th to 24th; urology at St. Peter's Hospital, January 20th to February 1st; proctology at St. Mark's Hospital, February 3rd to 8th. Week-end courses include diseases of the heart and lungs at Royal Chest Hospital, January 18th and 19th; and physical medicine at St. John Clinic and Institute of Physical Medicine, February 8th and 9th. An evening course of surgical tutorial lectures, especially intended for Final F.R.C.S. candidates, will be given on Tuesdays and Thursdays at National Temperance Hospital, January 14th to March 5th. The full list of special courses for 1936 will be ready shortly, and may be obtained on application to the Fellowship of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, W.1.

The third annual exhibition of microscopes will be held at Central Hall, Westminster, S.W., from December 9th to 14th, from 2.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. daily, except December 14th, when the exhibition closes at 7 p.m. There is no charge for admission, and programmes may be obtained from Messrs. W. Watson and Sons, Ltd., 313, High Holborn, W.C.1.

The fifth Rumanian Congress of Urology will be held at Bucarest from December 15th to 18th, when a discussion will be held on the dynamism of the upper urinary tract, introduced by Professor Hortolomei and Drs. Burghel, Zanne, and Streja, in addition to various papers on the bladder, urethra, and genital organs. Further information can be obtained from the general secretary, Dr. Popescu Buzea, 14, Putu, Bucarest 11.

Lord Melchett presided at the sixteenth annual reunion dinner of Queen Alexandra's Hospital for Officers on November 29th at the Hotel Splendide, when nearly fifty of the former patients and members of the nursing staff were present. During the evening a message of good wishes was received from the late Princess Victoria. Lord Melchett proposed the health of the former patients, and, in his reply, General T. A. Bigge expressed the gratitude and appreciation of the officers for the devoted work of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Paterson, the matron, nurses, and voluntary workers of the hospital.

An oxygen tent has been placed at the disposal of the quadruplets, born at Eynesbury, Huntingdonshire, on November 28th, by the British Red Cross Society. This step has been taken not because the babies show any sign of illness or retarded progress, but in case such an eventuality should arise. In America and on the Continent oxygen tents have been in frequent use for many years, not only in extreme cases of cardiac and pulmonary disease, but as a preventive and alleviative measure.

The issue of the *Annales de l'Institut Pasteur* for October 25th is a special number commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the first inoculation for rabies by Pasteur. The issue of the *Wiener klinische Wochenschrift* for November 15th is dedicated to the Medical Association of Upper Austria on the occasion of the seventieth anniversary of its foundation. The issue of *Paris Médical* for November 16th is devoted to social medicine and medical jurisprudence.

Professor J. Graham Kerr, F.R.S., who succeeded Lord Tweedsmuir (formerly Mr. John Buchan) as one of the representatives of the Scottish Universities in Parliament, successfully defended his seat in the House of Commons at the recent General Election. He recently resigned the regius chair of zoology in the University of Glasgow.

The University of Hamburg is henceforth to be known as the Hansa University.

Professor Achard has been unanimously re-elected permanent secretary of the Académie de Médecine.