

the salt" is one of the first requests as a rule heard when sitting down to a meal. Many medical men hesitate to order a salt-free diet because a salt flavour is to most people inseparable from the enjoyment of eggs, salads, and other articles of diet which need the savour of salt to render them palatable. Therefore it is necessary to offer something in the way of a substitute. I have found that a squeeze of lemon gave a little flavour to the food, but in my experience, having tried most of the substitutes, I find "ruthmol" the most popular with the patients.—I am, etc.,

London, Oct. 8th.

GRAVES STOKER.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

At a congregation of the Senate, held on October 1st, Mr. G. H. A. Wilson, Master of Clare, resigned the office of Vice-Chancellor and was reappointed. In his address reviewing the events of the year, he made reference to the numbers of undergraduates studying medicine in the university. "There is one problem which must sooner or later receive attention and which has already caused serious difficulty in the departments concerned with medicine. There is nothing at present which the University can do to limit the number of undergraduates accepted by the colleges in any particular branch of study. Although within recent years extensive additions to nearly all the buildings of the departments associated with medicine have been made, the accommodation for teaching is proving inadequate owing to the large increase in the number of medical students; this is particularly felt in the Department of Biochemistry. It is not easy to suggest a solution, but it seems clear to me that some system must be devised which will place a limit upon the number of those accepted by colleges, whether in medicine or any other subject. Unless something is done the situation may easily become one of even greater embarrassment than already exists."

During the months of August and September the title of the degree of B.Chir. was conferred by diploma on Mrs. S. L. Bhatia (Girton), and that of M.B. on M. C. A. Robson (Newnham).

The forthcoming course of lectures on modern developments of science 1895-1936 includes a lecture on November 6th by Professor G. H. F. Nuttall, on tropical medicine and parasitology; on November 13th by Professor John A. Ryle, on medicine; and on November 27th by Professor J. B. S. Haldane, on genetics and evolutionary theories. These lectures, which are open without fee to all members of the University and of Girton and Newnham Colleges, will be delivered in the lecture room of the Physiological Laboratory at 5 p.m.

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

The following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC HEALTH.—J. D. Bryan, Nancy L. Lewis, G. McLoughlin.

UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

At its meeting on October 9th the University Council appointed Dr. R. Platt honorary lecturer in medicine and Dr. A. E. Naish medical officer to the Training Department.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

A meeting of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England was held on October 8th, with the President, Sir Cuthbert Wallace, in the chair.

Mr. J. A. Ward of Wigan Technical College was admitted as the seventh Macloghlin Scholar.

A resolution of condolence was passed on the death of Lord Moynihan.

Mr. E. P. Stibbe of the London Hospital was elected to the Board of Examiners in Anatomy and Physiology for the Primary Fellowship Examination.

The annual report of the College was approved and adopted.

The President reported the award of a Sir Gilbert Blane Gold Medal to Surgeon Lieut.-Commander J. M. Sloane, R.N.

Diplomas of Fellowship were awarded to Harold Francis Mowat (Toronto) and John Eber Spalding (Guy's).

Stanley Mitchell Sangster of Epsom College was elected the forty-fourth Jenks Scholar.

It was reported that Mr. Cecil P. G. Wakeley and Professor A. G. S. Huggett had agreed to examine for the Primary Examination for the Fellowship which is to be held overseas next year.

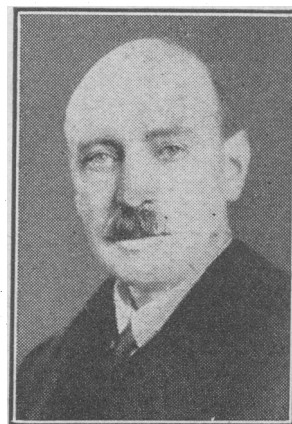
Obituary

SIR GEORGE S. BUCHANAN, C.B.

M.D., F.R.C.P.

With Sir George Seaton Buchanan has passed away one of the last of a famous generation of public servants. Buchanan may be said to have been born into the public service. His father, one of the band of pioneers gathered round Simon, was Medical Officer of the Local Government Board (the post equivalent to that of Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health) from 1880 to 1892. His work should be familiar to all students of public health literature; his study of the possible effects of sanitary measures upon mortality rates, printed in the ninth report of the Medical Officer to the Privy Council in 1867, was one of the first really objective evaluations of sanitary reforms. The name of this great man of science is perpetuated in general scientific circles by the Buchanan Medal, conferred by the Royal Society on workers in the field he cultivated.

The son, George Seaton (whose second name recalls his grandfather on the maternal side, Dr. Edward Seaton, another hero of ancient days), was born in 1869, and entered the public service within four years of graduation (he graduated M.B.Lond. with a gold medal in 1891 and became M.D. in 1893); he retired under the age limit in 1934. From 1895 to 1900 he served as a medical inspector of the Local Government Board,



and had experience of practically all branches of the medical work. He provided one of the first proofs of the conveyance of typhoid fever by oysters (Clacton, 1898), and was engaged for nearly two years on work arising out of the discovery of arsenical poisoning due to beer. This led to his promotion to be Chief Inspector of Foods, an office he held for two years, when he reverted to the general medical staff and became successively second and first assistant medical officer. In 1914 began his connexion with what was to prove his chief interest: he was appointed delegate for Great Britain to the Office International d'Hygiène Publique. In the war he gained further foreign experience and served on a special commission of experts appointed to investigate the epidemiology and sanitation of the Eastern Fronts. In 1919-20, on the establishment of the Ministry of Health, Buchanan became a senior medical officer, and had charge of the Medical Intelligence Service. Although his primary interest was in international sanitary organization, he was responsible for an immense amount of work of domestic importance, and either initiated or made practicable many of the scientific epidemiological investigations—for instance, that of cancer—carried out in the Ministry.

A mere enumeration of the posts he held, the committees and commissions upon which he served, and the reports he prepared would cover many pages. It is sufficient to recall that he served continuously at the Office International from 1914 and became its president in 1932. He was technical adviser for health questions to the British delegations at both Versailles and Lausanne, and played an important part in the Health Organization of the League of Nations from its inception. He was knighted in 1922, elected F.R.C.P. in 1925, and awarded the Jenner Medal of the Royal Society of Medicine in 1935. The mere record of a public servant's work is colourless

the Service, who will thus enjoy the same general position as members of other Services of the Crown; also the Home Government can step in to regulate Indian finances if there should be any failure on the part of India to provide the necessary funds.

Full details and application forms can be obtained from the secretary, Military Department, India Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

DEATHS IN THE SERVICES

Dr. Richard Hay Pulipaka, M.D., Bengal Provincial Medical Service (ret.), died in Edinburgh on October 3rd. He was an Indian Christian from South India, and was educated at Madras University, where he took the B.A. in 1883, and at Edinburgh, where he graduated M.B., C.M. in 1891, and M.D. in 1931. After qualifying he got an appointment in the Uncovenanted Medical Service in Bengal. His name was then Jadannadham, which he changed to Pulipaka, for family reasons, soon after his return to India. He held several civil surgeoncies in Bengal, in succession, Serampore for many years, Nadiya, and Gaya, and was for a time medical officer of the British Consulate at Basra. He retired about twelve years ago. He was the author of a *Medico-Topographical History of Serampore*.

Medical News

Mr. Eardley L. Holland will deliver a Chadwick Public Lecture on "Perils of Parturition to the Child: Their Nature and Prevention," at 26, Portland Place, W., on Tuesday, October 27th, at 8.15 p.m., with Sir William J. Collins, chairman of the Chadwick Trustees, in the chair.

The opening address to the Hampstead General and North-West London Hospital will be delivered by Lord Snell, chairman of the London County Council, on Wednesday, October 21st, at 3 p.m. His subject is "England and America: Their Past and Present Relationships."

The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Guild of St. Luke, St. Cosmas, and St. Damian will be held at Preston on Sunday, October 18th, at the Park Hotel, immediately after the High Mass at St. Ignatius', Meadow Street, Preston, which will be celebrated at 11 a.m. After the meeting a luncheon has been arranged for at the hotel, price 5s. (payable at the table); ladies are invited.

Dr. E. J. Boome will deliver a lecture on "Speech Defects in Young Children," and will demonstrate relaxation methods to the Maternity and Child Welfare Group of the Society of Medical Officers of Health, 1, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, W.C., on Thursday, October 22nd, at 8.30 p.m. Visitors are welcome.

The twenty-fifth Long Fox Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Dr. A. Bulleid, F.S.A., on Tuesday, October 20th, at 8.30 p.m. in the large theatre of the Wills Physic Building of the University of Bristol. The title of the lecture is "Somerset Lake Villages," and admission is free.

The following lectures will be given under the auspices of the William Ramsay Henderson Trust in the Anatomy Classroom, University New Buildings, Teviot Place, Edinburgh, at 5 p.m.: October 20th, Dr. George Riddoch, "Clinical Aspects of Hypothalamic Derangement"; October 22nd, Mr. Norman M. Dott, "Surgical Aspects of Hypothalamic Disorders." Admission is free by ticket obtainable from Messrs. Wallace and Guthrie, 3, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, 2.

A lecture on the theory and practice of contraception will be given to medical practitioners and students who have completed their gynaecological course by Dr. Gladys Cox on Friday, October 30th, at 6 p.m., at the Walworth Women's Welfare Centre, 153A, East Street, S.E.17. Demonstrations will be given on Friday, November 6th, at 6 and 7 p.m. Those attending a demonstration should bring rubber gloves. In order to help to cover expenses a fee of 5s. is charged, and those intending to come are asked to apply for tickets in advance.

A meeting of the Royal Microscopical Society will be held at B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, W.C., on Wednesday, October 21st, at 5.30 p.m., when a paper will be read by Major H. C. Brown, I.M.S., and Dr. J. C. Broom on "Micro-cataphoresis and its Application."

A sessional meeting of the Royal Sanitary Institute will be held at Loughborough Town Hall on Friday, October 23rd, at 5 p.m., when discussions will take place on "The Administration of the Accredited Milk Scheme in Leicestershire," to be opened by Dr. J. A. Fairer, and on "Health Propaganda in Relation to the Powers and Duties of Local Authorities and Insurance Committees," to be opened by Mr. T. Crew.

Four leading women psychologists are to give public lectures at the Institute of Medical Psychology, Malet Place, London, W.C., on problems of childhood and the training of children. The lecturers will be Dr. Maria Montessori (October 27th and November 3rd), Professor Charlotte Buhler of Vienna (November 10th and 17th), Miss Lillian de Lissa of the Nursery School Association (November 24th and December 1st), and Dr. Susan Isaacs of the Institute of Education (December 8th and 15th).

A meeting of the Medico-Legal Society will be held at 26, Portland Place, W., on Thursday, October 22nd, at 8.30 p.m., when a paper will be read by Mr. C. E. A. Bedwell on "Legal Status of Voluntary Hospitals."

A conference to consider the new Midwives Act and its operation will be held by the Royal Sanitary Institute in the Central Hall, Westminster, on Thursday, October 22nd, at 2.30 p.m. Sir Kingsley Wood, Minister of Health, will preside and address the conference, and the discussion will be opened by Dr. John J. Buchan, medical officer of health for Bradford. Speakers who will take part include a county medical officer of health, a medical officer of health for a non-county borough, and a representative of the Joint Council of Midwifery. Over 500 representatives have been appointed by local authorities throughout the country to attend.

Mr. N. Bishop Harman and Dr. G. Clark Trotter are representing the British Medical Association at the annual conference of the National Smoke Abatement Society, held at the Science Museum, South Kensington, from October 14th to 17th.

The three main subjects discussed at the forty-fifth French Congress of Surgery, held in Paris between October 5th and 10th, were the results of ovarian grafts, surgery among diabetics, and the pneumonectomies.

At a meeting on September 18th of research workers and doctors in Dresden a new society was founded with the title of "Deutsche Gesellschaft für Hygiene." Its affairs will be administered by Professor Hans Reiter of Berlin.

Laboratory infection with Weil's spirochaetes in connexion with experiments on dogs and rats has recently been responsible for so many accidents, some fatal, in Germany that the Ministry for the Interior issued, on August 22nd, instructions to all medical and veterinary laboratories, enjoining on them the wearing of protective glasses and rubber gloves and the employment of serum in case of need.

By decree of the French Government a public funeral has been accorded the crew of the *Pourquoi-Pas?* which foundered off Iceland on September 16th. Its leader, Jean Charcot, the son of the celebrated Charcot of the Salpêtrière, was born in 1867, a hospital intern in 1891, and the head of a hospital service as early as 1895. His medical career, which included bacteriological studies at the Pasteur Institute with Metchnikoff and Roux, were abandoned comparatively early in favour of oceanographic and allied studies, to which he devoted nearly all his life. In the course of an obituary address by Louis Bouvier, president of the Academy of Sciences, the speaker recalled the fact that during the great war the British Admiralty put Dr. Charcot in charge of a submarine-chaser.