

necessary treatment, but which would be less useful for receiving air raid casualties. In the London area thirty-four hospitals have already been designated for "decanting," and detailed plans prepared for removing between 3,000 and 4,000 patients by ambulance trains to towns 50 miles or more from London. The patients would be conveyed to the railway stations by motor coaches converted to carry stretchers. The necessary stretchers are available and held centrally for distribution if and when required. Fittings for the coaches have been made, and 300 can be converted into ambulances at twelve to twenty-four hours' notice. The owners of the coaches know exactly where they would report, and what journeys they would be required to make. The necessary arrangements have also been made with the railway companies. Other hospitals in the London area would "decant" patients a shorter distance in order to empty beds, and these would make the whole journey by bus.

The Ministry has been in close touch with the London County Council throughout. As already announced, one of the senior medical officers of the County Council is acting as hospital officer for the London district. The Ministry has also conferred with representatives of all the voluntary hospitals involved in the "decanting" scheme, and explained the proposals to them in detail; and before the end of the week conferences will have been held with representatives of all the other voluntary hospitals in the district. Conferences have also been held with all the medical officers of health of the counties and county boroughs in the Home Counties, and of the towns receiving the patients decanted from London. Arrangements are being made in these towns for meeting the ambulance trains and conveying the patients to designated hospitals. It may be added that the London County Council has been authorized to provide surgical equipment at some of the larger hospitals not at present used for surgical cases, so that these, which have a good deal of available ward room, would be fully equipped for dealing with casualties if necessary.

Plans for clearing hospital beds by "decanting" patients have similarly been worked out in the provinces by the Ministry's hospital officers. These officers are in touch with the local hospital authorities, and in addition conferences have been held in Whitehall with the medical officers of health of the large cities.

So far the plans made have been concerned principally with the utilization of existing accommodation and equipment. The Ministry has, however, taken steps for the acquisition of additional equipment which will be distributed when available to different centres. Meanwhile, information has been collected as to the stocks of bedsteads, bedding, and other necessary equipment held by the trade in various towns, and, if necessary, arrangements would be made to supplement existing stocks from these sources.

While the Ministry has now conferred directly with a great many hospital authorities, both municipal and voluntary, it has not yet been possible to do so with all of them. It is intended very shortly to arrange a further series of local conferences at which Dr. Hebb, the Principal Medical Officer advising the Minister on the emergency hospitals organization, will discuss details of the schemes with the authorities.

In a later communication the Ministry urges private owners of cars which are not already earmarked for transporting patients and which are not being used for any other essential purpose to assist in this evacuation by getting into touch with their local hospital and offering to send their cars (with drivers) to the hospital for use if required as conveyances for the patients.

L.C.C. Emergency Measures

The London County Council has taken prompt and energetic steps to make available the greatest possible

number of beds in the event of outbreak of war, and we understand that the arrangements that have been made in conjunction with the Ministry of Health will put at the disposal of the public between 20,000 and 25,000 beds for emergency treatment in the County of London. In addition to that arrangements have been made by the Ministry to transfer between 3,000 and 4,000 patients from voluntary and municipal hospitals to hospitals in towns situated some fifty to sixty miles outside London. In addition to plans for the evacuation of cases all available extra beds and mattresses have been put up throughout the whole of the L.C.C. hospital service.

The medical superintendents of L.C.C. hospitals have been advised to evacuate patients who would be fit to be discharged a day or two earlier than would otherwise have been the case, and to select other patients who could be discharged without hardship to themselves immediately on the outbreak of war. They have been advised, too, in co-operation with the general practitioners in the areas of the hospitals, to defer the admission of patients who are not in urgent need of treatment—for example, patients with hernia, varicose veins, etc. Similarly, in the tuberculosis hospitals the admission of non-urgent cases has been postponed. Fever hospitals have been instructed not to admit cases of such mild infectious diseases as chicken-pox and mumps. These hospitals have been "up-graded" by the supply of additional surgical equipment and dressings so that they will be able to take their place as acute casualty hospitals. Where it has been possible each fever hospital has been divided into two parts: (1) for the admission of fever cases, and (2) for the treatment of air raid casualties.

The L.C.C. hospitals are also being provided with an extra stock of fuel, the equivalent to one month's extra stock of drugs, dressings, etc., and an extra stock of food-stuff equivalent to approximately one month's supply. The hospitals are also actively engaged in making arrangements for the blacking out of their buildings in accordance with the police regulations and for introducing such other emergency measures as are dictated by circumstances.

Local News

FRANCE

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN PARIS]

Professor Clovis Vincent

Dr. Vincent's work as a surgeon in Paris has proved of such value that the Assistance Publique, which is responsible for the administration of this city's public hospitals, created some time ago a special hospital service under his direction. He has now been appointed a professor at the Faculty of Medicine, with clinical neurosurgery as his specialty. The creation of this new chair has been made possible by a donation from the Rockefeller Foundation in recognition of Vincent's pioneer work.

Fiftieth Anniversary of the Pasteur Institute

On October 26 the fiftieth anniversary of the Pasteur Institute will be celebrated in the Grand Amphitheatre of this institution in the presence of M. Lebrun, President of the Republic, the Minister of Public Health, and many others. This celebration will coincide with the first International Congress of French-speaking Microbiologists, all the delegates to which have been invited by the Director of the Pasteur Institute to be present at the celebration. Inquiries with regard to the congress should be addressed to the secretary of the Association des Microbiologistes de Langue Française, Institut Pasteur, 28, Rue du Dr.-Roux, Paris, XV.

AUSTRALIA

Poliomyelitis in Victoria

The Director of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Research in Pathology and Medicine, Dr. Charles H. Kellaway, has just presented his annual report for the year 1937-8. In Victoria, during the epidemic of poliomyelitis which only came to an end in February of this year, no difficulty was experienced in transferring the poliomyelitis virus to monkeys; four strains are now available for future work. Monkeys recovering from the inoculation of the local virus, however, showed only partial immunity to the regularly fatal "M.V." strain. During the epidemic there were collected for subsequent investigation many samples of serum from cases early in the febrile period and from contacts, at the time of contact and four to eight weeks later.

During the early winter of 1937 some two hundred individuals were given intranasally two inoculations of living, egg-adapted, "Melbourne" influenza virus, a strain which can be clearly differentiated antigenically from the "W.S." and "swine" strains. No epidemic of influenza occurred, so the experiment has only shown the harmlessness of the procedure and an increased antibody response after inoculation in a few of the subjects. Work on "Q" fever has continued, and other researches have been concerned with the problem of cell injury, the liberation of histamine, and with various clinical problems.

Correspondence

Convalescent Serum in Infantile Paralysis

SIR,—The case against the therapeutic value of convalescent serum was summarized in your columns by me some five years ago (December 30, 1933). The information upon which it was based is generally accessible, and to restate the case now would be a waste of your space. Professor G. R. Girdlestone (*Journal*, September 24, p. 678) is right in saying that in the past the use of serum has not always been such as to provide reliable evidence of its value, and his own use of it—upon which he formed his favourable view—was admittedly of this order. There is an increasing weight of evidence based upon adequately controlled observation that serum treatment has no value, but there is also experimental evidence even more conclusive to which Professor Girdlestone does not refer—namely, the fact, long known, that this serum does not modify the course of the disease in the inoculated monkey when given under the only conditions possible in the human subject—that is, after the onset of symptoms. Recent pathological work has shown why this must necessarily be so. Therefore the serum treatment of poliomyelitis is as lacking in rational basis as in practical justification. Nor can we reasonably hope that the future will reverse this verdict of experience in the past. Dosage has been steadily increasing since Netter in 1910 introduced this treatment, yet no one has been able to claim better results than he claimed for the use of what later workers would regard as quite absurdly inadequate dosage.

It is therefore essential that Professor Girdlestone's act of faith should be recognized as such rather than as a scientific judgment based upon facts, and even more important that the hopes of the public should not be cruelly raised. The cherishing of therapeutic illusions by the distressed parents of a sufferer from acute poliomyelitis must place the family doctor, the consultant, and the local health authority in a wholly false position in which it is

not equitable that they should be placed. Two recent letters in the *Times* show how easily this may happen, and the situation is one that Professor Girdlestone cannot possibly wish to bring about.

In his first letter, with a candour I respect, he expressed himself as aware that he was venturing out of his proper sphere. Yet it is in these circumstances that acts of faith become the easy substitutes for reasoned judgment, and dangerous ones in that they bear the appearance of a medical authority they do not in fact possess.—I am, etc.,

London, W.1, Sept. 24.

F. M. R. WALSHE.

Prognosis of Anxiety States

SIR,—In his interesting paper on prognosis of anxiety states in the *Journal* of September 24 (p. 649) Dr. Arthur Harris, speaking of follow-ups, says: "Luff and Garrod have traced their cases for three years and Ross some of his cases for five years and the rest for three years." So far as my cases are concerned this is a complete mis-statement of fact. If Dr. Harris will glance at the table on page 79 of my book, *An Enquiry into Prognosis in the Neuroses*, he will see that I had traced the after-histories of 943 patients over periods varying from three to thirteen years. If he will look at the top line, which refers to patients discharged from the Cassel Hospital in 1921, he will see that the after-histories of twenty-two out of fifty-eight patients were known at the end of thirteen years. On the next line, referring to the 1922 discharges, it will be found that another forty-three patients out of ninety-eight discharged in that year were known about at the end of twelve years, and so on. At the end of ten years 102 patients out of 254 were known about.

I must suppose that he was misled by a note printed after the 1929 discharges, which said that there were no more five-year histories after that date, a thing that is of course obvious, seeing that the inquiry ended in 1934; but the note said nothing about the years before 1929.

Dr. Harris's paper is one of great value, all the more as he recognizes the immense difficulties surrounding an inquiry of this sort. I would, however, ask him to look also through pages 37-55, with a hope that he may become less pessimistic about patients whose symptoms are of long standing.—I am, etc.,

London, W.1, Sept. 24.

T. A. ROSS.

The Nature of Viruses

SIR,—The annotation entitled "The Nature of Viruses" (*Journal*, September 24, p. 667) accepts as the "hall-mark of living things in the final issue" their possession of an "independent metabolism." Presumably these words may be held to signify that this possession differentiates "living things" from something else. The word "independent" has, however, no meaning unless that of which the affair in question is independent is stated. Is this an invitation by the writer to conceive the metabolism of "living things" to be characterized by independence of their environment? If not, in what then does the alleged independence consist?

It has proved necessary to abandon one by one the traditional distinctions drawn between "living things" and other terrestrial units; it does not seem likely that the distinction cited in the article will enjoy any better fate. It would occupy too much space to set out the evidence against its validity. I prefer to use what you will allow me for suggesting that the time has come when the conception of a fundamental difference in nature between

The sudden death of Dr. FREDERICK THOMAS ALEXANDER LOVEGROVE on June 24 in Perth saddened the whole of the medical profession in Western Australia. Dr. Lovegrove was universally admired and respected. He was the friend of every medical practitioner in the State, for he came into contact with all of them at frequent intervals in his capacity as Government Medical Officer. Up to within a few hours of his death he was engaged in his ordinary duties, and his sudden end was a shock to his family as well as to his colleagues. Dr. Lovegrove was born in 1875. He was educated at Merchant Taylor's School, Crosby, near Liverpool, and at University College, Liverpool, then part of Victoria University. Qualifying in 1898 with the diplomas M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., he later took the M.B., Ch.B. He held resident posts at the Children's Hospital, Liverpool, and at the Royal Infirmary, and was Holt Scholar in Anatomy at the University. For a period he served as a ship's surgeon, and then came out in 1900 to Western Australia, where he had two uncles practising medicine, one of them being Principal Medical Officer and Commissioner of Public Health. Dr. Lovegrove entered into practice at Perth and Yarloop, but in 1902 he returned to England, where, after travelling on the Continent for some time, he went to sea again as ship's surgeon. Western Australia, however, called him back, and in 1906 he practised successively at Yarloop, Bremer Island, and Tambellup until the outbreak of the war. After four years' service, during which he attained the rank of lieutenant-colonel, he became, on his return to the State, O.C., No. 8 Australian General Hospital at Fremantle. Resuming private practice, he resided at Tambellup and Dumbleyung, until in 1928 he was appointed Government Medical Officer in connexion with the State Insurance Department. He is survived by a widow and four sons.

Mrs. HESTER DILL SMITH, who died on August 3 at Clogher, Co. Tyrone, was the daughter of the late Rev. W. A. Russell of Strabane and wife of Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Smith, C.I.E., M.D. Many old friends and fellow-students of hers in the British Isles, in India, and in the United States will remember affectionately a personality in which the stern Ulster Presbyterianism of her early environment was happily blended with innate gentleness, generosity, and courage. Hester Dill Russell decided early to become a medical missionary, and at the age of 20 began her student career at the London School of Medicine for Women and the Royal Free Hospital. She qualified M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. in 1891, and joined the Church of Scotland Medical Mission at Poona under Dr. Letitia Barnard. Later she was transferred to Gujrat in the Punjab. There she met Captain Henry Smith of the I.M.S., who was also a native of Tyrone, and after completing her five years' service with the mission she resigned and they were married. After Captain Smith's transfer to Jullundur, and later to Amritsar, family duties did not allow Mrs. Smith to pursue a whole-time medical career. Her previous medical experience was, however, of great assistance to her husband in many ways, especially in following up the immense number of cases of cataract operated on by "Jullundur Smith." Their union was a particularly happy one, founded on mutual esteem, unity of spirit, and abiding affection.

Dr. JOHN WALKER of Paisley died recently at the age of 61. Dr. Walker was a student of St. Mungo's College, Glasgow, and qualified L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.Ed., L.R.F.P.S. Glas. in 1903. He was in general practice in Paisley for over thirty-two years and was a member of the British Medical Association for almost as long. "A. J. D. W." writes: By the death of John Walker, Paisley has lost one of its best-known citizens. Dr. Walker built up a large practice by his devotion to his work and won the esteem and affection of his patients. He will be especially missed by the poorer section of the community, to which he was both physician and friend. For many years he had

been on the outdoor staff of physicians of the Royal Alexandra Infirmary, Paisley. Among various organizations in which he was particularly interested were the Salvation Army and the Paisley Highlanders' Association. He took an active part in public life, having been returned for Paisley Town Council as the member for the Second Ward by an overwhelming majority in 1933—an indication of the esteem in which he was held—and he again won the seat in 1936. In December, 1937, he retired from the council owing to ill-health. Dr. Walker is survived by his wife and two sons.

The following well-known foreign medical men have recently died: Professor MAX KAPPIS, director of the surgical clinic of Wurzburg University, aged 57; Professor JOHANNES LANGE, director of the nerve clinic at Breslau University and president of the Association of South Eastern German psychiatrists and neurologists; and Dr. ALPHONSE LABBÉ, honorary professor at the Nantes School of Medicine.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

The following lectures will be given at University College, Gower Street, W.C.1, during the first term: Four lectures by Dr. Phyllis Tookey Kerridge on "The Physiology of Hearing and Speech" on Mondays, October 10, 17, 24, and 31, at 5 p.m.: five lectures by Dr. R. J. Lythgoe on "The Physiology of Vision" on October 13, 18, 20, 25, and 27, at 5 p.m.: three lectures by Dr. J. F. Danielli on "The Permeability of Membranes" on Mondays, November 7, 14, and 21, at 5 p.m. All the above lectures are open to the public without fee or ticket.

LONDON (ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL) SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FOR WOMEN

The following awards of scholarships for 1937-8 are announced: *St. Dunstan's Exhibition*: Kathleen N. Berger. *Isobel Thorne Scholarship*: Josephine M. Lord. *Special A. M. Bird Entrance Scholarship*: Vera J. Cutler. *Mabel Sharman Crawford Scholarship*: Jessica Mestel. *Sir Owen Roberts Memorial Scholarship*: Barbara J. H. Broadwood and Margaret V. Teichmann. *A. M. Bird Clinical Scholarship*: Mrs. B. J. Clymo. *Alfred Langton Scholarship*: Alison D. Wells. *Ellen Walker Bursary*: Anne Stephen. *Flora Murray Bursary*: Elsie E. Whatley. *Emma Beilby Bursaries*: Jean M. Holtzmann and Mary L. Mittell. *Special Bursaries*: Marjorie K. Cole and Inez Hewitt. *A. M. Bird Postgraduate Scholarship in Pathology*: Nora F. T. Crowley, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. *Mabel Webb and A. M. Bird Research Scholarship*: Marjorie V. N. Sudds, M.B., B.S., D.T.M. and H.

ROYAL DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON (SCHOOL OF DENTAL SURGERY)

The prize distribution and conversazione of the Royal Dental Hospital of London (School of Dental Surgery) will be held at the Royal Dental Hospital on Tuesday, October 4, at 8 p.m. Mr. Herbert L. Eason will preside.

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

The following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

M.D.—Eugenie C. Illingworth, N. Wood.

M.B., Ch.B.—(Part I): N. K. Barber, F. Debney, R. G. Denniss, P. A. Dobb, J. H. Foxton, A. Greenwood, A. Markey, A. Percival, I. G. W. Pickering, Helen M. Secker, W. Sheffield, Beatrice F. Stephenson, P. H. Tordoff, T. R. Wilson, D. S. Young. (Part II): J. R. Afield, T. E. Broadbent, D. Brook, A. B. Dick, A. F. A. Fairweather, H. T. Hardy, D. G. Huntly, E. Hyman, D. J. McCandlish, Marjorie Marquis, Kathleen V. Miller, J. Overton, C. T. Roberts, C. R. Robson, Dorothy E. Rowling, J. F. Scannell, J. L. Sharp, A. H. Snalam, I. S. Stewart, C. L. Summerfield, A. W. Taylor, J. P. Watson, K. B. Wood.

D.P.H.—R. G. Smithson, E. H. Tomlin, Marjorie M. Wilson.

The William Hey Gold Medal and the West Riding Panel Practitioners' Prize has been awarded to W. M. H. Shaw.

The Services

HONORARY PHYSICIAN TO THE KING

Major-General P. S. Mills, C.I.E., I.M.S., has been appointed Honorary Physician to the King.

EFFICIENCY DECORATION OF THE TERRITORIAL ARMY

The King has conferred the Efficiency Decoration of the Territorial Army upon Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet Colonel L. H. Taylor, Lieutenant-Colonel W. W. Hallchurch, Major E. E. Lightwood, Major P. Hickey, Major J. Cohen, and Major R. S. Creed.

DEATHS IN THE SERVICES

Colonel PERCY CHARLES HUTCHISON STRICKLAND, Madras Medical Service (ret.), died at Clifton, Bristol, on September 4, aged 75. He was born at Kampti, in the Central Provinces, on August 14, 1863, the son of Captain William George Malcolm Strickland of the 49th Madras Infantry. He was educated at Dulwich College and St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and took the M.R.C.S. in 1886, the L.R.C.P. Lond. and L.S.A. in 1887, and also subsequently the D.T.M. at Liverpool in 1912. Entering the Indian Medical Service as surgeon on October 1, 1887, he attained the rank of colonel on May 25, 1914, and retired on August 19, 1920. He served in the Burma Campaign in 1889, and with the Wuntho Field Force, in the Mogaung Column, in 1891. From 1917 to 1919 he was Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals in Burma. He was a member of the British Medical Association for fifty-one years.

Colonel HENRY FRANCIS CLEVELAND, C.I.E., Bombay Medical Service (ret.), died suddenly at Blackheath on September 17, aged 74. He was born on November 30, 1863, at Bombay, and was educated at University College, London, and took the M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., and the L.S.A. in 1888. He entered the Indian Medical Service as surgeon on September 30, 1889, became brevet colonel on January 1, 1911, colonel on October 1, 1918, and retired on October 25, 1922. He served on the North-West Frontier of India in the campaigns of 1897-8; on the Malakand (medal with clasp), and in Tirah (clasp); in the China War of 1900 (medal); and in the war of 1914-19 in Afghanistan and on the North-West Frontier in 1919, when he was mentioned in dispatches in the *London Gazette* of August 3, 1920. He was appointed Deputy Director-General of the Indian Medical Service on November 1, 1916, and from October, 1917, to January, 1918, he officiated as Director-General. He received the C.I.E. on January 1, 1918. He was honorary surgeon to the Viceroy of India from 1913 to 1918. His wife was Kathleen, daughter of the late G. Rodway Swinhoe of Swinton, and he had one daughter.

Lieutenant-Colonel RICHARD HARRIS HALL, R.A.M.C. (ret.), died on July 12, aged 75. He was born at Blackrock, County Cork, on May 26, 1863, was educated at Queen's College, Cork, and graduated as M.D., M.Ch., and M.A.O. in the Royal University of Ireland in 1883. Entering the Army as surgeon on May 30, 1885, he became lieutenant-colonel after twenty years' service, and retired on May 26, 1918. He served in Burma in 1887, and received the frontier medal with a clasp.

Lieutenant-Colonel MATTHEW CORRY, I.M.S. (ret.), died at Hove on September 19, aged 64. He was born on November 10, 1873, and was educated at Edinburgh University, where he graduated M.B., C.M. in 1896. He proceeded M.D. in 1911. For a time he acted as demonstrator of anatomy at St. Andrews University. He entered the Indian Medical Service as lieutenant on January 27, 1900, became lieutenant-colonel on July 27, 1919, and retired on November 10, 1928. Most of his service was spent in the Punjab in civil employ, which he entered in May, 1902, serving as plague medical officer and later as civil surgeon. From May, 1917, to August, 1920, he was on military duty, and after his return to civil work in October, 1920, he was appointed lecturer in midwifery and medical jurisprudence in the medical school at Amritsar. He had been a member of the British Medical Association for thirty years.

Medical News

We are asked by the Medical Insurance Agency to inform the profession, many of whom have made urgent inquiries during the past few days of crisis, that no insurance company will accept any risk arising from air bombardment, etc., in accordance with a decision reached many months ago by a unanimous conference of the offices. Presumably before long—possibly even before this appears in print—the Government will announce its plans (as was done in 1914) for covering these risks. Until that happens the M.I.A. has necessarily no useful information to give.

Parliament reassembled on September 28 for a special sitting to consider the European crisis. The House of Lords adjourned immediately. In the House of Commons Mr. Chamberlain reviewed recent negotiations and announced that he had been invited to meet Herr Hitler at Munich on the following day. The House then adjourned till October 3. No emergency legislation was introduced on September 28, and the only question asked concerned compensation for damage by air raids. Sir John Simon replied that the Government was considering a comprehensive scheme.

In our advertisement columns this week applications are invited by the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh for the post of Conservator of the Museum and Director of Postgraduate Studies, tenable for five years with eligibility for reappointment, at an initial salary of £1,000 per annum.

The seventeenth Annual Congress of Anaesthetists, which will be held in New York from October 17 to 21 during the "Congress of Surgeons' Week," will comprise a joint session of the Associated Anaesthetists of the United States and Canada, the International Anaesthesia Research Society, the International College of Anaesthetists, the Eastern Society of Anaesthetists, and the Mid-Western Association of Anaesthetists. An address will be delivered on the life and work of Sir Frederic Hewitt, and special anaesthesia clinics and laboratory demonstrations will be arranged. One meeting will be devoted to current researches in anaesthesia and analgesia, and the newer methods in anaesthetics will be demonstrated.

The August number of *Discovery* contains a review of Professor A. J. Clark's pamphlet, *Patent Medicines*, and articles on nutrition and vitamins. In the June number there was an article by Professor J. A. Ryle on "The History of Research on Digestion and Pernicious Anaemia." *Discovery* is now edited by Mr. C. P. Snow, Ph.D., and in its new form is an attractive and interesting popular scientific periodical.

Arrangements Cancelled

The annual dinner of St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, announced to be held at Claridge's on October 1, has been cancelled; also the special postgraduate course which was to have been held from September 29 to October 2. It has been decided to cancel the arrangements made for this week end by the Charing Cross Hospital Medical School, which included the prize-giving, annual dinner, and postgraduate course. The annual dinner of St. George's Hospital Medical School arranged for October 1 has also been cancelled, and the old students' dinner of St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School, arranged for October 7.

In present circumstances it has been decided to cancel the Health Conference which was to have been held under the joint auspices of the Department of Health for Scotland and the Ministry of Health at the Empire Exhibition in Glasgow on Friday of this week. The two-day conference of the Central Council for Health Education, which was to have preceded it, has also been cancelled.

The conference of the British Health Resorts Association at Torquay, which was to have opened on Friday, has been postponed.