

accidents or because they doubted whether the verdict of the doctors in saying he had recovered was really justified and suspected that he had not really recovered." Perhaps Mr. Gardiner will recognize that so long as such things happen one needs no particular "bias" to support very radical changes in the present workmen's compensation law, not only the reform of "weak points."—I am, etc.,

Richmond, Surrey.

HERMANN LEVY.

The Demand on the Blood Donor

SIR,—With reference to the leading article on the above subject in your issue of Sept. 19, it should be known that, as a routine, since the outbreak of war, all donors to the Army Blood Transfusion Service have been issued, at the time of donation, with a seven-day supply of ferrous sulphate tablets, equivalent to 200 mg. of Fe a day.—I am, etc.,

L. E. H. WHITBY,

Brigadier,
Consulting Physician in Transfusion
and Resuscitation to the Army.

Obituary

HEDLEY DUNCAN WRIGHT, M.D., D.Sc.

We regret to announce the death on September 9 at Mossley Hill of Prof. Hedley Duncan Wright, who had held since 1934 the post of city bacteriologist to the Liverpool Corporation and the chair of bacteriology at the University of Liverpool.

The son of Robert Stuart Wright, he was born at Ulverstone, Tasmania, on March 3, 1891, and studied at the University of Tasmania, graduating B.A. in 1910. His medical course was taken at the University of Edinburgh, where he obtained the M.B., Ch.B. degrees (with first-class honours) in 1916, the M.D. (with gold medal) in 1925, and the D.Sc. in 1927. He served with the R.A.M.C. during the last war in France, India, and Persia, and then returned to Edinburgh on his appointment as lecturer in bacteriology in the University, assistant director of the Research Laboratory of the Royal College of Physicians, and Lister Research Fellow. In 1923 he came to London to take up the post of lecturer in bacteriology at University College Hospital Medical School, and five years later the University of London appointed him Reader in Bacteriology at U.C.H. In 1930 he was elected to the chair of bacteriology at Sydney University, but returned to this country from Australia four years later to succeed Prof. J. M. Beattie at Liverpool.

Prof. Hedley Wright was for some time assistant editor of the *Journal of Pathology and Bacteriology* and published papers independently and jointly in that journal, in the *Biochemical Journal*, and in the *Edinburgh Medical Journal*. At the Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association in 1927 he was vice-president of the Section of Pathology and Bacteriology.

The death took place at Bournemouth on September 3 of HENRY DOBREE WOODROFFE, M.D., lately of Swanage, who in his time did excellent work for the British Medical Association, which he joined thirty years ago. Dr. Woodroffe, who was a student of Trinity College, Dublin, qualified in 1907. For a number of years he had practised in the small town of Woodstock in Oxfordshire, and while there he was an active member of the Oxford Division of the B.M.A., its chairman in 1933-4, and afterwards its vice-chairman. As a member of the Arrangements Committee and in other ways he took a prominent part in the organization of the Oxford Meeting of the Association in 1936, and not a little of the success of that assembly was due to his great energy and his unusual degree of personal charm. Previously Dr. Woodroffe had practised in East Anglia—he was a representative of the very best type of country doctor—and was honorary secretary for three and a half years of the East Norfolk Division. It was as a representative of that Division that he was introduced to the central affairs of the Association, and for many years from 1924 onwards he was a familiar figure and a not infrequent speaker at the Annual Representative Meeting and the Annual Panel Conference. From 1931 to 1936 he served on the old Medico-Political Committee (now the General Practice Committee), and did

good work, especially on the subcommittee which looked after the interests of ship surgeons. He was also interested in insurance practice, and for a time was chairman of the Panel Committee for the county of Oxford. Another of his interests was the British Red Cross Society, and he was a director of its organization in his locality. During the last war he served as temporary captain, R.A.M.C. While living latterly in Dorset he had acted as honorary surgeon to Swanage Cottage Hospital.

We regret to announce the sudden death at Preston, Lancs, of Dr. GEORGE GORDON JOHNSTONE. He was born in 1887 at Ilkley, Yorkshire, the elder son of the late Thomas Johnstone, M.D., M.R.C.P. From Marlborough College, and a year at Edinburgh University, he became an exhibitor at King's College, Cambridge, obtaining a 1st Class in Part I of the Natural Sciences Tripos, and a 2nd Class in Part II. From University College Hospital he graduated M.B., B.Ch. in 1912, M.D. in 1919, and took the D.P.H. in 1920. Johnstone served through the whole of the last war as captain, R.A.M.C.(T.F.), in charge of No. 23 Sanitary Section, being twice mentioned in dispatches and awarded the Military Cross. In 1920 he married Miss Constance Margaret Dempster of Perth. After a period as assistant county medical officer for Wiltshire, he became an assistant county medical officer for Lancashire, where he was in active work when he died. Remaining on the Reserve of the T.A. he was sadly disappointed to be classed medically unfit in Sept., 1939. Dr. Johnstone will be remembered for his sincerity, a man known well by too few, his ability and conscientious thoroughness hidden by caution and dislike of prominence. He had the gift of understanding children, among whom was much of his work. By his death the public health service of the Lancashire County Council has lost one of its most able officers. Kindly and sympathetic in manner, he was untiring in his efforts to ensure the welfare of his patients. Dr. Johnstone was a public health worker whose integrity of character and professional attainments gained the high esteem of all his colleagues and friends, and his loss will be severely felt.

Dr. SAMUEL MCCOMB died suddenly at his home in Belfast on Aug. 17. He was 57 years of age and a graduate of Queen's University. In his younger days he was an outstanding athlete. In 1910 he was 100 yards champion of Ulster and Ireland, and was a member of the Cliftonville XI which won the Irish Football Cup in 1909. He served with the R.A.M.C. during the last war and attained the rank of captain. During the present war his time was largely occupied with medical boards apart from an outstanding general practice which was almost a hobby to him. Dr. McComb had a genial and lovable personality which won for him a host of friends in every walk of life, and in the profession he was universally popular. He joined the B.M.A. in 1915 and was elected chairman of the Belfast Division last year. He is survived by his widow, a daughter, and a son who is following his father in athletic achievements and into the medical profession.

The Services

Temp. Surg. Lieut. J. A. Smart, R.N.V.R., has been appointed an M.B.E. (Military Division) for skill and devoted service in the care of wounded after H.M.S. *Hermes* had been sunk by enemy air attacks in the Indian Ocean.

Temp. Surg. Lieut. W. R. D. Seymour, R.N.V.R., has been mentioned in dispatches for bravery and devotion to duty when H.M.S. *Electra* was lost.

Among the awards for gallant and distinguished services in the Middle East during the period Nov., 1941, to April, 1942, approved by the King, is the name of Major (Temp. Lieut.-Col.) Norman Berry, R.A.O.C. Major Berry, who receives the Order of the British Empire, is the only son of Prof. R. J. A. Berry, a member of the B.M.A. Council.

CASUALTIES IN THE MEDICAL SERVICES

Brief obituary notices of Group Capts. HUGH WOLFE CORNER and GERARD JOSEPH HANLY, R.A.F., were published in this column on June 27 (p. 807) and Sept. 5 (p. 298) respectively. We are indebted to Air Marshal Sir Harold Whittingham, Director-General of Medical Services of the Royal Air Force, for the following appreciations of these two officers.

The R.A.F. Medical Service has lost two outstanding officers who joined the Service in 1924, and who served as brother officers in that year at the Central Medical Board, and later at the R.A.F. Officers' Hospital at Finchley, one having a medical bent and the other a surgical bent. They were both extremely keen on aviation, qualified as pilots in due course, and lost their lives flying on active service.

Group Capt. Corner was an able physician, and reliable and trustworthy in all his duties. In his last appointment, however, he found his true vocation, for he was a keen pilot, particularly fond of high-speed single-seater aircraft, and his devotion to flying, associated with his profound knowledge of the practical problems of aviation medicine and his friendly, helpful, and unassuming attitude to all with whom he came in contact, made him the ideal medical adviser to flying personnel. The last year of his service was his happiest year, for a unique opportunity was available for the exercise of a keen and critical mind in an environment which he loved. He was the friend of all, but particularly of the men who fly. The rare combination of high professional attainments, whole-hearted devotion to flying, and a charming and ever-youthful personality, has set a standard for his brother medical officers in the Royal Air Force which is not likely to be surpassed.

Group Capt. Hanly was an able surgeon and an efficient and zealous officer, popular with his colleagues and his staff. His interest in flying, combined with his professional qualifications, made him particularly suited to the care of R.A.F. personnel, and gave him an insight into the problems peculiar to the Service, which lent weight to his advice. The loss of Group Capt. Hanly, at a time when his matured experience was of particular value, has been greatly regretted by the Service to which he belonged.

Lieut.-Col. DAVID LURIE, S.A.M.C., has been killed in Egypt. He was educated at the University of Capetown, graduating M.A. with distinction and winning a Rhodes scholarship to the University of Oxford, where he took the degrees of B.M., B.Ch. in 1926. In 1932 he obtained the F.R.C.S. and shortly afterwards returned to Johannesburg, where he became registrar and, later, assistant surgeon to the General Hospital. He entered the S.A.M.C. in 1941. He was a member of the B.M.A.

Major DOUGLAS YEOMAN RICHARDSON, R.A.M.C., died at Moretonhampstead on Sept. 4. He was born on July 2, 1906, and qualified M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. in 1931, taking the D.L.O. in 1939. He had held the posts of house-surgeon and out-patient assistant at the Central London Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital, aural house-surgeon at West London Hospital, and resident medical officer at the West Herts Hospital. Before entering the R.A.M.C. as temp. lieut. in February this year he was aural surgeon under the E.M.S. to Louth County Infirmary and clinical assistant to the throat, nose, and ear department of the County Hospital, Lincoln, where he had been in practice since 1935. His contributions to medical literature included "Jacksonian Attacks in Connexion with Extradural Abscess of the Frontal Lobe" (*British Medical Journal*, Dec. 15, 1934), and "A Case of Silent Mastoiditis" (Nov. 23, 1940).

Prisoners of War.—War Subs. Capt. A. M. Boyd, R.A.M.C., War Subs. Capt. H. L. Clift, R.A.M.C., Lieut. T. B. D'Costa, R.A.M.C., War Subs. Capt. W. K. Frewen, R.A.M.C., Capt. E. T. Gilbert, R.A.M.C., Capt. W. O. James, R.A.M.C., Lieut.-Col. G. P. Kidd, M.C., R.A.M.C., War Subs. Capt. A. Macfarlane, R.A.M.C., Major D. A. Macpherson, R.A.M.C., Major J. Parkes, R.A.M.C., War Subs. Capt. A. P. Russell, R.A.M.C., War Subs. Capt. E. T. M. Smith, R.A.M.C., Temp. Major A. McL. W. Thomson, R.A.M.C.

Wounded.—Temp. Surg. Lieut. D. V. Stott, R.N.V.R.

DEATHS IN THE SERVICES

Surg. Lieut.-Cmdr. WILLIAM ASTLE RYAN, R.N., died at Port of Spain, Trinidad, on Aug. 28. A native of Cahore, Co. Wexford, he was educated at the University of Dublin, where he graduated M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. in 1932. He entered the Royal Navy as surg. lieut. soon after qualification, was promoted surg. lieut.-cmdr. in 1938, and was placed on the retired list in June, 1941.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

The following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

M.D.—F. R. Staub.

FINAL M.B., Ch.B.—*Part II (Old Regulations)*: Mildred S. Airey, T. E. Bairstow, L. Crawford, C. B. Dawson, Joan A. Dawson, Mary D. Fox, Elspeth Harrison, E. B. Harrison, Kathleen M. Harrison, G. Hipps, H. M. Kershaw, T. G. Kletz, R. E. Lawrence, G. K. Laxton, D. H. Lewis, Lillias J. G. McLeod, H. B. Peart, J. Priceman, J. D. Riley, P. A. H. Rivett, Betty Sanderson, K. A. Simpson, R. Spink, C. Stringfellow, J. W. Taylor, Pauline Wynne.

The West Riding Panel Practitioners' Prize has been awarded to J. G. Brockis.

Medical Notes in Parliament

Tuberculosis in the Services

Mr. ERNEST BEVIN, replying on Sept. 10 to Sir Francis Fremantle, said he knew of an analysis showing that of 300 consecutive cases of pulmonary tuberculosis admitted to a certain sanatorium for the Services, it was considered that 200 could have been detected at the initial examination by mass miniature radiography as a routine procedure. Mr. Bevin said that perhaps half of these 300 cases had been examined by civilian medical boards before the adoption by these boards in Nov., 1940, of improved methods of detection of pulmonary tuberculosis. It was considered impracticable to establish mass miniature radiographic examination at medical boards throughout the country. The alternative method of detection immediately after the men had been enlisted had been found to be the most practical way of dealing with the subject.

Chairmen of Medical Boards

Mr. BEVIN, in a statement on Sept. 10, said he appointed chairmen of medical boards which examined recruits for the Forces. Appointment was normally for one year, and current appointments would expire on May 31, 1943. In making the original appointments, practitioners with special experience of work of an analogous kind were selected wherever possible. Subsequent appointments had usually been made for members of boards who had shown themselves suitable for the position. He did not know how many chairmen were retired officers in receipt of retired pay.

Mines Medical Service Proposed

On Sept. 8 Mr. J. GRIFFITHS asked the Minister of Fuel and Power what steps had been taken to establish a medical service in the several regions under the reorganization scheme, and if he would cause an investigation into the effect of diet deficiencies, particularly of fats, on the health of coal miners. Major LLOYD GEORGE said that officers of his Department, in association with those of the other Departments concerned, were working out a scheme for a mines medical service, and he hoped to be able to announce his proposals shortly. The general question of diet was a matter for the Minister of Health, but as regards coal miners the question of food in relation to the colliery canteens had been considered by the Miners' Welfare Commission in association with the Ministry of Food and in consultation with high medical authorities. He would bring Mr. Griffiths's suggestion to the Commission's notice.

Pasteurized Milk

On Sept. 20 Mr. MABANE told Mr. David Adams that considerable progress had been made towards the elimination of disease organisms from milk for human consumption by pasteurization or other methods. There was close collaboration in this matter between the Minister of Food and the Ministers of Agriculture and of Health. Pasteurization standards were set by the Minister of Health and action was taken by the appropriate officers under the Act and Regulations relating to food generally and to milk in particular. At present responsibility for distribution of milk rested upon the Minister of Food, and it was estimated that some 70% of the milk supply was pasteurized before distribution to consumers. It was anticipated that the rationalization of wholesale and retail distribution now being undertaken would result in a larger proportion of supply being pasteurized.

Diphtheria in Non-immunized Children.—Mr. ERNEST BROWN has told Mr. Leach that incomplete information at present before him, representing about 90% of the local authorities from whom he had asked for returns, showed that in the 6 months ended June 30 last, of some 13,400 children notified as suffering from diphtheria about nine-tenths had not been immunized, and that in 797 fatal cases there were 780 non-immunized children, against 17 who had been inoculated.

Notification of Scabies.—Mr. BROWN has stated that while it would not be appropriate to make scabies notifiable generally, he was prepared to consider applications from local authorities to have scabies made notifiable in their district, upon being satisfied that the authority had adequate facilities for diagnosis and treatment.

Notes in Brief

Mr. Brown has arranged with the Minister of Supply that while supplies permit rubber will be made available for the production of a strictly limited number of rubber hot-water bottles to meet the needs of hospitals and similar institutions. He has also arranged with the President of the Board of Trade for the production of a reasonable quantity of stoneware and earthenware hot-water bottles for the general public.

The Ministry of Food is setting up 15 plants with a total annual capacity of about 7,500 tons of mixed dried vegetables, to be produced from 140,000 tons of fresh vegetables. Distribution in the coming spring will be restricted to the Forces and certain emergency services. It is intended to dry mainly potatoes, carrots, and cabbages.