

leukaemia. Stamer concludes from his experiments that for the treatment of human cancer large intravenous doses of carcinogen would be required and that the least differentiated tumours should respond most favourably. The discussion on the danger of producing new tumours is inconclusive. This book will interest the cancer research worker rather than the general medical reader.

L. FOULDS.

### TRAUMATIC INJURY

*The Pathology of Traumatic Injury.* A General Review. By James V. Wilson, M.D., M.R.C.P. Foreword by Philip H. Mitchiner, M.D., M.S., F.R.C.S. (Pp. 192; 61 illustrations (several in colour). 20s. plus 7d. postage.) Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone. 1946.

Clinicians and pathologists will be grateful to Major J. V. Wilson for having compiled this general review of the pathology of traumatic injury. His main object has been to record wartime progress and to define the many problems that still remain unsolved. He reviews a considerable amount of the research work on trauma published in isolated papers during the war. Much of this research is recorded in inaccessible Service and official documents, and when it becomes available another edition of the book will certainly include it. He discusses shock, burns, crush, and blast with commendable precision, as well as such conditions as arterial spasm and concussion.

The author wrote this book under the stress of war while abroad, and references were difficult to obtain; this accounts for the occasional omission of up-to-date information—a relatively minor failing that will be rectified in the next edition. The illustrations are excellent and the subject matter is well presented and easy to read.

GEOFFREY HADFIELD.

*Alfred Adler: Apostle of Freedom.* By Phyllis Bottome. (Pp. 280. 12s. 6d. London: Faber and Faber. 1946.) Enthusiasm often distorts judgment, and the reader of this book must be careful not to confuse an appreciation of a master by a passionately devoted pupil with a scientific appraisal. Phyllis Bottome writes well and holds the attention of the reader from cover to cover, but her words are entirely adulatory: the master can do no wrong. Adler was more a teacher than a psychiatrist and his work appeals more to educationists than to doctors. The author thoroughly dislikes the Freudians, who would have no relations with Adler after his secession from the psycho-analytical school, and assures us that the latter was far the greater psychologist. It is too early to decide which of the eminent twentieth-century medical psychologists has the greater claim to fame; but it is, to say the least of it, uncertain that Adler will head the list. Again, Adler's advocacy of neighbourliness and the promotion of others' happiness is of course important and entirely admirable, but it might be thought from this book that it was an original idea; yet have we not heard of it, for example, in the Gospels, the books of Moses, and even in the ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead?

The second edition of *Local Anaesthesia: Brachial Plexus*, by R. R. Macintosh and W. W. Mushin (Oxford: Blackwell; 10s. 6d.), could more accurately be described as a reprint, since the only discernible difference from the original printing is the addition of a single paragraph on p. 10. The abundance of illustrations (many in colour), which are largely self-explanatory, makes unnecessary any account of tedious details of technique. Our only serious criticism is of terminology. The authors in their preface show clearly why the term "local analgesia" is more accurate than "local anaesthesia" but fail to carry this into practice in the body of the book, for the words are used as if they were interchangeable. It seems a pity that the opportunity to straighten out the terminology has been missed in this excellent monograph from the Nuffield School of Anaesthesia.

*The Medical Annual, 1946*, the sixty-fourth of its kind, faithfully reflects the advances recorded in every department of medicine. The emphasis is still on wartime experience, and references to D.D.T., atabrin, and penicillin are numerous. The alphabetical arrangement of the sections and the excellent index make it easy for the reader to refer to whatever subject is of immediate interest. "Books of the Year" lists English and American medical works and provides an easy guide for the postgraduate student. The editors, Sir Henry Tidy and Mr. A. Rendle Short, and their many contributors are to be congratulated on maintaining the high standard expected from this annual. The publishers are John Wright and Sons, Ltd., and the price is 25s.

### BOOKS RECEIVED

[Review is not precluded by notice here of books recently received]

*Gas and Air Analgesia.* By R. J. Minnitt, M.D., D.A. 3rd ed. (Pp. 80. 5s.) London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox. 1947.

A practical handbook for the midwife and medical practitioner; includes the latest regulations of the Central Midwives Board.

*Quantitative Clinical Chemistry Interpretations.* Vol. I. By John P. Peters, M.D., M.A., and Donald D. Van Slyke, Ph.D., Sc.D. 2nd ed. (Pp. 1,041. 38s. 6d.) London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox. 1946.

Discusses energy exchanges and the chemistry and metabolism of carbohydrates, lipids, and proteins.

*The Diagnosis and Treatment of Bronchial Asthma.* By Leslie N. Gay, Ph.B., M.D. (Pp. 334. 27s. 6d.) London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox. 1946.

Intended for the student and medical practitioner; with references and many illustrations.

*Modern Methods of Feeding in Infancy and Childhood.* By Donald Paterson, M.D., F.R.C.P., and J. Forest Smith, F.R.C.P. 9th ed. (Pp. 184. 8s. 6d.) London: Constable and Co. 1946.

Includes revised diet sheets for evaporated milk and recent information on the diet in coeliac disease.

*Medicine in the Changing Order.* Report of the New York Academy of Medicine Committee on Medicine and the Changing Order. (Pp. 240. 11s. 6d.) New York: The Commonwealth Fund (London: Geoffrey Cumberlege). 1947.

Reviews medical care in city and country, in public health and in the hospital, and suggests remedies for present inadequacies.

*Osler's Principles and Practice of Medicine.* By Henry A. Christian, A.M., M.D., F.A.C.P. 16th ed. (Pp. 1,539. \$10.) New York and London: D. Appleton-Century Company. 1947.

Changes in this edition include accounts of the sulphonamides and antibiotics, the regrouping of certain infectious diseases and a brief history of the edition of the textbook.

*Transactions of the American Ophthalmological Society.* Vol. XLIV. (Pp. 554. No price.) Philadelphia: American Ophthalmological Society. 1946.

Includes papers on cataract, the treatment of corneal wound healing and ulceration, diagnosis of early glaucoma, and a number of experimental studies.

*Digest of British Social Insurance.* By T. S. Newman, J.P. (Pp. 322. 10s. 6d.) London: Stone and Cox. 1947.

An exposition for the layman of the Acts relating to National Insurance, Industrial Injuries, and Family Allowances, with extensive index.

*Les Processus de Guérison des Cavernes Pulmonaires Tuberculeuses.* By Jean Tricoire. (Pp. 174. No price.) Paris: G. Doin et Cie. 1947.

A monograph on tuberculous cavities in the lung and their treatment.

*Pédagogie du Nourrisson et du Premier Age.* By A. Thooris. (Pp. 184. No price.) Paris: G. Doin et Cie. 1947.

A practical account of the care of the infant; intended primarily for the layman.

*Maladies des Nourrissons et des Enfants.* By Germain Blechmann. 5th ed. (Pp. 758. No price.) Paris: G. Doin et Cie. 1947.

A textbook of children's diseases for the medical practitioner.

*L'Acetilcolina nelle Sindromi Schizofreniche.* By A. M. Fiamberti. (Pp. 454. No price.) Florence: Ditta Editrice Luigi Niccolai. 1946.

A monograph on acetylcholine deficiency in schizophrenia and its use in treatment.

*La Streptomycine: Etude Expérimentale et Thérapeutique.* By Alphonse Abaza. (Pp. 94. No price.) Paris: G. Doin et Cie. 1947.

Experimental investigation into streptomycin, its pharmacology and therapeutic applications.

William Everett was a man of high ideals and of great moral courage. Allied with his outstanding skill in his profession was his imaginative sympathy for patients under his care—and indeed for everyone who was in trouble. Many in the humbler walks of life have special reasons to be grateful for acts of kindness, happily conceived and quietly performed. He was very fond of children and was particularly successful in gaining their confidence and affection. He was an artist of skill, and had considerable gifts as a lecturer and teacher. As a colleague he was loyal, staunch, and considerate, and was ever ready to respond to appeals for help and advice. Everett was a man of wide culture and a delightful companion. To anyone privileged to enjoy his happy hospitality, it was very apparent how much his home life meant to him and in what affection he held his wife and children. To these, his many friends in all walks of life will extend their warmest sympathy.

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## Medico-Legal

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### DIVORCE AFTER TEMPORARY INSANITY

[FROM OUR MEDICO-LEGAL CORRESPONDENT]

Under Herbert's Act divorce may be granted where a party to the marriage is incurably of unsound mind and has been continuously under care and treatment for five years immediately before the petition. "Care and treatment" are clearly defined. A person of unsound mind is deemed to be under care and treatment while he is detained in pursuance of any order or inquisition under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890–1930, or while he is receiving treatment as a voluntary patient, if that treatment follows without any interval a period of detention in pursuance of the kind of order already described, "and not otherwise." The result is that if a patient starts his treatment as a temporary patient under the Mental Treatment Act and then changes to voluntary status he does not come within the Act, and the partner cannot have a divorce for insanity.

This anomaly was shown by a recent case<sup>1</sup> in which a wife, shortly after bearing a child, showed signs of mental disorder and was admitted to a mental hospital as a temporary patient. Six months afterwards, at her own written request, she was admitted at the same hospital as a rate-aided voluntary patient. Ten years afterwards she was still there and quite incurable. The husband petitioned for a divorce, but the judge found himself unable to grant a decree because the period of voluntary treatment followed detention, not in pursuance of any order or inquisition, but under the temporary provisions of the 1930 Act. Before the wife was admitted as a temporary patient the husband had signed a form, as prescribed by the Act, requesting the superintendent to receive his wife as a temporary patient. This application was duly accompanied by the appropriate recommendation of two medical practitioners. Counsel for the husband argued that if a patient may be lawfully detained for six months without his or her consent as a person of unsound mind it must be presumed that the detention was imposed by virtue of some legal order. The Court of Appeal replied that this attractive proposition was based on the assumption that all the safeguards provided by the 1930 Act to ensure that the patient is properly detained are scrupulously complied with. The Master of the Rolls<sup>2</sup> laid down in 1940 the principle which the courts apply in these cases. He said that the safeguards which the legislature has laid down to ensure that detention shall take place only in proper cases are strict, and unless they are strictly observed the detention of an alleged lunatic is illegal. The machinery must be carried out according to the letter of the law. Now the 1930 Act lays down that within a month of the reception of a temporary patient he shall be visited by two members of the visiting committee, and if they think he should continue to be detained they must sign a statement to that effect and leave it with the person in charge; if they think otherwise they must before the end of the second day report their opinion to the Board of Control. The state-

ment or report of the visiting committee is therefore an essential requisite for the lawful detention of the temporary patient.

The judge trying the case at first instance had no evidence before him about what the visiting committee did, and decided the case on the ground that the temporary treatment procedure does not contain either an order or an inquisition. The Court of Appeal had inquiries made and ascertained that the visiting committee had not signed the required statement to the effect that it was proper that the wife should continue to be detained. The letter of the law had not been carried out; the wife was not lawfully detained, and the husband, therefore, through no fault of his own, could not have his divorce. This result points clearly to a need for the revision of Herbert's Act to bring its provisions more into line with common sense.

It is worth noting that if the voluntary treatment follows immediately on a further period of temporary detention, the "care and treatment" provisions of Herbert's Act are satisfied, because the temporary detention is prolonged by an "order" even though it has not been initiated by one: *Benson v. Benson* (1941).

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## The Services

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The President of the U.S.A. has conferred the Legion of Merit, degree of Officer, on Lieutenant-Colonel D. A. O. Wilson, R.A.M.C., in recognition of distinguished services in the cause of the Allies.

The Queen of the Netherlands has conferred the following decorations in recognition of distinguished services in the cause of the Allies:

*Knight Officer of the Order of Orange Nassau with Swords.*—Major (Temporary) R. Strang, R.A.M.C.

*Knight of the Order of Orange Nassau with Swords.*—Captains J. N. Blair and F. G. Tucker, R.A.M.C.

Dr. Saw Ba Tin, Medical Officer, Kyaukkyi, Burma, has been appointed M.B.E. (Civil Division) for services to the Forces during military operations in Burma prior to Sept. 2, 1945.

### R.A.M.C. PRIZE FUNDS: THE CONSULTANTS PRIZE

The consultants to the War Office and the Armies in the Field in the late war have presented a sum of money to the R.A.M.C. in order to found a Consultants Prize, to be competed for at intervals of one to three years. The prize will be awarded for the first time in 1948 and will be to the value of 25 guineas; it is open to serving officers of the R.A.M.C. holding a regular or a short service commission. The first prize will be awarded for an essay of not more than 10,000 words on a professional subject, based on the author's own experiences between 1939 and 1946. It is hoped that these essays will ensure that valuable war experience, which would otherwise be lost, will be recorded for future guidance and possibly for publication. Entries should be sent in through the usual channels so as to reach the honorary secretary, R.A.M.C. Prize Funds Committee, R.A.M. College, Millbank, London, S.W.1, by Aug. 1, 1948.

The Colyer Prize was founded in June, 1926, to commemorate the twenty-five years' service of Sir Frank Colyer as honorary curator of the odontological museum of the Royal Society of Medicine, and the following regulations were approved: That the accumulated income of this fund be used every third year for the purpose of awarding a prize for the best original work in dental science completed during the previous five years by a dental surgeon educated at any duly recognized dental school in Great Britain or Northern Ireland, and who has not been qualified to practise more than five years at the date of the award; that notices be sent to each dental school in Great Britain and Northern Ireland stating the conditions and the date at which the next prize will be offered; that the chief medical and dental journals be asked to give publicity to the announcement of the prize without incurring the fund in the expense of advertisement; that the prize committee shall have power to withhold the prize if they consider there has been no work submitted of sufficient merit to justify the award; that if the prize committee decide to withhold the award they shall be empowered to arrange for a lecture, or lectures, upon some subject related to the odontological museum and may accord the lecturer an honorarium from the prize fund. Applications from candidates, together with a general account of their researches, should be submitted to the Prize Committee of the Society (1, Wimpole Street, London, W.1) not later than Oct. 1, 1947.

<sup>1</sup>*Whitley v. Whitley* (1946) 2 All E.R. 726; (1947) 1 All E.R. 667.  
<sup>2</sup>*Murray v. Murray* (1941) P.1.

## Universities and Colleges

### UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

In a Congregation held on June 26 the following degrees were conferred:

D.M.—J. M. Walker, G. S. Dawes.

### UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Mrs. Amy M. P. Pantin, M.B., B.Chir., has been elected to the Gwyneth Pretty Studentship for three years from March 25.

### UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM

At Congregations held on July 1 and 2 the following medical degrees were conferred:

M.D.—P. B. Crone, W. A. S. Falla, C. Neubauer, Mary D. Taylor, \*J. H. Middlemiss, \*S. G. Siddle, \*P. Szekeley.

Ph.D. in Medicine.—\*S. Ali.

M.B., B.S.—J. P. Anderson, A. Ashcroft, G. M. Bell, Joan Bride, Sheila M. Cameron, D. J. Cawthorne, Lucy E. Coates, R. Cowley, Jacqueline Elliott, L. H. Field, Peggy Foster, J. B. Fox, J. Glaser, D. L. Golightly, A. C. Griffith, W. P. Haigh, A. Hand, B. Hayes, Catherine V. Johnston, J. Josephs, A. R. Kirby, H. F. Lake, T. K. Lamballe, Elizabeth U. Lee, M. F. Levy, F. I. Locke, Lorna M. McLeod, Margaret A. Nattrass, A. O. Odulate, Margaret J. Parbrook, D. Refson, A. A. Reid, M. C. Robson, A. I. Rowe, J. N. S. Simpson, Patricia M. McK. Smith, A. H. Snaith, Soniah H. J. Sumner, Evelyn Swangren, Anastasia Swinburne, Helena C. W. Wardle, D. G. V. Whittingham, \*S. A. Biggart, \*D. B. Leaming, \*K. McKay, \*R. T. Parr, \*W. E. Suffield.

\* In absentia.

### UNIVERSITY OF WALES

The following candidates for the degrees of M.B., B.Ch., at the Welsh National School of Medicine have satisfied the examiners at the examinations indicated: *Surgery*, A. J. Dark, H. B. Davies, Margaret E. Davies, Marjorie J. A. Davies, J. A. Emanuel, T. R. Hunt, H. E. Jones, J. G. Leopold (with distinction), Constance A. M. Llewellyn. *Medicine*, D. R. Bowen, Elizabeth B. Butler, J. P. Ciantar, A. C. Coulthard, A. J. Dark, G. C. Davies, Marjorie J. A. Davies, G. S. Foster, C. Havard, C. H. L. Howells, Eluned K. Jones, H. T. Jones, Rosina E. Jones, W. R. King, J. G. Leopold, L. T. Lewis, R. M. Marshall, Margaret I. Morgan, Vivien J. Parker, F. I. Powell, L. T. Rees, S. Solomon, Heather Stockdale, K. P. Williams.

### UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN

John Kay Jamieson, M.B., C.M., has retired from the Chair of Human Anatomy and Embryology at Trinity College, Dublin.

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

At a quarterly meeting of the Council of the College, held on July 10, Sir Alfred Webb-Johnson, Bt., was re-elected President for the ensuing year and Sir Cecil Wakeley and Mr. L. E. C. Norbury were elected Vice-Presidents.

Invitations to become the first Fellows in Dental Surgery of the College were issued to eighteen dental surgeons, including the following who are also members of the medical profession: Prof. Robert Vivian Bradlaw, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.D.S., Eric Wilfred Fish, C.B.E., M.D., D.D.Sc., William Kelsey Fry, C.B.E., M.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.D.S., Prof. Humphrey Francis Humphreys, O.B.E., M.C., M.B., Ch.B., M.D.S., Prof. Thomas Talmage Read, F.R.F.P.S., L.D.S., Harry Thomas Roper-Hall, M.B., Ch.B., M.D.S., Prof. Harry Stobie, F.R.C.S., L.D.S., Prof. Frank Clare Wilkinson, M.D., D.D.Sc.

The Council issued invitations to 21 dental surgeons to serve as the first members of the board of the Faculty of Dental Surgery of the College. The design for the gown for Fellows in Dental Surgery was approved.

The following appointments were made for the ensuing year:

*Hunterian Professors*—Mr. A. W. Badenoch, one lecture on congenital obstruction of the bladder neck; Mr. A. D. Beattie, one lecture on the treatment of peptic ulcer by vagotomy; Mr. D. J. Browne, one lecture on hare lip and cleft palate; Mr. M. A. Falconer, one lecture on a study of principles and results of lumbar intervertebral disk surgery; Mr. Hassan Ibrahim, one lecture on bilharziasis and bilharzial cancer of the bladder; Mr. Robert Guy Puivertaft, one lecture on repair of tendon injuries in the hand; Mr. V. H. Riddell, one lecture on carcinoma of the breast; Mr. F. E. Stock, one lecture on the surgical approach to hypertension; Mr. A. H. C. Visick, one lecture on a study of the failure after gastrectomy; Mr. S. A. Way, one lecture on the anatomy of the lymphatic drainage of the vulva and its influence on the radical operation for carcinoma; Dr. M. C. Wilkinson, one lecture on observations on the pathogenesis and treatment of skeletal tuberculosis; Mr. H. W. Wookey, one lecture on the surgical treatment of malignant disease of the pharynx and oesophagus.

*Arris and Gale Lectures*.—Dr. E. M. Darmady, one lecture on acute uraemia, its aetiology and basis for treatment; Mr. L. Gillis, one lecture on recent advances in the treatment of arm amputations, cineplastic surgery, and arm prostheses; Mr. H. F. Lunn, one lecture on a contribution to the anatomy of hernia.

*Erasmus Wilson Demonstrators*.—Six demonstrations on the pathological contents of the Museum, one by Mr. V. Zachary Cope, one by Mr. R. J. McNeill Love, one by Mr. P. H. Mitchiner, two by Mr. L. W. Proger, and one, on the surgical manifestations of Boeck's sarcoid, by Mr. R. W. Raven.

*Arnott Demonstrators*.—Six demonstrations on the contents of the Museum, three each by Dr. R. J. Last and Mr. H. F. Lunn.

The eighteenth Macloghlin Scholarship was awarded to Alexander Livingston (Epsom College).

A Diploma of Fellowship was granted to Donald Patrick Robertson and a Diploma of Membership to Antony Josef Ruzicka.

Diplomas in Psychological Medicine, in Laryngology and Otolaryngology, and in Industrial Health were granted, jointly with the Royal College of Physicians of London, to the following successful candidates:

**DIPLOMA IN PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE**.—E. H. Cranswick, J. A. Crawford, P. B. de Maré, J. J. Fleminger, E. H. Hare, A. B. Hegarty, R. F. Hobson, J. G. Howells, W. Ironside, J. Johnston, G. N. Jones, V. L. Kahan, J. Katz, L. G. Kiloh, A. B. Kinnier Wilson, C. C. Lack, A. F. McLean, M. Markowe, D. A. R. Pond, K. C. Royes, P. Sainsbury, A. B. Sclaire, S. Tischler, P. M. Turquet, A. H. Williams.

**DIPLOMA IN LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOLARYNGOLOGY**.—J. Ackerley, J. N. Appleton, L. F. Day, P. F. King, J. A. Langille, J. M. Marquard, Peggy K. L. Orton, C. C. Ring, R. V. Tracy-Forster, K. L. Wilson.

**DIPLOMA IN INDUSTRIAL HEALTH**.—W. E. Broughton, Caroline J. Brown, A. Butterworth, J. V. Manning, H. B. Melzer, Niaz-ud-Din, Dorothy Williams.

A Diploma in Anaesthetics was granted, jointly with the Royal College of Physicians of London, to N. C. Smiedt.

### SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON

At a meeting of the Court of Assistants held on June 17 with Dr. C. Thackray Parsons, Master, in the chair, the report of the death, on June 19, of Dr. Cecil Wall, Father of the Court and Archivist to the Society, was received with profound regret.

The following representatives were appointed: Central Midwives Board, Dr. J. P. Hedley; British Postgraduate Medical School Governing Body, Sir Cecil Wakeley; Central Council for District Nursing, Mr. George Wynn-Williams, in succession to Dr. Douglas Kirkwood, resigned; XIth International Congress of Pure and Applied Chemistry, Prof. E. C. Dodds, F.R.S., and Dr. G. Roche Lynch; Commission Internationale Permanente pour la Médecine du Travail, Dr. Thackray Parsons.

The reports of the representatives on the General Medical Council and the Negotiating Committee were received.

The Honorary Freedom of the Society was bestowed upon Sir Stanley Hewett, Surgeon-Apothecary to the King.

P. W. Monckton Copeman was bound apprentice to W. S. C. Copeman for four years.

The Mastery of Midwifery, *honoris causa*, was conferred upon Sir Allen Daley, Sir Eardley Holland, and Sir William Fletcher Shaw.

The report of the death, on May 16, of Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins, Gold Medallist, was received with great regret.

It was decided that a course of eighteen subscription lectures on modern therapeutics be delivered in the Hall during October and November, 1947.

The Diploma in Industrial Health was granted by examination to A. Bell.

The Diploma of L.M.S.S.A. was granted upon examination to the following candidates: J. A. Archer-Hall, M. G. Allen-Mersh, A. G. Lewis, G. R. Hollings, R. P. K. Sen, R. D. C. Hart, P. Sattin, F. W. P. Clutterbuck, A. R. Ellerker, J. S. Lambe.

### SCOTTISH CONJOINT BOARD

The following candidates, having passed the final examination, were admitted L.R.C.P.Ed., L.R.C.S.Ed., and L.R.F.P.&S.Glas., on July 18: D. K. M. Alison, W. B. Balderston, Mary E. Barton, R. Black, J. F. Chacko, J. T. N. Cole, J. Crow, T. L. C. Dale, W. Davidson, Maureen M. Devine, D. C. Drummond, C. G. Duncan, Sheila M. Forsyth, S. Goldin, S. H. Goodman, D. S. Griffith, G. F. W. Hossack, Mariada Y. D. Hutchison, W. Jack, L. Kramer, A. J. Laidlaw, D. M. Lyon, K. I. MacLean, H. McNeill, B. Mactaggart, Mary A. Mahoney, A. Millar, D. L. Moody, Janet Q. Morton, Mary C. Penny, W. R. Plews, Doreen S. Ryan, Doreen R. C. Scorgie, A. W. R. Thom, N. Weiselberg, Margaret L. Westwater.

### COMBINED HOSPITALS UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS

The following awards have been made:

*St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College*: Jane Swithinbank, Newnham College, Cambridge (Scholarship).

*Guy's Hospital Medical School*: W. G. Rhys-Jones, St. John's College, Oxford (Scholarship); D. J. Müller, Oriel College, Oxford (Exhibition).

**Prostitution**

The International Abolitionist Federation are holding a congress at Brussels on Sept. 6-9 on "Present-day Aspects of the Regulation of Prostitution." Subjects to be discussed include regulation by public authorities, compulsory treatment of venereal diseases, the administrative internment of persons said to be asocial, and the part played by men in prostitution. Those in Britain willing to take part in these discussions should register before Aug. 1 with Miss Hardwick, Association for Moral and Social Hygiene, Livingstone House, Broadway, London, S.W.1 (charge 6s.).

**W.H.O.**

The International Commission of the World Health Organization will meet for its fourth session on Aug. 30.

**Industrial Design**

The Scottish Committee of the Council of Industrial Design will hold an exhibition of industrial design in the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh, in August and September, opening on Aug. 25. A special feature of the Exhibition will be a section arranged by the Department of Health for Scotland, and there will be exhibits from Scottish firms manufacturing scientific instruments.

**Blood**

The second International Haematology and Rh Conference will probably be held in 1948.

**SOCIETIES AND LECTURES**

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.—Thursday, July 31, 6.15 p.m. Hunterian Lecture by Prof. H. W. Rodgers: Late Result of Gunshot Wound of Abdomen.

**ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE**

Section of Orthopaedics.—Tuesday, July 29, 8.30 p.m. Paper (illustrated by a film) by Dr. H. H. Kessler (Newark, New Jersey): Cineplastic Amputations. Members of the Sections of Physical Medicine and Surgery are specially invited to attend.

**POSTGRADUATE DIARY**

INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY, 330, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.—Wednesday, July 30, 4.30 p.m. Mr. V. E. Negus: The Larynx.

**APPOINTMENTS**

The Secretary of State for Scotland has appointed Mr. H. W. Guthrie, K.C., to be chairman of the Scottish Nurses Salaries Committee in succession to Mr. John Wheatley, K.C.

Dr. Marcus McCalléy has been appointed radiological consultant for the English Southern Counties.

Dr. Ernest H. Capel, of Birmingham, has been appointed Chief Medical Officer of the National Coal Board.

Dr. Capel, who is 40, received his medical training at the Middlesex Hospital, proceeding M.D. in 1933. He is a member of the Advisory Medical Committee of the Industrial Welfare Society, and until recently was Secretary of the Birmingham Group of the Association of Industrial Medical Officers.

BOWEN, RONALD A., M.B., D.A., Assistant Administrator of Anaesthetics, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, E.C.

GRETTON-WATSON, B. G., M.B., B.Chir., D.P.H., Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy School Medical Officer, County Borough of Dudley.

**BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS**

The charge for an insertion under this head is 10s. 6d. for 18 words or less. Extra words 3s. 6d. for each six or less. Payment should be forwarded with the notice, authenticated by the name and permanent address of the sender, and should reach the Advertisement Manager not later than first post Monday morning.

**BIRTH**

REED.—On June 27, 1947, at Oaklands Nursing Home, St. Leonards-on-Sea, to Susan, wife of Dr. B. C. M. Reed, a son.

**MARRIAGE**

LUSH GEE.—At Hutton, Essex, on July 12, Dr. Brandon Lush to Dr. Margaret Gee.

**DEATHS**

KERBY.—On June 25, at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Theo R. F. Kerby, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.M.R.E., aged 52, dear husband of Mary Kerby, Redesdale, Brackley.

MORISON.—On July 16, suddenly, at 28, Forty Lane, Wembley, Alexander Gavin Morison, M.A., M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health, Wembley, aged 54.

WOODRUFF.—On July 14, 1947, suddenly at Tolworth, Surbiton, David Winthrop Woodruff, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., aged 62.

**Any Questions?**

*Correspondents should give their names and addresses (not for publication) and include all relevant details in their questions, which should be typed. We publish here a selection of those questions and answers which seem to be of general interest.*

**Bleached Bread with Added Chalk**

**Q.**—Is the substance used for bleaching bread, and the excessive amount of chalk in it, prejudicial to health?

**A.**—Sir Edward Mellanby has recently claimed (*B.M.J.*, 1946, 2, 885) that the treatment of flour with nitrogen trichloride (the agene process) produces toxic compounds which cause canine distemper. The connexion with canine distemper has been disputed. Sir Edward gives a disturbing list of substances used as bleachers and "improvers." Even if the bleaching processes are harmless, this pointless monkeying with important foods seems most reprehensible.

The addition of chalk to flour is an entirely different matter. Chalk is an inert substance. The amount added is not excessive. The total amount of calcium supplied per day by the flour of a normal consumer is not more than 220 mg., which is about one-third of the average day's intake of calcium and equal to the amount in one-third of a pint of milk. There is no evidence that intakes of calcium salt of the order of 1 g. or more are harmful.

**Solar Plexus Knockout**

**Q.**—What is the physiology of the knockout blow in the "solar plexus," with its temporary respiratory paralysis and the feeling of never being able to breathe again?

**A.**—The effects of a blow in the "solar plexus" are usually ascribed to afferent impulses set up in the visceral nerves by the blow. These reflexly cause inhibition of respiration, a slowing or stoppage of the heart, and a fall in blood pressure. In Goltz's classical experiment inhibition of the frog heart is caused by tapping the intestines.

**Escape of Semen**

**Q.**—What is the cause of the semen escaping from the vagina after normal intercourse?

**A.**—It is normal for a considerable proportion of the semen to escape from the vagina after coitus, but this tendency is exaggerated if the introitus is stretched and gaping as a result of childbearing and particularly if prolapse is present. A change in position immediately after coitus, especially standing and walking, also favours the escape of semen. Although many women have the idea that effluvium seminalis is the cause of sterility, it rarely, if ever, is important.

**Actinomycosis**

**Q.**—Are human beings who drink the milk from a cow suffering from the condition known as "lumpy jaw" in danger of contracting actinomycosis? Are sulphonamides of use in treatment in humans and in animals?

**A.**—Actinomycosis is a local disease and the organism is not present in the milk of diseased cows, so there is no danger of infection from drinking the milk. Sulphonamides certainly help to cure human actinomycosis, but mainly by combating secondary septic infections. Presumably the same would hold good in the case of animals. Some have found that sulphonamides seem to assist the action of penicillin, which, of course, is itself a powerful remedy for actinomycosis.

**Excretion of Citrate after Transfusion**

**Q.**—How is the 2% solution of disodium citrate in transfused blood excreted, and how is it estimated in the urine?

**A.**—The greater part of the citrate in transfused blood is converted into sodium bicarbonate; 30 to 40% is excreted in the urine as citrate. Methods for estimating citric acid are given by Pucher, Sherman, and Vickery (*J. biol. Chem.*, 1936, 113, 235) and by Krebs and Eggleston (*Biochem. J.*, 1944, 38, 426).