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Names of contributors are printed in capitals. Subject entries for original articles, leading articles, annotations, and correspondence are indicated by the use of the symbols (O), (L), (A), and (C), respectively. Some subjects dealt with under various main headings in the *Journal*—e.g., "Annotations," "Any Questions?", "Leading Articles," etc.—are also set out under these headings.

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but also in this country and elsewhere, and the writer of any new book on rheumatism must face the difficulty of deciding how far he can include very recent and perhaps highly speculative and unconfirmed work. If the author has not been entirely successful in avoiding the appearance of having rushed to include the very latest work up to the moment of going to press, it is at least a good fault and his selection has been judicious. His chapter on endocrinology describes in a simple manner much that is entirely absent from other English textbooks on this subject. It is unfortunate that there has been an error in the plate giving the formulae of some important steroids, 17-hydroxy-11-dehydrocorticosterone and 11-dehydrocorticosterone being confused.

The other sections on the clinical features and treatment of the rheumatic diseases are extremely sound and of a remarkable conciseness, coupled with readability and completeness. If the chapter on fibrositis tends to lag behind more recent approaches to non-articular rheumatism it follows none the less the best of the traditional lines of thought, and much that is unsound has been avoided. Dr. Kersley reviews in a highly sceptical spirit the place of the disk lesion as an aetiological factor in sciatica, and he stresses the other causes of this syndrome, particularly those due to ligamentous and soft-tissue lesions. He goes so far as to suggest that neurological signs are not necessarily indicative of nerve-root pressure and that diminution of the ankle jerk may occur in fibrositic conditions. Indeed, he claims that all the clinical findings of a prolapsed disk may be reproduced in a severe attack of fibrositis, a view which must make the differential diagnosis extremely difficult—which it no doubt is. But these are minor criticisms of an otherwise first-class book which reflects the best of modern rheumatological teaching in a form suitable for students, postgraduates, and general practitioners.

W. S. C. COPEMAN

## EXAMINATION OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

*Practical Neurological Diagnosis.* With special reference to the Problems of Neurosurgery. By R. Glen Spurling, M.D. Fourth edition. (Pp. 268; illustrated. £1 17s. 6d.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1950.

This is the fourth edition of Spurling's book to appear since 1935, the main changes since the last edition being a complete revision of the chapter on the cerebellum and the addition of an account of the hypothalamus and a glossary of neurological terms. The latter is an unusual and useful feature in a book of this type. A short account is given of history-taking in neurological cases, and the methods of examination of the nervous system are described along orthodox lines. The author's description of Romberg's test, however, differs fundamentally from the method of performing the test and of interpreting it usually adopted in this country. He describes a positive test as swaying or falling when the patient stands with his eyes open, while it is usual to define a positive test as increase of unsteadiness when the eyes are closed. If the latter criterion is adopted a positive test is indicative of impairment of posterior-column function and not of cerebellar disease. A description of abnormalities in the cerebrospinal fluid and a short but helpful description of the role of radiology in neurological diagnosis complete the volume. The book is a valuable elementary introduction to examination of the nervous system and to interpretation of abnormal neurological signs.

J. W. ALDREN TURNER.

## BOOKS RECEIVED

*Review is not precluded by notice here of books recently received*

*The Psycho-Analytic Reader.* Edited by R. Fliess, M.D. (Pp. 358. 18s.) London: The Hogarth Press and the Institute of Psycho-Analysis. 1950.

*Popular Fallacies.* By A. S. E. Ackermann, B.Sc., F.C.G.I., M.Cons.E., Hon.F.S.E., A.M.I.C.E., M.R.S.I. Introduction by Sir R. Gregory, Bt., F.R.S. 4th ed. (Pp. 843. 30s.) London: Old Westminster Press. 1950.

*Aids to Materia Medica.* By G. H. Newns, M.D., M.R.C.P. 4th ed. (Pp. 204. 5s.) London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox. 1950

*Guide to Good Health.* By an Octogenarian Doctor. (Pp. 11. 1s.) London: H. K. Lewis. 1950.

*Progressive Professional Nursing.* By M. E. Grey, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Pp. 104. 6s.) Edinburgh: Livingstone. 1950.

*Medicine and Mankind.* By A. Sorsby, M.D., F.R.C.S. 2nd ed. (Pp. 232. 12s. 6d.) London: Staples. 1950.

*The Health of the People.* By S. Leff, M.D., D.P.H. (Pp. 288. 12s. 6d.) London: Victor Gollancz. 1950.

*Gastroscopy.* By R. Schindler, M.D., F.A.C.P. 2nd ed. (Pp. 433. £7 10s.) London: Cambridge University Press. 1950.

*Children with Mental and Physical Handicaps.* By J. E. W. Wallin, Ph.D. (Pp. 549. 42s.) London: Staples. 1950.

*Primary Carcinoma of the Vagina.* By R. G. Livingstone, M.D. (Pp. 73. 15s.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles Thomas. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1950.

*Employment Relations in a Group of Hospitals.* By J. Woodward, M.A. (Pp. 115. 5s.) London: Institute of Hospital Administrators. 1950.

*Essentials of Urology.* By J. C. Ainsworth-Davis, M.A., M.D., B.Ch., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.S.Ed. (Pp. 734. 50s.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1950.

*Menstruation and Its Disorders.* Edited by E. T. Engle (Pp. 358. 37s. 6d.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles Thomas. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1950

*Clinical Nutrition.* Edited by N. Jolliffe, M.D., and others. (Pp. 925. 90s.) London: Cassell. 1950.

*The Care of the Aged Sick.* (Pp. 11. 4d.) London: St. John Ambulance Association. 1950.

*An Introduction to Pathology.* By G. Payling Wright, D.M., F.R.C.P. (Pp. 569. 30s.) London, New York, and Toronto: Longmans Green. 1950.

*Laboratory Manual of Biochemistry.* By B. Harrow, Ph.D., and others. 3rd ed. (Pp. 149. 11s. 6d.) Philadelphia and London: Saunders. 1950.

*Proctology in General Practice.* By J. Peerman Nesselrod, B.S., M.S., M.Sc.(Med.), M.D., F.A.C.S., F.A.P.S. (Pp. 276. 30s.) Philadelphia and London: Saunders. 1950.

*Infrared Radiation Therapy Sources and their Analysis with Scanner.* By L. Rovner. (Pp. 34. 11s.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles Thomas. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1950.

*Massage reflektorischer Zonen im Bindegewebe.* By H. Leube and E. Dicke. Introduction by W. Kohlrausch. 4th ed. (Pp. 83 M. 4.50.) Jena: Gustav Fischer. 1950.

*Die Physiologie der Zeugung des Menschen.* By H. Knaus. 3rd ed. (Pp. 485. M. 50.) Vienna: Wilhelm Maudrich. 1950.

*Die Klinische Röntgendiagnostik der Inneren Erkrankungen.* By H. Assmann. 6th ed. Parts 1 and 2. (Pp. 1,023. M. 59.60 and M. 75.60.) Berlin, Göttingen, and Heidelberg: Springer. 1949.

*El Sexo a Voluntad.* By R. A. Ascorti. (Pp. 54. No price.) Buenos Aires: El Ateneo. 1947.

Mr. OLIVER asked if the Minister appreciated that it caused a great deal of unnecessary hardship if doctors had to move to obtain a status in which they ought to have been graded in the first place.

Mr. BEVAN said, on the contrary, it would cause considerable hardship if a doctor who had already been graded as a senior medical officer could never have a chance of being re-graded as a consultant.

#### Parliamentary Medical Group

A meeting of the all-party medical group of members of Parliament was held on June 21. The following officers were elected: Chairman, Lord Haden-Guest; Vice-chairman and Treasurer, Mr. Hugh Linstead, M.P.; Honorary Secretary, A. D. D. Broughton, M.P.

*Public Health Advisers in Germany.*—Mr. YOUNGER, Minister of State, stated in reply to Mr. ALBU on June 21 that the present number on the staff of the Public Health Adviser to the United Kingdom High Commissioner in Germany was ten. This number would be reduced to seven in July and four on January 1, 1951. The Public Health Adviser was responsible for liaison with the German authorities on the many questions which arose concerning the public health of the Allied Forces. He advised the United Kingdom High Commissioner on health matters and on co-operation with the United States and French public health officials on questions with a tripartite, federal, or international aspect.

## Medico-Legal

### VESTING OF MATERNITY HOME IN THE MINISTER

[FROM OUR MEDICO-LEGAL CORRESPONDENT]

In 1924 the Wellington Urban District Council set up a maternity home. The wide powers conferred on local authorities by the Local Government Act, 1929, not being available then, it did so by instituting a charitable trust. This conveyed to trustees, on trust, land on which to erect the home, with power to let, mortgage, pull down, and alter the premises as they thought fit. It also empowered the trustees to apply all moneys arising from a sale, mortgage, or other disposition of the premises either for the purposes of the home or for such other charitable purposes as they should think fit. In 1926 the Council conveyed certain funds to the trustees by way of endowment, directing them to apply the income towards the maintenance and management of the home and to invest the surplus, and, when they thought fit, to sell the investments and apply the proceeds for such other charitable purposes as they should think fit. On July 5, 1948, when the National Health Service came into operation, the premises were being used as a maternity home and the endowments were being applied for that purpose.

Section 6 (1) of the National Health Service Act, 1946, provides that on the appointed day there shall be transferred to and vested in the Minister all interests in or attaching to premises forming part of a voluntary hospital held by trustees solely for the purposes of that hospital. Section 7 (4, 10) makes a similar provision concerning endowments. The Minister accordingly claimed to take over the home, but the trustees objected on the ground that they did not hold the premises and funds solely for the purposes of the hospital, because they had discretion to apply them to other charitable purposes.

The trustees contended that, as the Act had an expropriating effect, it should be construed strictly and the court should look to the provisions of the trust deeds. The Minister, on the other hand, held that the Act should be construed liberally, in order to enable him to carry out the functions given to him, and that the matter was one of fact, to be determined by the actual use of the premises and funds at the vesting date. Mr. Justice Wynn Parry, trying the action,<sup>1</sup> thought that the proper course was simply to discover the intention of Parliament from the language used in the Act. Both contentions, he said, had much

to commend them, so that an ambiguity arose. He decided, however, that the language of the sections could not bear the construction put upon them by the trustees, and that he must look at the actual position at the moment the Act came into force. Accordingly he made a declaration that the home and its endowments were vested in the Minister under the Act.

## Universities and Colleges

### UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Professor H. de Watteville, professor of obstetrics and gynaecology in the University of Geneva, will deliver a lecture on "The Clinical Use of Hormone Assays in the Urine" in the obstetrics lecture theatre, 60, George Square, Edinburgh, on Tuesday, July 4, at 5 p.m. Senior students and graduates in medicine are invited to attend the lecture.

### UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Mr. John B. Hunter has been appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor for the year 1950-1.

The following scholarships at the Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine have been awarded for 1950-1: *Isabel Thorne Scholarship*, Miss J. H. Weston, Haslingden Grammar School (£40 per annum for six years); *Mabel Sharman-Crawford Scholarship*, Miss R. Turner, North London Collegiate School and Acton Technical College (£40 per annum for four years); *Sir Owen Roberts Memorial Scholarship*, Miss P. Painter, Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine (£65 per annum for four years); *A. M. Bird Scholarship for Clinical Studies*, Miss A. Curry, Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine (£40 per annum for three years).

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

The following lectures will be delivered at the College (Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.): July 6, 5 p.m., Otolaryngology Lecture by Sir Gordon Gordon-Taylor, "Glands in the Neck"; July 13, 5 p.m., Surgery Lecture by Dr. Gunnar Bauer, Surgeon-in-Chief, Mariestad Hospital, Sweden, "The Diagnosis and Treatment of Acute Deep Venous Thrombosis"; July 14, 3.45 p.m., Charles Tomes Lecture by Professor Lester Cahn, Professor of Oral Pathology, Columbia University, "The Jaws in Generalized Skeletal Disease"; July 14, 5 p.m., Charles Tomes Lecture by Professor A. B. P. Amies, Dean of the Faculty of Dental Science, University of Melbourne, "Epidemics." The lectures are open to those attending courses in the College and to all other medical practitioners, dental surgeons, and advanced students.

### UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Sir Leonard G. Parsons, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.O.G., F.R.S., has been appointed representative of the University at the 150th anniversary of the incorporation of the Royal College of Surgeons of England this month, and Dr. C. N. Iland representative at the International Congress for Microbiology to be held at Rio de Janeiro in August.

Colin White, M.Sc., M.B., B.S., has been appointed Lecturer in Physiology from September 1.

## The Services

A Supplement to the *London Gazette* has announced the following awards:

*Territorial Efficiency Decoration with 1st Clasp.*—Colonel J. M. Smellie, O.B.E., Lieutenant-Colonels T. W. Preston and R. L. Turner, O.B.E., Major D. P. Holmes, Captain T. F. Jouning, R.A.M.C.

*Territorial Efficiency Decoration.*—Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. Blunt, Lieutenant-Colonel (Honorary Colonel) E. Bulmer, C.B.E., Majors (Honorary Lieutenant-Colonels), J. McL. Cobban, H. E. W. Waters, Major (Temporary Lieutenant-Colonel) W. Gibson, Majors (Acting Lieutenant-Colonels) F. J. Manning, O. G. Prosser, M.C., A. Willcox, Majors R. Barraclough, M.B.E., E. H. Hanson, N. G. G. Talbot, O.B.E., Captains (Honorary Majors) A. S. Anderson, J. A. R. Johnson, P. M. Lissack, D. W. E. Lloyd, M.C., M. Park, G. Punshon, D. E. Ross, Captain J. K. Sugden, R.A.M.C.

<sup>1</sup>The Times, April 26, 1950.

**British Association of Allergists**

The ninth general meeting of the British Association of Allergists will be held at the Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, South Parks Road, Oxford, on Saturday, July 8. The programme is as follows: 10 a.m., council meeting; 11.50 a.m., Dr. A. W. Frankland, "First European Congress of Allergy"; 12 noon, paper by Drs. Homer E. Prince and Richard L. Etter, "Histamine Therapy," to be presented by Dr. Prince (Houston, Texas, U.S.A.) and discussion to be opened by Dr. Blair Macaulay; 2.30 p.m., Dr. Boen Swinny (San Antonio, Texas), "Viral Allergy," followed by a general discussion; 3.15 p.m., Dr. E. A. Brown (Boston, Mass., U.S.A.), "Present Status of A.C.T.H. Therapy in the Allergic Diseases," discussion to be opened by Dr. Peter Bishop.

**Renal Association**

A special meeting of the Renal Association will be held at the Ciba Foundation, 41, Portland Place, London, W., on Saturday, July 15, at 11.30 a.m. to welcome Dr. Homer Smith. He will give an address entitled "Development of Modern Renal Physiology." A few seats will be available to non-members and tickets may be obtained from the secretary, Mr. John Sophian, 66, Harley Street, London, W.1.

**Royal Medico-Psychological Association**

The annual meeting of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association will be held at the County Rooms, Hotel Street, Leicester. On Wednesday, July 12, at 2.30 p.m., Dr. K. K. Drury will be inducted as president for the ensuing year and will deliver an address. The annual dinner of the association will be held at Carlton Hayes Hospital, Narborough, Leicester, the same day at 7.30 for 8 p.m.

**Sheffield Regional Consultants and Specialists**

The annual general meeting of all consultants and specialists of the Sheffield Region will be held at Pearson House, Nottingham General Hospital, on Saturday, July 8, at 3 p.m.

**1952 Congress of Dermatology**

The Tenth International Congress of Dermatology will be held in London during the summer of 1952 under the presidency of Sir Archibald Gray. A preliminary programme will be prepared this year. As a result of the disruption caused by the last war addresses of the secretaries of certain dermatological societies are not available, so that all those interested are asked to communicate with Dr. Gordon B. Mitchell-Heggs, general secretary, Institute of Dermatology, St. John's Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, Lisle Street, Leicester Square, London, W.C.2.

**Society for Epileptics**

A meeting will be held on Thursday, July 6, at 5.30 p.m. at the Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, London, W.1, to inaugurate a laymen's society to further the interests of those suffering from epilepsy. Lady Cynthia Colville will preside, and the business of the meeting will be to discuss the objects of the proposed society, to appoint a council, and adopt a name. The proposed association is being formed under the auspices, but independently, of the National Association for Mental Health, and is receiving support and encouragement from the British Branch of the International League against Epilepsy. Those who have promised to speak include Dr. Russell Brain, Dr. Macdonald Critchley, Dr. Letitia Fairfield, and Dr. Denis Williams, in addition to several lay speakers. It is hoped that the association may be regarded as a memorial to the late Dr. Tylor Fox, who was warmly interested in the scheme. Its main object is "to enable persons suffering from epilepsy to lead as normal a life as possible in society and to educate the public into a rational and sympathetic attitude towards epileptics in all spheres of life, and to enlist the help of people and bodies to bring this about."

**Association of Clinical Pathologists**

The Association of Clinical Pathologists will hold its summer meeting in the Medical School, University of Leeds, on July 20, 21, and 22.

**SOCIETIES AND LECTURES**

A fee is charged for attending lectures marked ●. Application should be made first to the institution concerned.

**Tuesday**

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY.—At Obstetrics Lecture Theatre, 60, George Square, Edinburgh, July 4, 5 p.m., "The Clinical Use of Hormone Assays in the Urine," by Professor H. de Wetteville (University of Geneva).

**Wednesday**

YORKSHIRE SOCIETY OF ANAESTHETISTS.—At the General Infirmary at Leeds, July 5, 8 p.m., "Common Factors in Diabetes, Anaesthesia, and Shock," by Dr. A. H. Galley.

**Thursday**

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.—July 6, 5 p.m., "Glands in the Neck," Otolaryngology Lecture by Sir Gordon Gordon-Taylor.

ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE.—At Newark-on-Trent, July 6, 10.30 a.m., papers: "Hygiene in Communal Feeding," by Mr. A. H. Walters; "Rural Planning," by Mr. R. A. Kidd, B.Sc., M.I.C.E. Afternoon: visits will be made.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE.—At 26, Portland Place, London, W., July 6, 7.30 p.m., "Story of Smallpox in the British Isles," by Lieutenant-General Sir William MacArthur, K.C.B.

**Friday**

BRITISH INSTITUTE OF RADIOLOGY, 32, Welbeck Street, London, W.—July 7, 8 p.m., "The Measurement of X and Gamma Radiation over a Wide Energy Range," Twenty-ninth Silvanus Thompson Memorial Lecture by Dr. Lauriston S. Taylor (Washington, U.S.A.).

MAIDA VALE HOSPITAL FOR NERVOUS DISEASES MEDICAL SCHOOL, Maida Vale, London, W.—July 7, 5 p.m., clinical-neurological demonstration by Mr. Valentine Logue.

**Saturday**

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF ALLERGISTS.—At Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, South Parks Road, Oxford, July 8, 10 a.m., council meeting; 11.50 a.m., "First European Congress of Allergy," by Dr. A. W. Frankland; 12 noon, "Histamine Therapy," by Drs. Homer E. Prince and Richard L. Etter; 2.30 p.m., "Viral Allergy," by Dr. Boen Swinny; 3.15 p.m., "Present Status of A.C.T.H. Therapy in the Allergic Diseases," by Dr. E. A. Brown. SOUTH-EAST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL TUBERCULOSIS SOCIETY.—At Darvell Hall Sanatorium, Robertsbridge, Sussex, July 8, 10.30 for 11 a.m., "A Record of Lucite Ball Plombage," by Mr. W. P. Cleland; "Domiciliary Chemotherapy," by Dr. B. Rigden; "Primary Tuberculosis," by Dr. Ruth Dingley; demonstration of cases by Dr. A. McFarlane.

**BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS****BIRTHS**

Harper.—On June 23, 1950, at Gara, Needham Market, Suffolk, to Sybil (formerly Dyson), wife of Dr. James Harper; a brother for Christine, Peter, and Mary.

Kendall.—On May 31, 1950, at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, to Hilda Mary (formerly Morgan), M.B., Ch.B., wife of A. C. Kendall, M.R.C.P., a son.

Wolfson.—On May 26, 1950, at Birmingham Maternity Hospital, to Nancy, wife of Dr. L. J. Wolfson, a daughter.

**MARRIAGE**

Terajewicz—Lewandowska.—On June 7, 1950, at the District Register Office, Bury, Lancs, Walerian Terajewicz, M.D., to Aniela Lewandowska.

**DEATHS**

Brown.—On June 21, 1950, at The Cedars, Westgate Bay Avenue, Westgate-on-Sea, Alexander Warwick Brown, D.Sc., M.B., C.M.

Dawson.—On June 17, 1950, at a Swindon nursing-home, William Richard Dawson, O.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P.I., Lieutenant Colonel, R.A.M.C., retired, aged 85.

Fitch.—On June 17, 1950, Edward Louis Vincent Fitch, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of Cleator Gate, Cleator, Cumberland, aged 36.

Gauld.—On June 16, 1950, at 7, Park Terrace, Nottingham, George Ogg Gauld, M.B., Ch.B., aged 76.

Gray.—On June 16, 1950, in London, George Munn Gray, M.D., F.R.C.S., of Penryn, Cornwall, late of Nigeria.

Haughton.—On June 11, 1950, at Truro, John Welby Haughton, L.R.C.P. & S.I., formerly of Falmouth, aged 84.

King.—On June 22, 1950, William Athol Desmond King, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., of 1, Bishop's Place, Paignton, Devon.

McAlpine.—On June 11, 1950, at Leicester, Kenneth McAlpine, M.B., Ch.B., B.Ch., of Coleraine, Northern Ireland.

O'Brien.—On June 12, 1950, at Crickhowell Hospital, Charles Patrick O'Brien, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Quirke.—On June 22, 1950, at 494, Fulham Palace Road, London, S.W., John Joseph Quirke, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., aged 82.

Rowlands.—On June 18, 1950, Bernard Rowlands, L.S.A., late of Stanstead Road, Forest Hill, London, S.E.

Smith.—On June 22, 1950, at Hindhead, Surrey, Gilbert Smith, M.D., F.R.C.S., aged 75.

Thomas.—On June 21, 1950, in a London nursing-home, Harold Wynne Thomas, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of Copley Dene, Sundridge Avenue, Bromley, Kent, aged 85.

Young.—On May 18, 1950, in London, Morris Youdelevitz Young, C.I.E., M.B., Ch.B., aged 68.

# BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL

THE JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

## SUPPLEMENT

containing

Reports on the Work of the Association

Health Service News

General Medical Council

Meetings of Branches and Divisions

Service Appointments

Correspondence, etc.

VOLUME II, 1950

JULY TO DECEMBER

LONDON

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

TAVISTOCK SQUARE, W.C.1

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