

## SOCIAL MEDICINE

*Social Medicine: Its Derivations and Objectives.* Edited by I. Galdston, M.D. (Pp. 294. 22s.) London: Geoffrey Cumberlege. 1949.

In 1947 the New York Academy of Medicine invited a number of eminent doctors to take part in a discussion of social medicine; the papers contributed have now been edited by Dr. Iago Galdston and published by the Commonwealth Fund. After reading the book converts to this new gospel may find themselves wishing that its admirable but elusive doctrine could be formulated in more precise terms. Social medicine, it appears, embraces a very wide field, which includes for the moment epidemiology, preventive medicine, medical economics, and the social complications of illness; it leans towards psychiatry and nutrition.

The difficulty, which paradoxically is crystallized by the diffuseness of the matter in this collection of papers, is that the term social medicine is currently used in two quite different senses. In the first place many people use it in reference to a personal exposition of the humanitarian or preventive traditions: it is better to prevent than to cure; the doctor should consider patient as well as illness, family as well as patient, community as well as family. These and many other ideas are included, and it is in this general sense that most of the contributors to the conference of the New York Academy have written. Secondly, and more specifically, since 1943 social medicine has been used in Great Britain as the title of a number of university departments. It would be unrealistic to expect these departments, which must be judged by the quality, number, and uniqueness of their research publications, to give direction to all the good-natured observations which have appeared under the broad banner of social medicine.

A few words of consolation for the general reader, who by now no doubt has become reconciled to the fact that no definition of social medicine acceptable to all tastes is forthcoming: no branch of science was ever established in debate, and when questions of definition are taken too seriously research workers may find themselves merely discussing what they would be doing if they were doing anything at all.

T. McKEOWN.

## MEDICAL RESEARCH

*Research in Medical Science.* Edited by David E. Green, Ph.D., and W. Eugene Knox, M.D. (Pp. 492. £2 8s.) New York: The Macmillan Company. 1950.

The title of this book is not fully informative. It contains articles on growing points of medical research by 26 distinguished contributors, including among British workers Burnett on viruses, Hogben on the methodology of medical genetics, and D. D. Woods on micro-organisms and vitamin research. The range of subjects includes research on psychiatry, by Karl A. Menninger, which reads like an apologia, and biochemical problems in sanitary engineering. Material is up to date to the end of 1948 and early 1949, and the book is well printed and produced. There is no index. It is difficult to review a book of this kind or to envisage the audience to which it will appeal, an audience which is already well served by journals and reviews. The individual articles are excellent, but they will remain inaccessible to most readers. Moreover, I think many of us find that we do not get as much out of reading a variegated book of this kind as from reading a monograph or textbook confined to a single field.

L. J. WITTS.

## BOOKS RECEIVED

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

*Man is a Microcosm.* By J. A. V. Butler. (Pp. 152. 10s. 6d.) London: Macmillan. 1950.

*Fundamentals of Physical Chemistry for Premedical Students.* By H. D. Crockford and S. B. Knight. (Pp. 352. 34s.) London: Chapman and Hall. 1950.

*The Pathology of Internal Diseases.* By W. Boyd, M.D., F.R.C.P. 5th ed. revised. (Pp. 866. 77s.) London: Henry Kimpton. 1950.

*Cranioplasty.* By D. L. Reeves, A.B., M.D. (Pp. 119. 22s. 6d.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1950.

*The Physiology of Tissues and Organs.* By D. H. K. Lee, M.D., M.Sc., D.T.M., F.R.A.C.P. (Pp. 159. 30s.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1950.

*Practical Biology for Medical and Intermediate Students.* By C. J. Wallis, M.A. 3rd ed. (Pp. 404. 21s.) London: William Heinemann. 1950.

*Types of Diabetes Mellitus and Their Treatment.* By A. R. Colwell, M.D. (Pp. 97. 16s. 6d.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1950.

*Essay on the Cerebral Cortex.* By G. von Bonin, M.D. (Pp. 150. 27s.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1950.

*Asphyxia Neonatorum.* By W. F. Windle, Ph.D., Sc.D. (Pp. 70. 15s.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1950.

*Clinical Applications of Suggestion and Hypnosis.* By W. T. Heron, M.A., Ph.D. (Pp. 116. 22s. 6d.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1950.

*The Diagnosis of Salmonella Types.* By F. Kauffmann, M.D. (Pp. 86. 16s. 6d.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1950.

*Did Adelaide Bartlett . . . ?* By G. Gwynn. (Pp. 178. 9s. 6d.) London: Christopher Johnson. 1950.

*The British Encyclopaedia of Medical Practice.* Edited by Lord Horder, G.C.V.O., M.D., F.R.C.P. Vol. 2. 2nd ed. (Pp. 711. 60s. per volume.) London: Butterworth. 1950.

*Hay-Fever: A Key to the Allergic Disorders.* By J. Freeman, D.M. (Pp. 321. 42s.) London: William Heinemann. 1950.

*An Atlas of Cat Anatomy.* By H. E. Field and M. E. Taylor. (Pp. 75. 28s.) London: Cambridge University Press. 1950.

*A Manual of Physics.* By J. A. Crowther, Sc.D., F.Inst.P. 5th ed. (Pp. 594. 21s.) London: Geoffrey Cumberlege. 1950.

*The Springs of Conduct.* By Sir John Parsons, C.B.E., F.R.C.S., F.R.S. (Pp. 104. 7s. 6d.) London: J. and A. Churchill. 1950.

*An Introduction to Personality Study.* By R. B. Cattell. (Pp. 235. 7s. 6d.) London: Hutchinson's University Library. 1950.

*Freud: Dictionary of Psychoanalysis.* Edited by N. Fodor and F. Gaynor. (Pp. 208. \$3.75.) New York: Philosophical Library. 1950.

*A Symposium on Steroid Hormones.* Edited by E. S. Gordon. (Pp. 396. \$6.50.) Wisconsin: The University of Wisconsin Press. 1950.

*Pneumoconiosis.* Leroy U. Gardner Memorial Volume, by various authors. (Pp. 659. \$7.50.) New York: Paul B. Hoeber. 1950.

*Endometriosis.* By C. Fernandez-Ruiz. (Pp. 235. No price.) Barcelona: Ediciones Byp. 1950.

*Die Fokale Erkrankung des Körpers.* By S. G. Fudalla (Pp. 172. M. 8.50.) Stuttgart: Hippokrates-Verlag. 1950.

*Aktive Bewegungstherapie bei inneren Erkrankungen.* By R. Trumpp. (Pp. 148. M. 11.50.) Stuttgart: Hippokrates-Verlag. 1950.

Dr. ALFRED WILLIAM MOORE, at one time Deputy Director-General of the Ministry of Pensions, died at his home at St. Albans on September 20. He was born in Norwich in 1881, and received his medical training at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and St. George's Hospital, qualifying in 1905 and graduating M.B., B.Chir. a year later. After holding house appointments, he settled down to general practice in a partnership at Stony Stratford, Bucks. Very soon afterwards the Territorial Army was formed and Moore's senior partner, Dr. Bull, raised a cavalry field ambulance with its headquarters at Stony Stratford. In this Moore took a commission. At the outbreak of war in 1914 he was second in command, and became C.O. the next year, after the evacuation of Gallipoli, where his field ambulance served dismounted with its brigade—the Bucks, Berks, and Dorset Yeomanry. From 1916 to 1918 Moore continued to command his unit in Sinai, Palestine, and Syria in a series of campaigns which are likely to remain historic as the last in which cavalry played a decisive part. It was then that he displayed that talent for organization, the balanced judgment, and the combination of personal charm with sweet reasonableness which were to mark his subsequent career. He was mentioned in dispatches three times, and was awarded the O.B.E., the Territorial Decoration, and the Order of the Nile. After the war he joined the medical staff of the Ministry of Pensions and became a permanent Civil Servant, reaching before retirement in 1946 the position of Deputy Director-General of Medical Services. He was a member of the Central Medical War Committee from 1938 to 1944. Moore was an English gentleman of a type now becoming uncommon. His father was a canon of Norwich Cathedral, but came of an old Norfolk family of yeoman farmers, and his son retained throughout life the tastes and outlook of the countryman. A fine shot and a good oar—he was in the Cambridge trial eights of 1900—he spent nearly all his holidays on the Norfolk Broads sailing his beloved boats. He was a man of quite exceptional charm, and both his manners and his personal appearance had a rare distinction. None who were privileged to observe it will forget the warm happiness of his family life with his wife and five children. To them the sympathy of many friends will go out.

—H. F. H.

We record with regret the death of Sir GEORGE ROBERTS, Bt., who was Almoner of St. Thomas's Hospital from 1926 to 1943. He was born in 1859. In 1919 he became a member of the council of the King Edward's Hospital Fund for London. Roberts made a gift of £105,000 to the Fund as a thank-offering for the recovery of King George V from his serious illness in 1929. He was created a baronet in the following year.

B. M. writes: Some there are who so identify themselves with the institution they serve that their passing leaves among colleagues a deep void. Such a man was NORMAN STUART CARRUTHERS. Success came rapidly in his specialty, for his commanding presence radiated confidence, and his surgery was marked by a craftsman's skill. Kindness and generosity were his outstanding qualities, and particularly were these shown to children, of whom he had deep understanding. Confident in his own strong will, he expressed his opinion decisively, leaving those from whom he differed under no misapprehension as to his own views. His judgment and foresight were such as to lead inevitably to involvement in hospital administration and appointment to many committees. His chief interest, however, was in the nursing committee, of which he was chairman and where his death will be most keenly felt. In addition to his professional work Carruthers had many other interests. He was skilled in carpentry and mechanics and later became interested in farming. Life was not too kind to him. Of his two sons, one died in infancy from diphtheria—in his memory was given the Jock Carruthers medal for the outstanding student nurse of her year at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. His other boy twelve months after qualification was accidentally killed while serving in the Army in India. To his son's widow and two young children the remainder of his days were devoted. To them, his widow, and other members of his family the sympathy of all his many and grateful friends is extended.

## OBITUARY

## Universities and Colleges

## UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

At a graduation ceremony held on September 27 the following medical degrees were conferred:

M.D.—<sup>1</sup>I. A. Anderson, <sup>1</sup>A. D. Macrae, <sup>1</sup>A. Mair, I. C. Cowan, L. G. Tulloch.

M.B., Ch.B.—<sup>1</sup>C. U. Webster, <sup>1</sup>Rosamond Beattie, <sup>1</sup>Elizabeth A. F. Priest, <sup>2</sup>J. G. Stewart, <sup>2</sup>D. M. McLellan, Elizabeth P. N. Bell, A. M. Blackwell, I. M. Brooker, W. R. Bruce, W. R. Buchan, J. N. Burry, D. D. Carmichael, J. P. Chadwick, S. C. Clifford, A. M. Cook, G. J. Cordice, G. G. Duncan, A. L. S. Duthie, A. T. Edwards, Jean McG. Edwards, A. L. Florence, N. G. Fraser, D. T. Gordon, Dorothy Gray (née Armstrong), <sup>1</sup>K. T. Gruer, R. T. S. Henderson, A. F. Henry, R. W. Hilton, N. B. Hopper, W. I. Horne, C. R. Innes, G. Innes, G. S. Joss, Janina E. Koperska, A. W. Laing, R. A. Laing, G. S. Laird, Zofia K. W. Laszewski (née Kinel), Helen C. Lawson, G. Lorimer, A. D. Lyall, D. S. McConnach, D. J. McCulloch, W. G. MacDonald, Winifred W. McDonald, A. W. McIntosh, W. McIntyre, I. Mackay, J. McKay, M. Mackay, K. J. Maclean, H. N. MacPhail, R. T. Macpherson, N. Marshall, Valerie MacA. Milne, R. A. Mitchell, D. M. Moir, J. S. V. Mouat, R. R. Mowat, Muriel J. Mucha (née Mackie), D. R. Murray, N. T. Nicol, T. A. A. Pearce, W. J. W. Rae, Frances S. Ritchie, Margaret Robson, Helen C. de C. Roll (née Scott), N. Z. Sacks, H. G. Saunders, A. Sillars, L. C. Skinner, D. M. Slessor, I. W. Strachan, J. Strachan, Dorothy A. Sutherland, K. I. Sutherland, Janina Z. M. Szamocki (née Skroczyński), A. J. Taylor, Katharine J. Thicknesse, Isabella E. M. F. Thomas, I. D. H. Todd, Audrey M. G. Towns, E. I. Watty, Dolores F. Webster, R. D. Weir.

<sup>1</sup>With honours. <sup>2</sup>With commendation. <sup>3</sup>Passed Final M.B., Ch.B. degree examination with distinction in surgery, medicine, and midwifery. <sup>4</sup>Passed Final M.B., Ch.B. degree examination with distinction in midwifery.

## UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

The Semon Lecture for 1950 entitled "The Development and the Present Use of Bronchspirometry" will be delivered by Dr. Paul Frenckner, lecturer at the Karolinska Institutet and head of the Department of Oto-rhino-laryngology, Southern Hospital, Stockholm, at the Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, London, W., on Thursday, November 2, at 5 p.m.

A special university lecture on "The Circulation in Pregnancy" will be delivered by Professor R. J. Kellar, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in the University of Edinburgh, at University College Hospital Medical School, University Street, London, W.C., on Friday, November 3, at 5 p.m.

Professor F. A. E. Crew, F.R.S., Bruce and John Usher Professor of Public Health and Social Medicine in the University of Edinburgh, will deliver a course of three special university lectures on "The Biological Aspects of War" at the Senate House, University of London, Bloomsbury, W.C., on Thursdays, November 16, 23, and 30, at 5.30 p.m.

The lectures are addressed to students of the University and to others interested in the subjects. Admission is free, without ticket.

Dr. W. S. Feldberg, F.R.S., will deliver a course of three lectures on "Chemical Transmitters" in the physiology theatre of University College (Gower Street, W.C.) on November 10 and 21 and December 1, at 5.15 p.m.

Professor Hamilton Hartridge, F.R.S., will deliver a course of three lectures on "Some Recent Advances in the Physiology of Vision" in the physiology theatre of University College, Gower Street, W.C., on Tuesdays October 24 and 31 and November 7, at 5.15 p.m.

Four lectures on "Aspects of Protein Structure" will be delivered by Dr. A. Elliott and Dr. W. E. Hanby in the physiology theatre of University College, Gower Street, W.C., on Mondays, November 20 and 27 and December 4 and 11, at 4.45 p.m.

## UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Dr. Kurt Aberman has been appointed Lecturer in Biophysics in the Department of Anatomy, from October 1.

The following resignations are announced: Dr. Harold Scarborough (Reader in Medicine) from September 30 on appointment as Professor of Medicine and Director of the Medical Unit at the Welsh National School of Medicine, Cardiff; Dr. C. N. Iland (Lecturer in Bacteriology).

Professor H. F. Humphreys, Vice-Principal and Professor of Dental Surgery in the University, will deliver a lecture entitled "The Horn of the Unicorn" in the Mason Theatre, Edmund Street, Birmingham, on Tuesday, October 17, at 1.45 p.m. He will also discuss "Malthus and Modern Times" in a lecture to be given in

the Union Debating Hall, Edgbaston, Birmingham, on Thursday, October 26, at 1.45 p.m.

Professor K. Mather, D.Sc., Professor of Genetics in the University, will deliver a lecture on "Genetics and its Relation to Human Affairs" in the Mason Theatre on Tuesday, November 14, at 1.45 p.m.

A lecture on "Henry VIII: A Medical Study" will be delivered by Professor J. F. D. Shrewsbury, Professor of Bacteriology in the University, in the Mason Theatre on Thursday, November 23, at 1.45 p.m.

On Friday, December 1, at 1.45 p.m., in the Union Debating Hall, Bertrand Russell, O.M., F.R.S., will deliver a lecture on "The Impact of Science on Society."

### ROYAL COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS

At a recent meeting of the Council of the College the President, Professor Hilda Lloyd, was appointed to represent the College on the General Medical Council.

The Honorary Fellowship of the College was conferred on Dr. George William Kosmak, of New York, editor of the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*, in recognition of his services to obstetrics and gynaecology.

Mr. Geoffrey Keynes and Dr. R. J. Minnitt were elected to the Fellowship under the rule permitting the election annually of not more than two practitioners who are not obstetricians or gynaecologists, but who have made valuable contributions to the advancement of obstetrics and gynaecology.

It was announced that Sir Arthur Sims had made a gift of securities to the value of over £25,000 to establish the Nancy Sims and Margaret Black Travelling Professorship Fund, the income from which will enable the College to appoint a senior obstetrician-gynaecologist to visit Australia and New Zealand and the other countries of the Commonwealth in alternate years.

It was also announced that the trustees of the Bernhard Baron Charitable Trust intended to make a gift of £10,000 to found a Travelling Scholarship.

The following were admitted to the Membership of the College: G. T. Altimas, J. D. Andrew, P. R. Blahey, G. T. Carson, C. J. Champ, F. L. Clark, T. R. Clarke, W. W. Coppinger, B. M. Corkill, E. D. Crichton, T. Dean, C. N. DeGaris, W. Donovan, H. P. Dunn, Isabel L. Dyke, M. W. Elliott, C. J. Farr, B. Fatima, W. R. Foote, M. B. Fox, H. H. Francis, A. C. G. Frost, W. D. Giffen, C. A. Haxton, H. A. Henderson, H. F. Hills, R. Hodkinson, R. H. Horner, D. R. Hughes, T. G. Ingram, D. J. McI. Irvine, H. A. Kelsey, D. Kuttu, J. F. Leaver, J. L. MacArthur, D. C. McEwen, K. T. MacFarlane, Ishbel M. Macrae, C. M. H. Mair, W. D. Marshall, Helen M. Noble, R. H. O'Hanlon, D. G. P. Paranjothy, M. G. Pearson, E. Quehl, P. D. Rajaratnam, I. Ramamurthi, K. E. E. Read, H. A. Rowley, A. M. Rutherford, S. A. Scorer, D. R. Sheumack, E. M. Southern, D. W. Sparling, S. K. S. Roy, S. N. Upadhyay, L. G. R. Van Dongen, D. B. B. Whitehouse, J. Wilbush, E. A. Williams, M. H. V. Young.

## The Services

Surgeon Rear-Admiral T. Madill, O.B.E., R.N., has been appointed Honorary Physician to the King in succession to Surgeon Rear-Admiral O. D. Brownfield, C.B., O.B.E., R.N., who has been placed on the Retired List.

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

*Four Clasps to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration*.—Colonels J. L. Hamilton, M.C., T.D., and H. J. D. Smythe, M.C., T.D., R.A.M.C.

*Three Clasps to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration*.—Colonel J. Gwynne-Morgan, C.B.E., T.D., R.A.M.C.

*Two Clasps to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration*.—Colonel R. H. Robinson, T.D., Lieutenant-Colonels W. C. Barber, T.D., and F. A. Belam, T.D., and Major (Honorary Colonel) G. M. Frizell, T.D., R.A.M.C.

*1st Clasp to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration*.—Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. Blunt, T.D., R.A.M.C.

*Territorial Efficiency Decoration with 1st Clasp*.—Lieutenant-Colonel (Honorary Colonel) F. A. R. Stammers (T.A.R.O.), Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Arnot, Major (Honorary Colonel) W. Barclay, M.C., and Major R. K. Reeves, R.A.M.C.

*Territorial Efficiency Decoration*.—Lieutenant-Colonel G. M. Komrower, Major (Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel) H. W. Featherstone, Majors J. P. W. Hughes and D. J. Wigginton, Captains (Honorary Majors) J. Kerr, D. B. Brown, L. T. Clarke, D.S.O., and D. W. Gillies, and Captain A. R. Darlow, R.A.M.C.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND VITAL STATISTICS

We print below a summary of Infectious Diseases and Vital Statistics in the British Isles during the week ended September 23.

Figures of Principal Notifiable Diseases for the week and those for the corresponding week last year, for: (a) England and Wales (London included). (b) London (administrative county). (c) Scotland. (d) Eire. (e) Northern Ireland.

Figures of Births and Deaths, and of Deaths recorded under each infectious disease, are for: (a) The 126 great towns in England and Wales (including London). (b) London (administrative county). (c) The 16 principal towns in Scotland. (d) The 13 principal towns in Eire. (e) The 10 principal towns in Northern Ireland. A dash — denotes no cases; a blank space denotes disease not notifiable or no return available.

Disease	1950					1949 (Corresponding Week)				
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Meningococcal infection Deaths .. ..	22	3	11	2	—	35	4	17	1	1
Diphtheria Deaths .. ..	38	4	10	1	4	92	13	34	5	2
Dysentery Deaths .. ..	170	14	124	1	1	78	16	76	—	—
Encephalitis, acute Deaths .. ..	5	—	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas Deaths .. ..			21	6	4			30	9	2
Infective enteritis or diarrhoea under 2 years Deaths .. ..	14		2	26	10	30	4	7	136	8
Measles* Deaths† .. ..	2,673	201	97	32	41	659	50	18	25	30
Ophthalmia neonatorum Deaths .. ..	37	4	3		1	44	2	10	—	—
Paratyphoid fever Deaths .. ..	9	1	—	—	—	23	2	2(B)	7(B)	1(B)
Pneumonia, influenzal Deaths (from influenza)‡ .. ..	260	13	4	—	—	226	10	1	1	3
Pneumonia, primary Deaths .. ..	5	—	2	—	—	5	1	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis, acute Deaths§ .. ..	112	15	129	7	2	113	18	118	8	6
Puerperal fever Deaths .. ..	419	24	51	5	9	295	48	7	3	1
Puerperal pyrexia Deaths .. ..	20	3	—	—	—	88	5	5	—	1
Relapsing fever Deaths .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever Deaths† .. ..	771	52	134	53	49	1,097	78	165	73	95
Smallpox Deaths .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid fever Deaths .. ..	3	1	—	2	—	8	3	1	5	1
Typhus fever Deaths .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping-cough Deaths .. ..	2,935	234	200	69	17	1,061	39	47	43	34
Deaths (0-1 year) ..	205	19	25	13	9	213	25	33	20	11
Deaths (excluding stillbirths) .. ..	3,880	596	534	154	104	3,895	596	524	144	108
Annual death rate (per 1,000 persons living) .. ..			10.7					10.5	8.9	
Live births .. ..	6,894	1092	815	333	204	7,111	1061	800	382	244
Annual rate per 1,000 persons living .. ..			16.4					16.0	23.7	
Stillbirths .. ..	181	35	29			187	30	23		
Rate per 1,000 total births (including stillborn) .. ..			34						28	

\* Measles is not notifiable in Scotland, and the returns are therefore an approximation only.

† Deaths from measles and scarlet fever for England and Wales, London (administrative county), will no longer be published.

‡ Includes primary form for England and Wales, London (administrative county), and Northern Ireland.

§ The number of deaths from poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis for England and Wales, London (administrative county), are combined.

|| Includes puerperal fever for England and Wales and Eire.

¶ Primary pneumonia no longer notifiable in Eire.

ROYAL EYE HOSPITAL, St. George's Circus, Southwark, London, S.E. —October 20, 4.30 p.m., "Medical Ophthalmology," by Mr. A. J. Cameron.

ROYAL MEDICAL SOCIETY, 7, Melbourne Place, Edinburgh.—October 20, 8 p.m., "The Mechanism of Sleep," dissertation by Mr. A. E. Meek.

### Sunday

LONDON JEWISH HOSPITAL MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Rose Hertz Hall, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, London, W.C., October 22, 3 p.m., "Common Errors in Cardiovascular Practice," presidential address by Dr. Geoffrey Konstam.

### APPOINTMENTS

Harold Balme, O.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.S., has been appointed technical consultant on rehabilitation to the U.N. Department of Social Affairs and the World Health Organization.

CULBERT, T. D., M.B., D.A., Senior Consultant Anaesthetist, Manchester Babies' and Children's Hospital Group, with duties in Manchester Northern Hospital Group.

DONE, JANET M., M.D., D.P.H., D.R.C.O.G., Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare, Coventry.

LOWE, MURIEL J., M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.C.H., Assistant County Medical Officer, Gooch Area Division No. 10, West Riding of Yorkshire.

PATTERSON, JOHN, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., Assistant Divisional Medical Officer, No. 1 Division (Ulverston), County of Lancashire.

ROSS, ALASTAIR IAN, M.D., D.P.H., Deputy Medical Officer of Health, City of Leicester.

SOUTH-WESTERN REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.—Consulting Dermatologist in North Gloucestershire Clinical Area, R. E. Bowers, M.D., M.R.C.P.; Physicians in Psychiatry at Bristol Mental Hospital, G. M. Gibb, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M., and J. B. Phillips, M.D., D.P.M.

VICKERY, K. O. A., M.D., D.P.H., Deputy Medical Officer of Health, County Borough of Bournemouth.

### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS

#### BIRTHS

Burkitt.—On October 1, 1950, at 133, Gresham Road, Staines, Middx., to Violet, wife of R. T. Burkitt, M.D., F.R.C.S.I., a daughter.

Hill.—On October 7, 1950, at Robinson Hospital, Ballymoney, to Nancy, wife of Dr. William J. C. Hill, Portrush, a daughter.

Hotchkis.—On September 29, 1950, to Jean M. Hotchkis (formerly Smout), M.B., Ch.B., wife of Mr. Alistair Hotchkis, Balgown, Pitlochry, Perthshire, a son.

Illingworth.—On October 1, 1950, to Dr. Cynthia Illingworth, M.R.C.P. (formerly Redhead), wife of Professor R. S. Illingworth, M.D., F.R.C.P., a son.

Imray.—On September 1, 1950, to Peggy, wife of Dr. M. A. Imray, Bowden House, Market Harborough, Leics., a sister for Elizabeth and Robin—Gillian Mary.

Lawrence.—On October 8, 1950, at Redruth, to Jane (formerly Thom), wife of Dr. D. B. Lawrence, a son.

Matthews.—On September 12, 1950, at St. Luke's Hospital, Guildford, to Diana (formerly Tenby-Smith), wife of Dr. Harold W. Matthews, a daughter—Rohar. Elizabeth Hayden.

Merry.—On July 8, 1950, at the Point Fortin Hospital, Trinidad, to Kathleen, wife of Dr. C. H. Merry, a daughter.

Scurr.—On September 23, 1950, at Westminster Hospital, to Jean (formerly Spiller), wife of Dr. Cyril Scurr, a son.

Spicer.—On October 4, 1950, to Faith (formerly James), wife of Dr. C. C. Spicer, of 65, Beaufort Mansions, London, S.W., a son.

#### DEATHS

Avery.—On September 30, 1950, at 928, London Road, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, John Avery, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Charsley.—On September 29, 1950, Gilbert William Charsley, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. of 6, Regina Court, 42, Fitzjohn's Avenue, Hampstead, London, N.W., formerly of Sydenham.

Fawsett.—On September 29, 1950, Francis William Fawsett, M.B., M.R.C.S., of 31, Chantry Lane, Grimsby, Lincs.

Fraser.—On September 29, 1950, at a nursing-home, Edinburgh, Robert Murray Fraser, L.R.C.P.&S.Ed., H.D.D., L.D.S.Ed., of 28, Morningside Place, Edinburgh.

Graham-Little.—On October 6, 1950, at his Epsom home, Wimpole Lodge, Sir Ernest Gordon Graham-Little, M.D., F.R.C.P.

Lowson.—On September 27, 1950, at New House, Moat Drive, Tamworth, Staffs., William Lowson, M.B., Ch.B., aged 79.

Maclean.—On August 3, 1950, Archibald Maclean, M.B., Ch.B., of Auchencraign, Union Street, Hamilton, Lanarkshire, aged 43.

McCutcheon.—On October 1, 1950, at Warren House, Mayfield, Sussex, Oliver Edward McCutcheon, M.B., B.Ch., aged 80.

McQuade.—On September 18, 1950, at Ilorin, Nigeria, Henry Gray McQuade, M.B., B.Ch., of Wyndfeil, Steyning, Sussex.

Miskin.—On September 25, 1950, at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury, Leonard John Miskin, M.B., F.R.C.S., of Perry Farm, Wingham, near Canterbury, Kent.

Moran.—On September 25, 1950, at 1a, Winster Avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester, Peter Moran, M.D.

O'Gorman.—On September 22, 1950, at the London Hospital, Patrick Wilkins O'Gorman, C.M.G., M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H., Lieutenant-Colonel, I.M.S., retired, of 3, St John's Road, Harrow-on-the-Hill, aged 92.

Plummer.—On October 6, 1950, Francis Christopher Plummer, M.D., of Hillmorton, Dunstan's Lane, Burton-in-Wirral, and Rodney Street, Liverpool, aged 62.

Purdy.—On September 20, 1950, after a long and painful illness, Margaret Mary, beloved wife of Gordon Purdy, M.B., F.R.C.S.Ed., of Ashby House, Oakham, Rutland.

Raeburn.—On September 28, 1950, at Dumfries, James Alexander Raeburn, M.D., D.P.H.

### 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.

#### Dispensing of P.A.S.

Q.—Is it essential for P.A.S. powder to be dissolved freshly each day, or is it possible to make up a supply to last, say, for three days or longer?

A.—It is unnecessary for P.A.S. to be dissolved freshly each day in water, and it is quite in order to make up a supply to last for three days, but preferably not for longer. Many patients complain of the unpleasant taste and nauseating effect of such solutions. On the other hand, if P.A.S. is dispensed in tablets of 0.5 g., it may be necessary for the patient to swallow as many as 30 a day. Some patients prefer therefore to take the drug in cachets, each containing 1.5 g. This method of prescribing P.A.S. was mentioned by Dr. Hayman Jones in the *Journal* of June 10 (p. 1375), and such cachets are now on the market. Two cachets dipped in water and taken with a draught of water are not usually found very difficult to swallow, and there is no unpleasant taste. This dose should be taken at three-hourly intervals between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Some patients are nauseated by the drug when therapy is first begun, so it is wise to start with a daily dose of 5 g., gradually increasing to the full quantity of 15 g.

#### "Infective Gingivitis"

Q.—What is the aetiology and treatment of infective gingivitis?

A.—The aetiology of the condition is unknown, and, although it has been suggested that the virus of herpes simplex plays some part, there is no clear evidence that the lesions are infective. In women the ulcers may arise just prior to the onset of menstruation. The tip of the tongue, the gum some little distance from the teeth, and the inner aspect of the lips are the most common sites of ulceration. More rarely the palate may be involved. There is no infallible method of treatment, but the condition often responds to administration of one or more components of the vitamin-B<sub>2</sub> complex—e.g., 2 mg. riboflavin and 100 mg. nicotinamide daily—together with local applications of 1% gentian violet. Recurrences are relatively common.

#### Thrombophlebitis Migrans

Q.—A male clerk, aged 30, first came to me four months ago with a thrombophlebitis of the external saphenous vein about 4 in. (10 cm.) above the knee-joint. Despite penicillin and anticoagulants in the usual dosage, the process has since been progressive—wandering about the leg in a most haphazard fashion. Not a week has passed but a fresh patch develops, and both patient and doctor have wearied of its persistence. No septic focus has been found. (1) Can we institute any treatment now? (2) Should we have ligated long ago? (3) What is the likelihood of Buerger's disease developing here?

A.—The case is probably one of thrombophlebitis migrans. Each outburst should be treated with "elastoplast" support and enough dicoumarol to obtain a prothrombin time increased by 120%; this increase should be maintained for about a month. Penicillin seems to be of no value in this condition, and neither is internal saphenous ligation unless the veins are grossly varicose. The possibility of Buerger's disease developing can be put at 20%. The disease eventually burns itself out, but may last as long as two years. It is usual for these cases to continue normally at work provided there is no pyrexia. If this is present, there is lassitude and malaise which prevents work for short periods.