

of shock to its mother in an accident caused by the negligence of a railway company, and was injured for life, the child after birth could not recover.

The reason why at Common Law in England the unborn child cannot bring an action for damages, and cannot be murdered, is that until birth it is not recognized as having an existence separate from that of its mother. In an action for damages for negligence the plaintiff has to prove that there was a duty to take reasonable care owed to him, that the duty has been broken, and that as a result he has suffered damage. There cannot be a duty at Common Law owed to someone who, in the eye of the Common Law, does not exist.

In the English courts there is little doubt that this problem would be answered in the way in which it was answered by the minority judges in the New York Court of Appeals, and that in England only legislative action can confer upon the unborn child the right recognized by the majority in *Woods v. Lancet*.

CLAIM AGAINST PHYSIOTHERAPIST DISMISSED

[FROM OUR MEDICO-LEGAL CORRESPONDENT]

A woman patient last year brought an action¹ for £100 damages against a physiotherapist at the Lagan Valley Hospital, Lisburn, and against the Northern Ireland Hospitals Authority. She alleged that she had suffered burns and other injuries as a result of negligent treatment by the physiotherapist, and claimed against the authority as being vicariously responsible for the physiotherapist's alleged negligence.

The patient's arm was treated by the application of rubber pads containing coils. She was warned that if her arm became too warm she was to tell the physiotherapist. Up to 10 or 15 minutes for a first treatment was safe; it depended on the patient saying when the heat became uncomfortable, as there was no visual sign to indicate when that stage was reached. The patient called her after some 10 minutes. The physiotherapist adjusted the machine and soon afterwards removed the pads. The patient noticed blisters on her arm when going to bed that night, and the doctor who treated her said that there would be a permanent scar.

In dismissing the action Judge Johnston said that the onus was on the patient to satisfy him that she had not been properly treated by the physiotherapist, or that the machine was faulty. He did not think she had discharged that onus.

Comment

If he had found that the physiotherapist had been negligent, the authority, as her employer, would have been vicariously liable for that negligence, on the principles discussed previously in these columns.²

¹ *The Northern Whig*, September 25, 1951.
² *British Medical Journal*, March 3, 1951, p. 480.

Medical Notes in Parliament

HYPNOTISM BILL

Lord HADEN GUEST on July 10 moved in the House of Lords the second reading of the Hypnotism Bill. He said that the hypnotizing of young people for purposes of entertainment was forbidden entirely by the Bill. The Bill contained nothing to prevent the use of hypnotism for scientific or research purposes. Lord Haden Guest said that hypnotism should only be undertaken by people who knew how to remove the suggestions made during the hypnotic condition.

Lord WEBB-JOHNSON said the Bill was most desirable, and he hoped it would soon be on the Statute Book.

Lord READING, replying for the Government, said he saw no objection to the Bill in its present form. The precautionary steps laid down in the Bill seemed desirable. The Bill was read the second time.

Fluorine in Water

Mr. IAIN MACLEOD reported on July 9 that the members of the mission which had visited the United States of America to examine American investigations into fluorine in water were Miss Jean Forrest, dental officer, Ministry of Health; Dr. J. Longwell, Government Chemist's Department; Professor H. H. Stones, Dental Research Committee, Medical Research Council; and Dr. Allan Macbeth Thompson, Nutrition Research Team, Department of Midwifery, University of Aberdeen. The question of publication would be considered when he had received the mission's report.

Prescription Charges Again

Mr. MICHAEL STEWART raised on July 11 problems arising out of the administration of the regulations dealing with charges on prescriptions under the National Health Service. He asked whether the prescription charges seemed to be causing a reduction in the number of prescriptions.

Miss P. HORNSBY-SMITH said there was exemption in the out-patient departments for people who could produce a war pensions book or a National Assistance Board book, and whose card or prescription was stamped "exempted." Three large hospitals in congested areas, the London Hospital, the Hammersmith Hospital, and the Royal Free Hospital, had given information to the Ministry of Health. Up to July 10 the London Hospital had no case of a patient in the out-patient department being unable to pay 1s. In the Hammersmith Hospital there had been one, and the hospital paid from the Samaritan Fund. In the Royal Free Hospital there had not been a single case. A recent check had shown that only 16 out of 23,000 prescriptions cost the National Health Service under a shilling. These all cost 11d. or more, so the "cheating" of the patients was infinitesimal. Obviously a patient who wanted only a bandage would pay across the counter for it. There had been a small increase in quantities prescribed, but she would not say that this was permanent. People chronically sick were usually in-patients and got medicine free. So far as the Ministry had been able to assess there had been under 15% falling off in prescriptions. Miss Hornsby-Smith added that Mr. Macleod was ready to investigate the circumstances of any hospital management committee which found that the difficulties arose which Mr. Stewart had suggested.

The discussion then closed.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

On June 26 the degree of D.M. was conferred on R. H. Cowdell and H. J. F. Cairns (in absence).

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

FINAL M.B.—Old Regulations: *Part I. Surgery, Midwifery, and Gynaecology*: I. S. Lister, I. A. Stewart, A. E. Wagstaff. New Regulations: *Part II. Principles and Practice of Physic, Surgery, Midwifery, and Gynaecology*: ^{1 2}C. W. M. Adams, ¹D. M. E. Allan, ^{1 2}P. G. Allen, ¹J. D. C. Anderson, ^{1 2}N. W. Ashworth, ³M. A. Baddoo, ^{1 2}L. P. Balfour-Lynn, ¹P. A. J. Ball, ^{1 2}R. Baxter, ¹A. W. Beard, ^{1 2}D. W. K. Bird, ^{1 2}M. H. H. Bishop, ^{1 2}³Mrs. N. L. Blackwell, ^{1 2}G. M. P. Boyes, ¹M. J. Boyle, ^{1 2}J. E. Brett, ^{1 2}H. G. Britton, ¹B. W. Broadhurst, ¹D. Bryant, ³G. M. B. Bulman, ¹N. V. D. Bunker, ¹N. P. Burns, ¹D. A. P. Burton, ^{1 2}T. F. Bushby, ¹A. R. Butterfield, ^{1 2}G. R. C. Campion, ^{1 2}S. M. Cannicott, ¹H. Caplan, ¹J. B. Chapman, ¹H. S. Chen, ^{1 2}B. Chester, ¹W. J. Colbeck, ^{1 2}R. R. A. Coles, ¹C. E. T. Cones, ^{1 2}A. S. Cooper, ^{1 2}B. R. Corbin,

^{1 2 3}P. F. A. Crawshaw, ^{1 2 3}R. C. Curry, ^{1 2 3}R. G. Daniels, ¹J. G. Davies, ¹J. I. W. Davies, ¹R. J. L. Davis, ¹R. H. Davison, ¹P. J. Dawson, ¹P. F. Dixon, ^{1 2}A. B. Donnison, ^{2 3}E. M. Douglas, ^{1 2 3}I. C. Dow, ^{1 2 3}M. Dulake, ^{1 2 3}A. V. Dunlop, ^{1 2 3}J. H. Edwards, ¹J. R. Edwards, ¹J. N. T. Evans, ¹A. Fairley, ^{1 2 3}J. A. Fiddian, ²S. J. Fisher, ³R. T. D. FitzGerald, ¹J. R. Flury, ^{2 3}R. D. France, ^{2 3}Mrs. H. French, ^{1 2 3}O. H. French, ²N. Gee, ^{1 2 3}I. M. Glynn, ²A. M. B. Golding, ^{1 2 3}R. Goldsmith, ^{2 3}B. G. Gradwell, ^{2 3}R. K. Greenwood, ^{1 2}A. N. Griffith, ^{1 2 3}P. Griffiths, ¹H. F. Grundy, ³E. Hainsworth, ^{1 2 3}T. Hall, ^{1 2 3}R. Harrison, ¹D. S. Harry, ²R. D. Hernaman-Johnson, ²E. P. Hilary-Jones, ^{1 2 3}A. L. Hilton, ²C. B. Hobbs, ²V. M. C. B. P. Hollyhock, ¹B. L. Hoskyns, ²R. J. Hutchinson, ^{1 2 3}J. Innes, ^{1 3}B. S. Jay, ^{1 2 3}D. S. Jeffery, ¹J. M. A. Jepps, ¹J. H. Jones, ¹D. H. Kay, ^{1 3}A. McL. Keil, ^{2 3}J. R. Kirkup, ^{1 2 3}E. I. Kohorn, ^{1 2 3}J. S. Lewis, ^{1 2}H. E. Lichtenstein, ¹J. Liddell, ^{1 2 3}J. S. H. Lodge, ¹A. B. Lowther, ¹P. J. Lyne, ^{2 3}J. M. S. McCoy, ²J. A. McHardy, ¹P. J. McQuade, ^{1 2 3}R. Mangnall, ^{1 2 3}R. J. Mather, ^{1 3}G. G. Matthews, ^{1 2 3}P. L. Maybury, ^{1 2 3}M. K. Mead, ¹J. McM. Mennell, ¹G. C. Metcalfe, ^{1 2}K. F. Morrice, ^{1 2}T. M. O. Morris, ^{1 2 3}J. F. Newcombe, ¹H. Nichol, ^{1 2 3}R. C. Norton, ^{1 2}M. T. O'Donnell, ²J. O. Ojukwu, ²D. N. H. Owen, ^{1 2 3}W. N. B. Parker, ^{1 2}J. F. Preece, ^{1 3}P. M. H. Rack, ^{1 2}G. L. S. Rankin, ^{2 3}C. Rashbass, ²T. W. Rayner, ¹P. S. Reay-Young, ¹J. D. Richardson, ^{1 2 3}J. M. Rigg, ²T. L. Ringrose, ^{1 2 3}J. H. Robson, ^{1 2 3}R. W. Ross Russell, ^{1 2 3}V. Sarma, ^{1 3}G. Screech, ¹J. H. Sewart, ^{1 2 3}C. A. Sharples, ^{1 2 3}H. J. Shimmin, ¹M. P. Siddons, ^{1 2 3}J. M. Simister, ^{1 2 3}F. V. Simpson, ¹J. D. H. Slater, ^{1 3}I. F. Smith, ^{1 2 3}R. L. Smith, ^{1 2 3}R. J. Spray, ²N. A. Subedar, ^{1 2 3}J. H. Swallow, ^{1 2 3}D. G. Thomas, ³H. T. Thomas, ¹M. L. Thomas, ¹M. C. Thornton, ¹D. H. Trapnell, ^{1 2}D. S. Trouton, ^{1 3}J. A. M. Tudor-Hart, ¹R. M. Turner, ²B. V. Tyman, ^{1 2 3}K. M. Underwood, ^{1 2 3}G. I. Verney, ^{2 3}D. G. D. Vint, ^{1 3}A. W. Warltier, ¹C. M. R. Warner, ¹R. F. Warnock, ^{1 2 3}M. F. R. Waters, ¹O. H. Watkins, ^{1 2 3}J. Watson-Farrar, ^{1 2}P. A. Watt, ^{1 3}I. Weinberg, ^{1 2 3}F. L. Whalley, ^{1 2 3}J. S. H. Whitehead, ^{1 2 3}E. Wilkes, ¹E. A. Wilson, ^{1 2 3}J. O. Winter, ¹D. Wise, ^{2 3}R. E. Wolfendale, ¹S. M. Worrall. Old Regulations: *Part II, Principles and Practice of Physic, Pathology, and Pharmacology*: M. D. Heyman, J. E. Phillips, J. W. M. Stone, D. M. Surrey Dane. New Regulations: *Part I, Pathology and Pharmacology*: D. M. E. Allan, R. E. C. Altonyuan, J. D. C. Anderson, N. W. Ashworth, P. A. J. Ball, A. J. F. Barratt, W. M. Beatley, J. S. Bland, C. J. Booth, B. W. Broadhurst, D. Bryant, G. M. B. Bulman, A. R. Butterfield, H. Caplan, H. S. Chen, B. Chester, J. Cocker, W. J. Colbeck, C. E. T. Cones, P. F. A. Crawshaw, R. G. Daniels, J. G. Davies, J. I. W. Davies, R. J. L. Davis, R. H. Davison, P. J. Dawson, E. M. Douglas, I. C. Dow, A. V. Dunlop, W. Eade, J. R. Edwards, J. N. T. Evans, A. Fairley, J. Fairley, J. R. Flury, D. B. Fox, H. W. S. Francis, A. M. B. Golding, J. M. S. Grieve, P. Griffiths, E. Hainsworth, D. Harrett, R. J. H. Harris, L. B. P. Hartley, R. D. Hernaman-Johnson, A. F. Hignell, V. M. C. B. P. Hollyhock, R. J. Hutchinson, J. M. A. Jepps, J. H. Jones, D. H. Kay, J. H. Kerr, J. R. Kirkup, J. S. Lewis, H. E. Lichtenstein, J. Liddell, A. B. Lowther, P. J. Lyne, P. J. McQuade, M. C. G. Mantell, M. K. Mead, G. C. Metcalfe, H. Nichol, R. C. Norton, M. T. O'Donnell, P. S. Reay-Young, J. H. Robson, R. D. W. Romanis, W. A. G. Roper, R. Routledge, C. S. Savage, T. L. Scully, G. M. Shaw, M. P. Siddons, E. P. Simkin, J. D. H. Slater, G. W. Smallcombe, I. F. Smith, C. M. Stafford, R. M. Standish-White, D. G. Thomas, M. L. Thomas, M. C. Thornton, D. H. Trapnell, B. G. S. F. Vergano, H. C. M. Walton, A. W. Warltier, R. F. Warnock, O. H. Watkins, E. Wilkes, W. G. Williams, E. A. Wilson, D. Wise, R. E. Wolfendale, S. M. Worrall.

¹Passed in principles and practice of physic. ²Passed in surgery.

³Passed in midwifery and gynaecology.

UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS

The following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

M.D.—¹D. G. Adamson, ²J. M. Johnstone.
M.B., Ch.B.—¹W. N. Laing, ²I. R. McLellan, ³J. H. Margerison, ⁴A. J. Mutch, ⁵G. M. Ross, ⁶R. B. Skeoch, ⁷G. C. Winch, ⁸J. T. Allardice, ⁹J. Anderson, ¹⁰B. Ashworth, ¹¹C. E. Ballance, ¹²D. A. Barbour, ¹³R. Bibby, ¹⁴J. M. C. Bisset, ¹⁵J. Boswell, ¹⁶Elizabeth H. Brown, ¹⁷J. R. W. Bryce, ¹⁸R. Cable, ¹⁹E. A. Cameron, ²⁰A. A. Campbell, ²¹J. Carnegie, ²²Elizabeth F. H. Clarke, ²³Helen P. Cochrane, ²⁴F. C. Crowe, ²⁵W. S. Cunningham, ²⁶W. J. Dally, ²⁷Joan C. Davey, ²⁸J. D. Denison, ²⁹Anne C. Donald, ³⁰F. H. Doyle, ³¹Audrey V. E. Duthie, ³²J. M. Eaton-Turner, ³³D. R. Edmiston, ³⁴T. R. Elder, ³⁵Flora M. L. Emery, ³⁶J. S. Garrow, ³⁷J. L. Graham, ³⁸R. W. Hender-son, ³⁹G. W. Johnston, ⁴⁰C. King, ⁴¹Anne G. Lacey, ⁴²J. G. D. Laing, ⁴³J. M. Langlands, ⁴⁴D. M. Lindsay, ⁴⁵R. W. D. Low, ⁴⁶Rosaleen Lynch, ⁴⁷Lena M. MacBean, ⁴⁸H. W. McFarlane, ⁴⁹J. B. MacGillivray, ⁵⁰N.

McLeod, ⁵¹J. R. Marshall, ⁵²Helen Menzies, ⁵³Grizel M. B. Patrick, ⁵⁴P. J. Pearce, ⁵⁵N. T. Piercy, ⁵⁶Fay M. Rennie, ⁵⁷R. Robertson, ⁵⁸H. H. Robinson, ⁵⁹H. S. Ross, ⁶⁰Marion M. T. Roy, ⁶¹J. Sinclair, ⁶²R. F. Stark, ⁶³W. B. Steel, ⁶⁴M. Steele, ⁶⁵Marjory Stewart, ⁶⁶M. K. Thompson, ⁶⁷W. Turner, ⁶⁸G. M. J. White, ⁶⁹D. L. Whitton, ⁷⁰R. W. Wright.

*With commendation.

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

At a graduation ceremony on July 3 the following degrees were conferred:

Ph.D.—P. G. Walker, M.B., Ch.B.

M.D.—R. Semple (with commendation), Bessie C. Laing, Jean M. Sheach.

M.B., Ch.B.—I. H. Anderson, A. D. Calder, G. Cassie, A. G. Chisholm, T. J. Crowley, A. R. Dow, Alison H. Edwards (formerly Hewett), P. Harvey, A. H. Innes, N. D. Innes, T. I. Kemp, J. H. Lewis, K. L. Lipp, G. B. McCutcheon, A. M. Macleod, A. Morrison, D. Ruddiman, A. R. L. Russell, R. A. W. C. Smith, W. J. M. Stewart, D. J. W. Sutherland, I. R. Swanson, J. G. Weir.

On July 4 the honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred on Colonel Henry Edward Shortt, M.D., F.R.S., Professor of Medical Protozoology in the University of London and Head of the Department of Parasitology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and on David Landsborough Thomson, Ph.D., F.R.S., Professor of Biochemistry in McGill University, Montreal, since 1937.

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN

On July 3 the honorary degree of Sc.D. was conferred on Dr. Ralph Terence St. John-Brooks, former secretary-general of the International Association of Microbiologists, and the honorary degree of LL.D. on Professor David Campbell, Regius Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics in the University of Aberdeen and President of the General Medical Council.

The following medical degrees and diploma also were conferred:

M.D.—G. L. Daly, P. G. Daly, D. F. Doherty, M. B. Flanagan, J. R. Hassard, T. B. Madden, P. R. Oliver, J. S. Ruddell, S. B. Sachs.

M.Ch.—W. G. Fegan.

M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O.—E. T. Baldwin, Colette A. Barouch, E. G. Bennett, Mary E. Bewley, G. J. Bigley, R. C. P. Bradley, Fodla B. K. Burnell, G. A. H. Cookson, ¹ois R. Davidson, R. J. Draper, I. A. Eppel, Noreen M. H. Evans, S. S. Faloon, B. W. Fisher, P. Froggett, J. H. van R. Hofmeyr, J. Hunter, Eunice Hurworth, H. Q. Hutchings, Janet B. Hyde, W. T. Irwin, H. R. B. Jack, C. Kennedy, G. King, H. G. Knox, B. F. St. L. Liddy, G. S. McCarthy, Elisabeth M. McNab, R. W. Mitchell, O. Olumide, Freda M. E. Parker, Barbara W. M. Partridge, W. J. C. Pearson, A. F. C. Scott, J. A. Scully, R. B. S. Smith, A. A. Sugerman, T. E. W. Winckworth, Mary V. Young, R. F. Hutchings (*in absentia*).

DIPLOMA IN GYNAECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS.—A. Azzam.

At Trinity College, Dublin, on July 10, the honorary degree of M.D. was conferred on Dr. H. A. Clegg, Editor of the *British Medical Journal*, and on Dr. E. A. Gregg, Chairman of Council of the British Medical Association, and the honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred on Dr. P. T. J. O'Farrell, President of the British Medical Association.

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM

Congregations were held on June 27 and 28, when the following medical degrees were conferred:

M.D.—M. M. Martin, W. A. Brown, L. W. Carstairs, W. P. Haigh, A. Russell, C. B. S. Schofield, J. N. Walton, P. D. G. V. Whittingham.

M.B., B.S.—D. H. Blake, D. W. Braithwaite, Ann K. Brough, W. Brough, Betty E. Cowling, K. Davison, D. Elliott, J. S. Etherington, A. D. W. Farmer, F. Johnson, J. C. King, C. F. R. Mallett, T. J. Mallinson, Betty M. Moody, G. H. E. L. Morpeth, J. Mulroy, R. W. Newmark, N. C. C. Nielsen, K. Schapira, T. Scratcherd, A. Shaw, R. H. Shields, L. K. Simango, Mary E. A. Still, T. R. Thompson, R. W. Thomson, D. Walker, N. V. Wilkinson, G. F. G. Woodman, Joan Yell, P. R. Bachrich, A. L. Bass, A. R. Bird, A. T. Burdon, D. W. Cammock, W. A. Colling, L. P. Coulson, Margaret L. Coulson, A. Coxon, A. J. Coyer, Doreen L. P. Dias, W. Dickson, R. Dingley, P. G. Fawcett, W. T. Fothergill, June E. Heslop, J. Ivory, G. S. Jeans, M. H. Kemp, P. E. Kilby, Elsa Little, H. A. McClelland, J. F. S. T. McClory, P. McElhatton, J. McKinlay, I. R. Macleod, R. A. Middleton, D. G. Millar, S. J. O'Donnell, T. W. Parkinson, I. B. Porteous, J. Richardson, Patricia J. Saunders, A. J. Smith, K. D. Stephenson, M. S. J. Tuszewski, F. A. Tyce, R. Veeder, M. O. Wadell,

Elizabeth A. Waterhouse, Ann C. Wilby, Enid M. Young, *D. D. Brown, *J. Brotherton, Elizabeth Jennings, J. H. Morrison, Elizabeth R. M. Rowell, G. A. Stirling, Isabelle M. Thompson.

*In absence.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Sir Francis Fraser has been co-opted a member of the Senate, and Mr. P. H. Mitchiner has been reappointed as the representative of medicine on the Senate, both for the period 1952-6.

Dr. Paul Russell, of the Rockefeller Foundation, has been appointed Heath Clark Lecturer for 1953.

The following have been appointed or nominated for appointment or reappointment as the representatives of the university on the governing bodies indicated in parentheses: Dr. C. E. Newman (West London Hospital Medical School); Dr. G. W. Heckels (Epsom County School for Boys and Rosebery County School for Girls, Epsom); Dr. Audrey Z. Baker (Nonsuch County School for Girls, Cheam).

Professor W. J. Hamilton has been appointed, until further order, the representative of the Board of Preclinical Studies on the Special Advisory Board in Postgraduate Medical Studies.

Dr. F. C. Wilkinson, Dean and Director of Studies of the Institute of Dental Surgery, has been recognized as a teacher of dental surgery of the University at the Institute of Dental Surgery.

W. T. Whitby, M.B., B.S., has been approved at the examination for the degree of LL.B.

Mr. P. H. Mitchiner has been reappointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor for the year 1952-3.

Dr. C. F. Harris has been elected Dean of the Faculty of Medicine for 1952-4.

Dr. J. R. Napier, Lecturer in Anatomy at St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School, has been appointed to the University Readership in Anatomy tenable at the Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, from October 1.

A. W. Woodruff, M.D., Ph.D., M.R.C.P., D.T.M.&H., has been appointed to the Wellcome Chair of Clinical Tropical Medicine at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Dr. Woodruff qualified at Durham in 1939. During the war he served with the R.A.F.V.R., and since then has published several papers, including two in the *Journal*.

Eric Neil, M.D., Senior Lecturer in Physiology at Middlesex Hospital Medical School, has been appointed to the University Readership in Physiology tenable at Middlesex Hospital Medical School.

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

The following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

FINAL M.B., CH.B.—*Old Regulations*: Barbara M. Benson. *New Regulations*: W. M. C. Allen, I. S. Bailey (with honours and distinction in medicine and surgery), S. B. de C. Baker, J. G. Bancroft, Margaret E. Bennett, A. D. Bostock, C. Burns, L. J. Chadwick, D. Clynes, J. R. Coope, A. B. Cooper, D. R. Doddsley, H. J. Done, B. Dudley, F. B. Eyres, Joyce A. Fiddick, P. V. Fitton, J. D. Fletcher, P. Griffiths, L. Grimshaw, J. A. M. Henderson, R. F. Heys, Joyce Hougis, E. Howarth, Helena E. Hughes, Mary I. J. Hughes, G. C. Jackson, J. B. Jacovelli, C. H. St. J. James, H. B. Kedward, J. H. Kemp, I. M. Kendal, B. W. Laithwaite, A. B. Lishman, Jean M. Lumb, Dorothy J. Marsden, C. N. Matthews, P. Mawdsley, D. Millington, R. G. Mitchell, Marjorie Naylor, Joyce Newman, J. T. Newton, D. P. Oakley, T. E. Ormerod, J. F. Patrick, J. R. Raby, D. Robinson, Audrey Ross, J. G. Searle, J. J. Shepherd, G. Taylor, G. W. Taylor, Sheila A. S. Thompson, L. Turner, E. G. O'H. Warburton, R. Welton, R. Whitaker, J. White, J. A. Wright, Joan P. Wright.

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

The following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

M.D.—N. J. Goudji, Helen T. Morgan, G. R. Wadsworth, D. C. Watson, A. S. Whitehead.

Ch.M.—D. Annis, R. Brearley, T. L. Schofield, L. F. Tinkler.

M.B., CH.B.—¹*²D. W. B. Woolven, ²*R. J. Fallon, ²Irene M. Irving, ²*W. G. Lamberd, Margaret M. Ashcroft, A. C. Beeby, F. Berry, A. S. Binnie, J. S. Birch, Elizabeth Bownass, N. H. Brodie, J. M. Brown, J. W. Brown, T. Bury, E. P. Carrigan, D. A. P. Cooke, W. E. Cooper, G. Corney, Enid C. Davies, J. C. Denmark, A. J. Entwistle, R. H. Fitzgerald, W. D. Fitzsimons, Mary I. Gibbons, A. E. Goetze, L. V. Gould, K. Grainger, P. W. Green, S. J. Hargreaves, F. B. Hartley, Margaret J. Hellaby, N. St. J. Hennessy, Barbara M. Hitch, S. H. Hoddes, J. Hogan, R. P. Hoskinson, E. M. Hughes, G. Ingram, Brenda Jones, Winifred E. Jones, P. P. Keith, Joan Knowles, A. M. Laylee, D. G. G. McLeish, Maureen E. Murphy,

A. Nixon, G. Park, F. P. Peach, G. C. S. Roberts, V. Rogers, H. G. Row, A. Sandieson, A. C. Saunders, S. J. Surtees, T. E. Tasker, P. G. Vivian, E. S. Watkins, W. A. Weston, A. H. Wilde, Mary P. K. Williams, P. H. Wright.

Passed in separate subjects: G. Alun Roberts, C. Gregory, L. A. Guile, L. A. Nettleton, W. G. W. Parry, N. Wignall, J. D. Wright (surgery and obstetrics and gynaecology); Ursula M. Anderson, R. D. Jones, J. B. Kenyon, Madge Yates (medicine and surgery); S. R. Bennett, Margaret T. Brash, I. Miller, T. D. Thomas, Margaret M. Williams (medicine and obstetrics and gynaecology).

D.P.H.—M. S. Boparai, D. Brahott, J. L. Cotton, Angelika Haider, Hla Han, N. A. V. Isangura, N. N. Kanyarutoke, A. R. Kennedy, E. Lufti, Lillie L. Munro, R. C. O'Grady, W. H. Parry, E. F. W. Richards, T. A. J. Thorpe, K. O. Torgersen, P. H. Waage.

DIPLOMA IN RADIOLOGY (RADIO-DIAGNOSIS).—F. G. Anderson, W. E. C. Astle, E. Walker, J. K. Walker.

¹With first-class honours. ²With second-class honours. ³Distinction in medicine. ⁴Distinction in surgery. ⁵Distinction in obstetrics and gynaecology.

UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

At a Congregation held on June 28 the following medical degrees were conferred:

M.B., CH.B.—R. M. Atkinson, K. C. A. Y. Baldwin, J. Banner, A. L. Bloom, R. L. Bojakiewicz, H. W. Chambers, Kathleen H. Chrispin, Marjorie Clifton, J. B. Cole, M. B. Collins, G. A. Fieldsend, K. B. Holloway, G. G. Imrie, R. S. Johnstone, H. McP. Kidd, P. B. Lambert, F. Lees, F. W. Leigh, F. Lothe, M. Malden, J. D. Parry, Frances B. Penny, N. E. Pitts, Shelagh M. Richards, D. W. M. Rolfe, N. E. Shaw, Mary L. Stewart, Sylvia H. Swift, F. G. Thorpe, D. Tingle, I. J. Waite, I. A. Wood, J. K. Young, S. S. Young.

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND

A number of honorary degrees were conferred on July 8. Among the recipients were the following members of the medical profession.

LL.D.—Professor E. P. McLoughlin and Dr. A. W. S. Sichel, Immediate Past-President of the British Medical Association.

D.Litt.—Mr. William Doolin, Editor of the *Irish Journal of Medical Science*.

D.Sc.—Sir Henry Cohen, Past President of the British Medical Association (conferred *in absentia*) and Sir John Parkinson.

M.D.—Dr. P. J. Delaney, Secretary, Irish Medical Association, Sir Stewart Duke-Elder, Sir John William McNee, and Dr. Angus Macrae, Secretary, British Medical Association.

M.D.S.—Professor J. P. Walsh, D.D.Sc., M.B., B.S., F.D.S., Director of Otago University Dental School.

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

The following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

FINAL M.B., CH.B.—N. G. Sanerkin (with second-class honours), F. J. Appelbe, K. B. Arney, W. M. Baggott, B. G. Bennett, June M. Brown, N. J. Cobb, B. J. F. Coles, B. Colston, P. A. Crook, W. J. P. Duff, K. W. Edmondson, K. J. R. Fawcett, *E. C. Gawthorn, D. J. Gear, E. P. Hamblett, G. L. Higgins, Audrey V. Hooper, *M. E. Jackman, J. W. Jenkins, A. F. Jordan, Marguerite A. R. King, Pearl D. Laxton, Joan I. Light, B. Livesey, G. P. Lowther, *Sheila A. Martyn, A. B. Otlet, Alison W. Prowse, R. A. Sellwood, G. H. Wood, D. E. Worsley. In Group I completing the examination: Helena B. M. Bailey, S. H. Brown, A. G. Walker. In Group I only: T. D. Richards. In Group II only: Jean M. Claremont, J. P. Dymoke, H. A. P. Walker.

*With distinction in obstetrics.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

On July 3 Sir Clement Price Thomas, Mr. C. Naunton Morgan, and Mr. Hedley Atkins were elected members of the Council of the College. The result of the poll was as follows:

Elected	Votes
Sir Clement Price Thomas (Westminster Hospital)	826
Clifford Naunton Morgan (St. Bartholomew's Hospital)	770
Hedley John Barnard Atkins (Guy's Hospital)	727

In all 1,988 Fellows voted; in addition 25 votes were found to be invalid.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND

On June 26 Sir Russell Brain, President of the Royal College of Physicians of London, was admitted to the Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland.

The following candidates were duly admitted Licentiates in Medicine and Midwifery on June 27, having passed the final examination in medicine, surgery, and midwifery of the Conjoint Board of Ireland: E. St. G. Anderson, K. A. Barrett, J. Biggins, M. C. Botha, N. R. O'C. Brennan, Nora E. Casey, L. J. Conway, D. J. Daly, K. E. Dewhurst, R. G. Fricker, Ellen C. Geraghty, J. H. Gower, Aileen G. Grant, S. Gray, H. C. Henry, J. G. N. Lagan, L. Levy, Joan E. Mackey, Joyce W. Malcolm, A. A. Marinho, J. G. Muldoon, Kathleen M. McManus, Kathleen M. McNamara, J. O. P. Noonan, M. A. Okupe, F. W. Quilty, R. J. Regan, J. M. Rennie, E. Rogan, Celia D. Thomas, J. N. Udom, Veronica Whitty, J. J. Wilson.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND

At a meeting of the College held on June 3 Mr. M. P. Burke was elected president and Mr. Ian Fraser vice-president.

On June 12 the Fellowship of the College was conferred on C. J. McCormack, J. B. P. Scarisbrick, and F. J. Ward.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MEDICINE IN IRELAND

On July 8 the President, Dr. T. O. Graham, conferred the Honorary Fellowship of the Academy on Dr. C. S. Hallpike, aural physician and director of the otological research unit of the Medical Research Council, National Hospital, Queen Square, London, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to otology. The conferment took place at the President's home in Dublin, at a garden party which was attended by some 450 guests, most of whom were in Dublin for the Joint Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association and the Irish Medical Association.

Vital Statistics

Infectious Diseases

In England and Wales during the week ending July 28 notifications increased for measles 558 and scarlet fever 144; a decrease was reported for whooping-cough 129.

The largest rises in the number of notifications of measles were Lancashire 148, Yorkshire West Riding 124, Essex 97, and London 75. Only small variations occurred in the local trends of scarlet fever. The largest fluctuations in the returns of whooping-cough were an increase of 47 in Staffordshire and a decrease of 40 in Durham. The number of notifications of diphtheria was 10 more than in the preceding week, mainly because of a rise of 7 in Lancashire. The largest centres of diphtheria were Birkenhead C.B. 4, Liverpool C.B. 4, and Manchester C.B. 4.

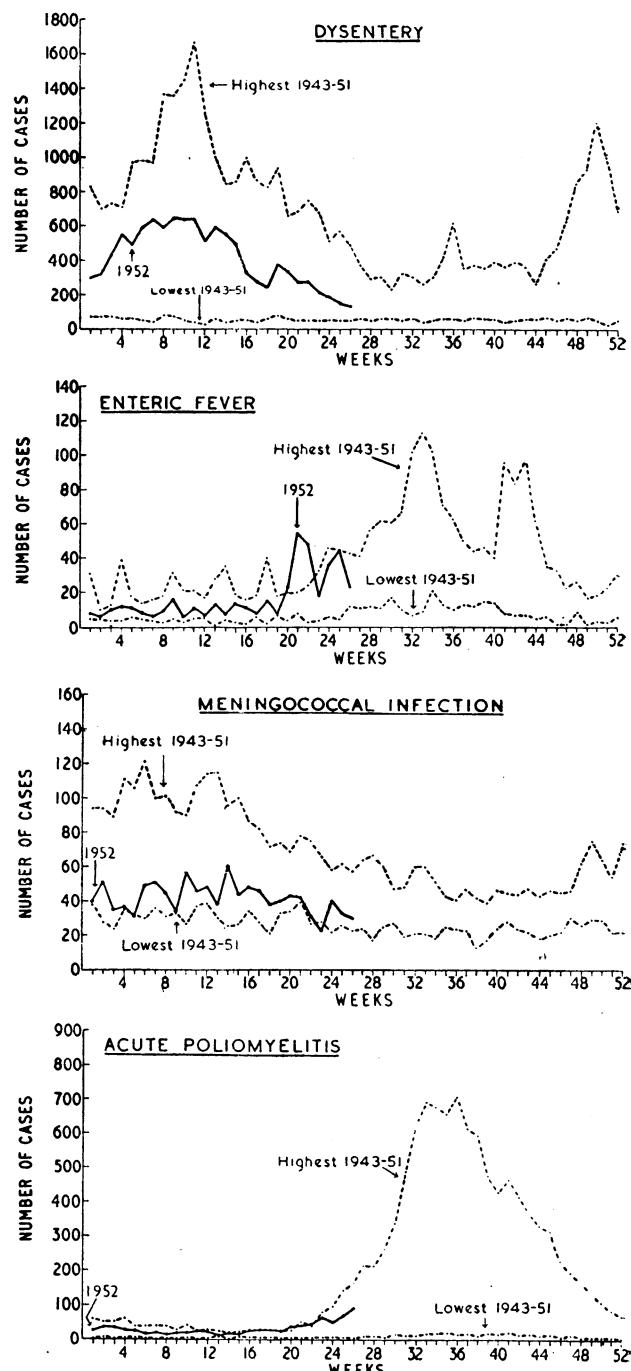
The number of notifications of paratyphoid fever declined by 19 during the week. The outbreak of paratyphoid fever in Wales persisted, and 10 further cases were notified in Glamorganshire. These cases were spread over 10 administrative areas of the county.

Notifications of acute poliomyelitis were 9 more for paralytic and 13 more for non-paralytic cases than in the preceding week. The chief centres of infection were Durham 22 (Gateshead C.B. 8, Felling U.D. 6, Chester-le-Street R.D. 2), London 10 (Wandsworth 3, Woolwich 3, Lambeth 2), Lancashire 7 (Liverpool C.B. 2, Manchester C.B. 2), Northumberland 5 (Newcastle-upon-Tyne C.B. 3, Longbenton U.D. 2), and Middlesex 5 (Ealing M.B. 3).

For the fourth consecutive week the number of notifications of dysentery declined. There were 10 fewer than in the preceding week. The largest returns during the week were London 34 (Chelsea 8, Lewisham 7) and Lancashire 21 (Liverpool C.B. 8). No case of dysentery was notified in Norwich C.B. for the first week since last November. The outbreak in this city began during the week ending November 24 with 25 notifications and rose to its maximum of 200 cases during the week ending December 8. The incidence then fell, and 31 cases were notified during the week ending January 12, but a rise to a secondary peak of 83 occurred during the week ending February 9. Altogether 1,347 cases of dysentery have been notified in Norwich during the past seven months.

Graphs of Infectious Diseases

The graphs below show the uncorrected numbers of cases of certain diseases notified weekly in England and Wales. Highest and lowest figures reported during the nine years 1943-51 are shown thus -----, the figures for 1952 thus ———. Except for the curves showing notifications in 1952, the graphs were prepared at the Department of Medical Statistics and Epidemiology, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.



Week Ending July 5

The notifications of infectious diseases in England and Wales during the week included: scarlet fever 1,036, whooping-cough 2,344, diphtheria 30, measles 6,720, acute pneumonia 314, acute poliomyelitis 86, dysentery 180, paratyphoid fever 21, and typhoid fever 2.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND VITAL STATISTICS

Summary for British Isles for week ending June 28 (No. 26) and corresponding week 1951.

Figures of *cases* are for the countries shown and London administrative county. Figures of *deaths* and *births* are for the 160 great towns in England and Wales (London included), London administrative county, the 17 principal towns in Scotland, the 10 principal towns in Northern Ireland, and the 14 principal towns in Eire.

A blank space denotes disease not notifiable or no return available.

The table is based on information supplied by the Registrars-General of England and Wales, Scotland, N. Ireland, and Eire, the Ministry of Health and Local Government of N. Ireland, and the Department of Health of Eire.

CASES in Countries and London	1952					1951				
	Eng. & Wales	Lond.	Scot.	N. Ire	Eire	Eng. & Wales	Lond.	Scot.	N. Ire	Eire
Diphtheria . . .	33	4	2	0	1	32	2	7	0	0
Dysentery . . .	135	34	62	13	1	490	100	95	1	
Encephalitis, acute	2	0	0	0		2	0	0	0	
Enteric fever:										
Typhoid . . .	4	0	0	0		1	0	0	3	
Paratyphoid . . .	19	0	(B)	0	1(B)	42	1	2(B)	0	3
Food-poisoning . . .	144	7		3		157	41		4	
Infective enteritis or diarrhoea under 2 years . . .				18	20				9	25
Measles* . . .	6,843	714	183	265	249	10,060	230	246	200	179
Meningococcal infection . . .	30	4	16	0	1	31	4	15	1	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum . . .	36	2	7	0		42	3	10	0	
Pneumonia† . . .	310	10	158	3		355	14	146	11	2
Poliomyelitis, acute:										
Paralytic . . .	58	7	12	0	3	{ 41	3	9	2	1
Non-paralytic . . .	32	3				{ 46	0			
Puerperal fever§ . . .	233	29	11	1		53	8	12	5	1
Scarlet fever . . .	1,212	102	236	12	40	904	72	133	22	42
Tuberculosis:										
Respiratory . . .			139	35					144	36
Non-respiratory . . .			22	6					27	13
Whooping-cough . . .	2,444	124	112	75	85	3,533	186	300	57	45

DEATHS in Great Towns	1952					1951				
	Eng. & Wales	Lond.	Scot.	N. Ire	Eire	Eng. & Wales	Lond.	Scot.	N. Ire	Eire
Diphtheria . . .	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dysentery . . .	0	0		0			0		0	
Encephalitis, acute . . .	0			0			0		0	
Enteric fever . . .	1	0		0		0	0	0	0	
Infective enteritis or diarrhoea under 2 years . . .	5		1	0	2	5		5	1	0
Influenza . . .	2	0		0	1	3	1	0	0	0
Measles . . .	0		0	1		0	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal infection . . .	1	1				0	0			
Pneumonia . . .	129	13		7	3	126	20		4	5
Poliomyelitis, acute . . .	3	1		0		0	0		0	
Scarlet fever . . .		0		0	0		0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis:										
Respiratory . . .	93	{ 15	10	1	6	{ 123	{ 15	12	4	7
Non-respiratory . . .	2	2	3	0	1	3	3	3	0	4
Whooping-cough . . .	1	0		0	0	4	0	0	0	2
Deaths 0-1 year . . .	202	30	28	5	11	198	23	29	12	24
Deaths (excluding stillbirths) . . .	4,647	688	498	104	154	4,110	633	533	101	156
LIVE BIRTHS . . .	7,437	1122	899	215	440	7,078	1218	877	230	353
STILLBIRTHS . . .	187	30	23			173	27	24		

* Measles not notifiable in Scotland, whence returns are approximate.

† Includes primary and influenzal pneumonia.

§ Includes puerperal pyrexia.

The Services

The Queen has approved the reappointment with effect from February 6, 1952, of the following officers who held similar appointments under the late King George VI: *As Honorary Physicians*.—Air Vice-Marshal (Acting Air Marshal) J. MacC. Kilpatrick, C.B., O.B.E., and Air Commodores R. H. Stanbridge, O.B.E., F. E. Lipscomb, and C. A. Rumball, O.B.E. *As Honorary Surgeons*.—Air Vice-Marshal W. E. Barnes, C.B.E., and E. D. D. Dickson, C.B.E., and Air Commodores J. C. Neely, C.B.E., and F. W. P. Dixon, M.B.E.

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

First, Second, Third, and Fourth Clasps to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration.—Honorary Brigadier L. McI. Weeks, M.C., T.D., and Colonel R. Errington, C.B.E., M.C., T.D., R.A.M.C., retired.

Second Clasp to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration.—Majors C. K. D. Edwards, T.D., and T. T. S. Hall, M.B.E., T.D., R.A.M.C.

First Clasp to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration.—Majors S. Freeman, T.D., A. H. M. Richards, T.D., and G. W. Thomas, T.D., R.A.M.C.

Territorial Efficiency Decoration and First Clasp.—Majors H. J. Bell, W. T. E. Blackmore, and J. E. Wells, R.A.M.C.

Territorial Efficiency Decoration.—Major (Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel) C. W. Gordon and Captain (Honorary Major) C. H. Davies, R.A.M.C.

Medical News

Annual Report of the Medical Research Council.—The Medical Research Council's report for the year 1950-1 was published this week. As usual, this contains a survey of all the research that is being carried out under the auspices of the Council, in addition to some detailed discussion of subjects of special interest. In particular there is a useful chapter on the training of research workers. A full account of the report will be published in next week's *Journal*.

Changes in Emergency Bed Service.—The south-western branch of the Service at Wimbledon (Tel. WIMbledon 6581) will be permanently closed from 9 p.m. on July 20, and the work previously done by this office will be reallocated to the head office at Old Jewry or the other three branch offices as follows: (a) The boroughs of Wandsworth and Battersea will be covered by the head office at Old Jewry (Tel. MONArch 3000). (b) The county borough of Croydon will be covered by the south-eastern branch office at Woolwich (Tel. Woolwich 3471). (c) The remainder of the area hitherto dealt with by the south-western office will be covered by the western office at Ealing (Tel. Ealing 6671). The regional hospital boards, hospital management committees, and local medical committees concerned have been informed of the above arrangements, and asked to inform general practitioners.

Keep Death off the Roads.—The Council of the Faculty of Ophthalmologists wishes to stress the importance of medical men keeping in mind the danger of visual disabilities in regard to driving motor vehicles. Although the legal restrictions for driving refer only to defects in central vision there are potential dangers in other visual defects—such as night blindness and gross restriction of the visual fields. Patients suffering from such defects should either be warned about the need for care in driving, or (if the defect is serious) they should be emphatically advised not to drive at all.

British Association of Urological Surgeons.—The eighth annual meeting of the association was held in London from June 26 to 29 under the presidency of Mr. E. W. Riches. The following were elected officers for 1952-3: *President*, Mr. E. W. Riches; *Vice-President*, Mr. T. J. Millin; *Hon.*

APPOINTMENTS

The Minister of Pensions has appointed Professor Walter Mercer, P.R.C.S.Ed., professor of orthopaedic surgery in the University of Edinburgh, Chairman of the Standing Advisory Committee on Artificial Limbs, in succession to Mr. St. John Dudley Buxton.

Rowles, AMELIA, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health to Borough of Llanidloes, Newtown and Llanllwchfaarn Urban District, Machynlleth Urban District, Machynlleth Rural District, Newtown and Llanidloes Rural District, and Assistant County Medical Officer to the County of Montgomery.

SOUTH-WEST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.—*Consultant Anaesthetist, Croydon Group of Hospitals, E. G. Godwin, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.A. Medical Superintendent and Assistant, Chest Physician (S.H.M.O. Grade), King George's Sanatorium for Sailors, F. Hodgkiss, M.B., Ch.B. Assistant Chest Physician (S.H.M.O. Grade), Kingston and Merton Area, A. Sakula, M.D., M.R.C.P. Assistant Psychiatrist (S.H.M.O. Grade), Park Prewett Hospital, D. E. R. Kelsey, M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.P. Assistant Psychiatrist (S.H.M.O. Grade), Netherne Hospital, D. H. Bennett, M.D., D.P.M. Consultant Physician, Croydon Group of Hospitals, G. P. Baker, M.Sc., M.D., M.R.C.P. Consultant Anaesthetist, Plastic and Jaw Unit, Rooksdown House, D. A. Sherman, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.A. Assistant Pathologist (S.H.M.O. Grade), Epsom Group of Hospitals, A. Tay, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.P. Assistant Geriatric Physician (S.H.M.O. Grade) Portsmouth Group of Hospitals, W. R. Duff, M.B., Ch.B., D.T.M.&H. Consultant Pathologist, Isle of Wight Area Pathological Service, P. D. Swnnstead, M.B., B.S. Medical Superintendent of Lingfield Sanatorium and Assistant Chest Physician to Bournemouth Area (S.H.M.O. Grade), J. R. Mikhail, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Assistant Chest Physician (S.H.M.O. Grade), Merton and Morden Area, J. M. Hill, M.D., M.R.C.P. Medical Registrar, Epsom and Redhill Groups of Hospitals, G. L. Walker, M.B., Ch.B. Medical Registrar, Southampton Infectious Diseases Hospital, Unity R. Allen, B.M., B.Ch., M.R.C.P., D.C.H. Medical Registrar, Mayday Hospital, Croydon, D. A. Smith, M.B., Ch.B. Surgical Registrar, Croydon General Hospital, G. Hadfield, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Anaesthetic Registrars, St. James' Hospital, Balham, T. Thomson, M.B., Ch.B., Annie T. Whelan, M.B., B.Ch. Obstetric and Gynaecological Registrar, Portway Hospital, R. D. Johnstone, M.B., Ch.B., D. Obst. R.C.O.G. Obstetric and Gynaecological Registrar, South London Hospital for Women and Children, Vivienne A. Croxford, M.B., Ch.B., D. Obst. R.C.O.G. Thoracic Surgery Registrar, Royal Victoria Hospital, Boscombe, A. R. Attia, M.B., Ch.B. Medical Registrar, Redhill County Hospital, C. E. D. Hearn, M.B., B.S. Anaesthetic Registrar, Kingston Hospital, R. S. Gillinson, M.B., Ch.B. Surgical Registrar, Southampton General Hospital, H. D. Rawson, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.Ed. Surgical Registrar, St. James' Hospital, Balham, D. A. Macfarlane, M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.S. Psychiatric Registrars, St. Ebba's Hospital, G. A. Dransfield, M.B., B.S., D.P.M., J. G. Garai, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Psychiatric Registrars, Belmont Hospital, K. S. Jones, M.B., B.S., D.P.M., J. S. B. Lindsay, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M. Psychiatric Registrar, Graylingwell Hospital, Emily M. Frazer, M.B., B.S., D.C.H. Psychiatric Registrar, Brookwood Hospital, I. E. J. McLaughlan, M.B., Ch.B. Psychiatric Registrar, West Park Hospital, D. Margaret J. Emslie, M.B., Ch.B. Medical Registrar, Royal Hampshire County Hospital, A. T. T. Forrester, M.B., B.S. Medical Registrar, St. Heller Hospital, G. F. M. Carnegie, B.M., B.Ch. Medical Registrar, St. Peter's Hospital, R. G. Gibbs, M.B., B.Chir. Medical Registrar, St. Stephen's Hospital, S. Benaim, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P. Surgical Registrar, Princess Beatrice Hospital, H. H. E. Batten, M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.S. Surgical Registrar, St. Stephen's Hospital, A. S. Dawson, M.B., Ch.B. Ophthalmological Registrar, Portsmouth Eye and Ear Hospital, R. L. N. Stewart, M.B., Ch.B., D.O. Pathological Registrar, Croydon Group of Hospitals, J. C. Mitchell, M.B., Ch.B. Medical Registrar, Kingston Hospital, R. G. Shorter, M.B., B.S. Medical Registrar, Weymouth Hospital, R. M. Powell, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Medical Registrar, Queen Mary's Hospital, Crowthorne, Anne D. MacDonald, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS

BIRTHS

Alderson.—On June 14, 1952, at 18, Wilson Street, Camperdown, Victoria, Australia, to Sybil, wife of Dr. B. S. Alderson, late of Lanchester, Co. Durham, a son.

Anderson.—On June 28, 1952, at Cleethorpes Maternity Home, Lincs, to Elizabeth, wife of Dr. Robert Anderson, of "Holmeleigh," George Street, Mablethorpe, Lincs, a son—Duncan Ross.

Smith.—On July 8, 1952, at Leeds, to Dr. Kathleen (formerly Turner), wife of Irvine Smith, F.R.C.S., a son—Robin Goult.

MARRIAGES

Woodmansey—Junior.—On June 30, 1952, at Benenden Church, Kent, Arnold Colin Woodmansey, M.D., D.P.M., to Faith Junior, M.A.O.T.

DEATHS

Aitken.—On June 22, 1952, at Adelaide, South Australia, Gilbert Elliot Aitken, L.R.C.P.&S.Ed., L.R.F.P.S.

Atkins.—On July 7, 1952, John Francis Atkins, M.B., B.Ch., of Hove, Sussex.

Benson.—On July 7, 1952, at Venn, Morchard-Bishop, Crediton, Devon, John Robinson Benson, F.R.C.S., aged 83.

Biggart.—On June 22, 1952, Arnold Samuel Longbotham, M.B., Ch.B., of Cleveland, Powerscourt Road, Barton-on-Sea, Hants, formerly of West Hartlepool, Co. Durham, aged 72.

Falkener.—On July 5, 1952, Lyon Falkener, M.D., D.P.H., of La Marretteau, Guernsey, C.I., aged 85.

Hulbert.—On July 4, 1952, at a nursing-home, Ealing, London, S.W. Ernest Beddoe Hulbert, M.I.

Kenny.—On July 13, 1952, at his home, 25, Chestnut Road, West Norwood, London, S.E., James Kenny, L.R.C.P.&S.I., M.C.P.S. Alfa., late of Oxford.

Kirkpatrick-Picard.—On July 10, 1952, at Seaton, Silverdale Road, Burgess Hill, Sussex, Arthur William Kirkpatrick-Picard, M.D., aged 83.

Pyrah.—On July 9, 1952, in hospital, Reginald Smith Pyrah, M.B., Ch.B., of Farnley, Leeds.

Robertson.—On July 11, 1952, at Edinburgh, Charles George Robertson, M.B., M.R.C.P.Ed., of 12, Milton Drive, Portobello, Edinburgh.

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.

Coeliac Disease and Cereals

Q.—Workers at Birmingham have shown recently that the removal of wheat flour (and in particular wheat gluten) from the diet results in rapid improvement in cases of coeliac disease. What cereals may be given to such children with safety? Are there any other foods beside cereals which should be forbidden?

A.—The children may be given corn-flour, rice-flour, or potato-flour. Gluten-free cereals consist essentially of starch, which can, of course, be purchased, but it has lost its bread-making characteristics. The cereals that appear to be most deleterious are wheat, rye, and oats. Children with coeliac disease will tolerate most other foods reasonably well, but fat may have to be restricted, especially in more severely ill children.

Pseudo-constipation in Infants

Q.—An infant of 18 weeks has a bowel movement of about 4 oz. (113 g.) once every eight days. The infant is breast-fed, and the motion is unformed, soft, and mustard coloured. Although only 5½ lb. (2.5 kg.) at birth, the infant has thriven well. There appears to be no anal stenosis or fissure and no undue abdominal distension. Blood has never been passed per rectum. On rectal examination the bowel wall is felt to come down against the finger on defaecation, and soft faeces are present on the examining finger. What treatment, if any, is necessary, and what is the cause of the delayed motions?

A.—Many breast-fed babies present a condition which has been termed "pseudo-constipation." Presumably the breast milk leaves little residue to stimulate a bowel action. Also, after the relatively frequent and almost reflex opening of the bowels several times a day in the newborn period there comes a time when the baby appears to be acquiring some natural control. However, it is seldom that this phase lasts so long as in the case cited, and certainly an eight-day rhythm is unusual. Mixed feeding should be started soon with bone and vegetable broth and one feed of cereal introduced. Orange juice, if not already started, should be given liberally. If more frequent stools do not then begin to appear expert advice should be sought just in case, as a very long shot, the child is suffering from thyroid deficiency or mental defect. It seems unlikely from the description, especially as the faeces are described as soft, that there is any organic disease of the bowel. Laxatives or purgatives should not be given.

Prematurely Grey Hair

Q.—Are physostigmine or A.C.T.H. of any use in treating premature greying of the hair? If not, are hair dyes a safe and effective treatment?

A.—I know of no substance which, taken internally, causes the hair to darken in the human subject. I have never heard that physostigmine has this effect, and in patients I have treated for other diseases with A.C.T.H. I have certainly seen no change in the colour of the hair. It seems, indeed, that greying of the hair does not depend upon the same factors as influence the pigmentation of the skin in general.