

(*Supplement*, July 18, p. 40) to the effect that a recent speech by the Minister of Health suggested that he was anything but confident about the 1s. charge? Were they not entitled to more information?

Mr. MACLEOD said he was delighted to see this additional proof of the slow conversion of the Opposition to the point of view of those called Macleod, who came from the Western Isles.

Mr. BLENKINSOP asked whether the Minister did not recognize that the House welcomed the conversion of the British Medical Association to the point of view expressed always from this (the Labour) side?

National Service Boards

Replying on July 23 to questions by Mr. N. N. DODDS and Mr. J. SNOW, Sir WALTER MONCKTON said he was engaged in consultations with chairmen of medical boards. He had already arranged for the boards to be reminded of the importance of making a full inquiry into the candidate's medical history and of paying full attention to consultants' reports. He was amending the forms sent with the summonses to medical examination so as to draw attention to the fact that medical certificates or reports brought to the examination would be fully considered. Mr. H. Watkinson, the Parliamentary Secretary, had already started personal visits to medical boards. He proposed to do the same after the House rose. The most fruitful course would be to complete the steps which were already in hand and the examination of the individual cases brought to his notice. He also proposed to make a further investigation, with the co-operation of the Services and the Ministry of Pensions, into all cases of men discharged during a recent period shortly after entry with a view to determining the present extent of error and whether it appeared to arise most commonly in certain types of cases or districts.

Replying to Mrs. E. BRADDOCK on July 23, Sir WALTER MONCKTON said no instructions had been given that medical boards must not turn down more than a certain percentage of men in each of the categories. In answer to Mr. SNOW Sir WALTER MONCKTON said on the same date that about half the cases rejected by medical boards were psychiatric cases.

Mr. H. WATKINSON had said on July 21 that 25 chairmen of medical boards were over 70 years of age.

Strawberry Jam.—The average vitamin-C content of strawberry jam is 16 mg. per lb. (35 mg. per kg.). The corresponding value for the fresh strawberries used in the preparation of a pound of jam is 96 mg.

Medico-Legal

THE CHANGING LAW

[FROM OUR MEDICO-LEGAL CORRESPONDENT]

Few Englishmen really understand how the English constitution works unless they are professionally concerned, either as politicians or as lawyers, in helping to work it. In *The Changing Law*,* a collection of addresses given to English universities, Lord Justice Denning sets out to draw a picture of the changes by which the law is adapting itself to the social and constitutional revolution of our time. In doing so he provides the ordinary man with a vivid insight into the genius of the constitution, and shows how English law has developed, and is developing, to hold the balance between man and the State and between man and man.

Doctors will find much in the book of direct interest to them. They will see how one of the living masters of the Common Law treats the problems which have been discussed recently in the medico-legal columns of the *Journal*, and among the cases with which the theme is illustrated they

will meet some old friends that have been reported there. They will see how actions for negligence against hospitals have served in the maintenance and development of the rule of law in the Welfare State and in the law of master and servant. They will find what Lord Justice Denning thinks of the M'Naghten Rules and the criminal responsibility of the insane in the situation pointed by the cases of Straffen and Miles Giffard.

Some of Lord Justice Denning's views upon the law do not command universal acceptance. Few, however, who read his book will fail to be glad that he has written it.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS

The degree of M.D. has been conferred on J. Stephen Law.

The following candidates have been approved at the examination indicated:

FINAL M.B., CH.B.—Ann C. Alabaster, W. G. G. Brand, Florence M. Danjoux, A. M. Dick, A. A. Lakeru, J. A. Lawrie, C. S. Leithhead, R. Markham, F. D. Marples (with commendation), C. A. H. Marr, Margaret A. H. Ness, R. G. M. Poston, J. Smart (with commendation), E. Sweeney, Mary E. C. Wright.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH

At a quarterly meeting of the College held on July 21 with the President, Dr. W. A. Alexander, in the chair, it was announced that the following distinguished members of the medical profession had accepted Honorary Fellowship of the College: Professor Charles Herbert Best, F.R.S., professor of physiology and director of the Banting and Best Department of Medical Research in the University of Toronto; Sir Walter Russell Brain, President of the Royal College of Physicians of London; Sir Frank Macfarlane Burnet, F.R.S., director of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, Melbourne, Australia; Sir Charles Ernest Hercus, professor of bacteriology and public health in the University of Otago and dean of the Medical Faculty; Sir Gordon Morgan Holmes, F.R.S., consulting physician to Charing Cross Hospital and to the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases; Sir Robert Muir, F.R.S., emeritus professor of pathology in the University of Glasgow; Sir John Parkinson, consulting physician to the Cardiac Department of the London Hospital and to the National Heart Hospital.

The following were elected Members of the College: J. R. Bailey, W. A. Murray, M. A. Wafa, T. J. Danaraj, H. Foster, E. L. Davis, M. Macleod, R. S. Norton, M. Scott-Gray, G. J. V. Perera, D. E. P. Forbes, A. V. A. Vethanayagam, C. H. Gurd, H. P. Vaishnava, D. J. Gudex, Ata-Ul Haq, K. R. Tyler, R. W. H. Simmons, A. Pines, E. O. L. Hoskins, S. G. F. Wilson, S. I. Kuper, P. A. Rechnitzer, G. W. Allan, A. Nestadt, H. D. Jacobs, K. S. Husain, R. Kilpatrick.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON

Sir Wilson Jameson, Master, presided at recent meetings of the Court of Assistants of the Society. Dr. C. F. White, Mr. A. M. A. Moore, and Sir Lionel Whitby were elected to seats on the Court. Dr. Frank Howitt was re-elected as the Society's representative on the British Postgraduate Medical Federation and Dr. G. Hamilton Hogben was appointed representative of the Society on the Central Council for District Nursing in London.

The Honorary Mastery of Midwifery was bestowed upon Sir William Gilliat in recognition of his eminence in this field, and the Society's Gold Medal in Therapeutics was presented to Sir Charles Harington, F.R.S., in commemoration of his work which led to the synthesis of thyroxine. The presentations were followed by a soirée at which the Society's plate and other treasures were exhibited.

The Society's records from 1617 to approximately 1850 have been deposited in the Guildhall library.

The following candidates, having completed the final examination, have been granted the Diploma of the Society, enabling them (upon complying with the requirements of the Medical Acts) to practise medicine, surgery, and midwifery: T. P. Oliver, R. G. Orr, T. F. Stoyale, P. Jensen, S. T. Guest, J. Cottam, E. P. James, W. F. T. Davies, J. R. Croning, R. H. Morgan.

The following candidates were successful in the recent examination for the Diploma in Industrial Health: C. P. Chivers, K. B. Roy, R. Whitelaw.

*Published by Stevens and Sons, London, 1953, pp. 122, 10s.

lishment of a General Dental Council, but one of the difficulties was to find Parliamentary time for the necessary Bill. He ended his speech with a warm tribute to the Dean of the Faculty, Sir William Kelsey Fry. Among the other guests were Sir Cecil Wakeley, P.R.C.S., Sir John Charles, Dame Lillian Penson, and Dr. Bernard Johnson.

Commonwealth Bursaries.—The Royal Society and the Nuffield Foundation are jointly instituting a series of Commonwealth bursaries. Their object is to increase the efficiency of investigators of proved worth by enabling them to pursue research, learn techniques, or follow other forms of study wherever in the Commonwealth the environment is particularly favourable. The bursaries differ from ordinary research fellowships, the main emphasis being on improving the recipients' capabilities rather than on obtaining the solution of a particular research problem. Each bursary will provide for cost of travel and maintenance, but not for a salary as such; bursaries will be tenable for from two to twelve months. For the first five years the scheme will be on an experimental basis. During this period the Nuffield Foundation will contribute £5,000 a year, and the Royal Society will make an initial contribution of £2,500. Later it is hoped that funds may be obtained from other sources, particularly from overseas, to make possible the full development of the scheme. A joint Commonwealth Bursaries Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Sir Edward Salisbury, F.R.S. It includes two medical members: Sir John Stopford, F.R.S., and Professor G. R. Cameron, F.R.S. Bursaries will be awarded biennially, and application forms (obtainable, with further details, from the assistant secretary, the Royal Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W.1) must be submitted not later than March 15 and September 15 each year. The bursaries are open to both United Kingdom and other Commonwealth scientists. The first applications will be considered early next year.

Foulerton Research Fellows.—Two physiologists have been appointed by the Council of the Royal Society to Foulerton Research Fellowships. Mrs. P. M. Holton, D.Phil., is to carry out work at the Physiological Laboratory, Cambridge, on chemical transmission in the nervous system. Mr. J. E. Falk, Ph.D., of University College Hospital Medical School, is to investigate the biochemical mechanisms involved in the production of porphyrins and haemoglobin.

School of Medical Photography.—A school of medical photography, provisionally designated the London School of Medical Photography, is being formed as a non-profit-making organization through the co-operation of eight London teaching hospitals. Its aim is to prepare students for the final examination of the Institute of British Photographers in medical photography. The institutions concerned are Guy's Hospital Medical School; St. Mary's Hospital Medical School; the Middlesex Hospital; The Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street; the Institute of Ophthalmology; the Institute of Orthopaedics; the Post-graduate Medical School of London; and St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Students must have passed the intermediate examination of the Institute of British Photographers; they should be ready for the final examination at the end of four terms. The school opens in October. Inquiries should be addressed to the honorary secretary, Mr. N. K. Harrison, Department of Medical Photography, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, West Smithfield, London, E.C.1.

Rabbits.—The present success of the virus of myxomatosis in controlling rabbits in Australia—it is estimated that in the last three years 80% of the rabbits have been destroyed—has led landowners there to raise a fund in honour of Dr. Jean McNamara, of Melbourne, in appreciation of her long campaign for its use. Dr. McNamara is well known for her work on poliomyelitis, for which she was made D.B.E. in 1935, and it was while working in the United States on a Rockefeller scholarship that she first conceived the idea of using myxomatosis virus for rabbit control. A less happy experience is that of a French doctor who used the virus

to exterminate rabbits on his walled property. According to the *Manchester Guardian*, the doctor is now threatened with prosecution by the State, because the disease is rapidly spreading far beyond the walls of his estate. This is hardly surprising, as the virus is carried by mosquitoes.

"Family Doctor."—The August issue of *Family Doctor* has holiday topics well to the fore. There are articles on swimming, the hazards of picnicking, holiday housekeeping, and "How Hot Can You Get?"—the last giving some account of current research on climatic conditions and working efficiency. James Laver, writing on fashion and health, depicts some formidable corsets and even a machine for tightening their laces. In the Medicine and Health Section, Dr. T. Traherne discusses the causes of suicide, Miss Theodora Alcock advises on left-handedness and mirror writing, Dr. W. Edwards explodes some nature cures, and Dr. Doris Odlum tells parents how to bring up their babies the modern way. Constipation, stitch, baldness, and fat children are the subjects of other notes. For the profile, the work of the almoner has been chosen.

Mr. Arthur A. Gemmell was re-elected President of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists on July 25.

Mr. John Foster, senior clinical lecturer in ophthalmology in the University of Leeds, has been invited to deliver the Charles H. May Memorial Lecture before the New York Academy of Medicine in April, 1954.

NEW ISSUES

British Journal of Ophthalmology.—The next issue (Vol. 37, No. 8) will be available in a week's time.

Issued monthly; annual subscription £4 4s., single copy 8s. 6d.

British Journal of Preventive and Social Medicine.—The next issue will be available in a week's time.

Issued quarterly; annual subscription £2 2s., single copy 12s. 6d.

These journals are obtainable from the Publishing Manager, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

A fee is charged or a ticket is required for attending lectures marked ●. Applications should be made first to the institution concerned.

Monday, August 3

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY: FACULTY OF MEDICINE.—At West Lecture Theatre, University New Buildings, Teviot Place (Door 4), 5 p.m., Professor Shields Warren (Harvard): Pathologic Consequences of Total Body Irradiation.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS

BIRTHS

Clarke-Williams.—On July 16, 1953, at Catterick Military Hospital, to Shirley (formerly Hinton), wife of Michael Clarke-Williams, M.B., M.R.C.S., a daughter—Marion Anne.

Cliff.—On July 16, 1953, at County Hospital, Hereford, to Margaret, wife of Dr. Philip Cliff, of Colley Horn, Mordiford, Hereford, a daughter—Pauline.

Dakin.—On July 10, 1953, at Grappenhall Maternity Home, Warrington, to Marjorie (formerly Pennington), wife of E. T. Dakin, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., a daughter—Julie Karen.

Edwards.—On July 22, 1953, at Argyll Nursing Home, Darlington, to Laurie, wife of Dr. D. R. Edwards, a son.

Gretton-Watson.—On July 16, 1953, at Chester, to Concetta, wife of Dr. B. G. Gretton-Watson, a daughter—Clare Lilian.

Holden.—On July 22, 1953, at King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, London, S.E., to Ursula (formerly Stanley), M.R.C.S., wife of Surgeon-Lieutenant P. H. Holden, R.N., a daughter.

Laidlaw.—On July 25, 1953, to Greta (formerly Mair), wife of Dr. Allan J. Laidlaw, Barbourne Road, Worcester, a daughter.

Park.—On July 19, 1953, at 40, Wilbury Road, Hove, to Dr. Emily Park (formerly Smith), wife of Harold Park, F.R.C.S., a daughter.

DEATHS

Mason.—On July 5, 1953, at 14, Gainsborough Gardens, Hampstead, London, N.W., Francis Courtenay Mason, M.S., F.R.C.S.

Morris.—On July 7, 1953, at 19, Oak Road, Woolston, Southampton, Hants, the home of his son, Luther Morris, M.D., of Ashgrove, Brisbane, Australia.

Pringle.—On July 12, 1953, John Pringle, M.D., D.P.H., of Hawkbarrrow, Gosforth, Cumberland, formerly of Whalley Range, Manchester, Lancs.

Riley.—On July 8, 1953, at Nordale, Ben Rydding, near Ilkley, Yorks, Donald Riley, M.B., B.Ch., aged 52.