

has both "society" and "congress" membership, the former being restricted to those specializing in plastic surgery or related fields, while the latter is open to any interested medical practitioner as well as to relatives or friends accompanying a "society" member. Congresses will be held every fourth year. The society's business will be conducted by an executive committee appointed by the general assembly at the quadrennial congresses, a council consisting of one delegate from each national association of plastic surgeons, and the general assembly of all attending "society" members. In addition to the honorary president, the following other officers were elected at the Congress: general secretary, TORD SKOOG (Sweden); treasurer, KARL HOGEMAN (Sweden); executive committee, TRUMAN BLOCKER, Jr. (U.S.A.), FRANCIS BURIAN (Czechoslovakia), MARIO GONZÁLEZ (Mexico), Sir ARCHIBALD MCINDOE (Great Britain), DANIEL MOREZ-FATIO (France), GUSTAVO SANVENERO-ROSSELLI (Italy), and KARL SCHUCHARDT (Germany).

Austrian Doctors Strike.—Austrian doctors and dentists carried out a nation-wide strike on August 25 and 26 in protest against some of the provisions of a proposed new social insurance law, due to be considered shortly by the Austrian parliament. According to newspaper reports, the Austrian Chamber of Doctors, after arranging a skeleton service of some 3,000 doctors to deal with emergencies, called upon the remainder of its 13,000 members to stop work, and the Austrian Chamber of Dentists did likewise. In Vienna motorized columns of doctors toured the city, distributing pamphlets explaining their views and visiting health insurance hospitals and clinics. There were some incidents with the police. One of the objects of the new measure is to regulate the doctors' relations with the autonomous health insurance bodies. It seems that the doctors' principal grievance, states *The Times* correspondent in Vienna, is the proposed unrestricted right for the health insurance bodies to dismiss individual doctors without explanation. Other demands include the right of all doctors to participate in the health insurance scheme, better remuneration, and financial contributions to treatment by insured persons above a certain income level.

London University and Overseas University Colleges.—Certain overseas university colleges, such as the University College of the West Indies and University College, Ibadan, have been accepted into "special relation" with London University. This is accorded only after a satisfactory report to the Senate of London University on the college's academic status and constitution. Students at these colleges then become eligible for the "special relation" degrees of London University, once the course of instruction for the particular degree has been approved. The degrees are of the same standard as the usual London degrees, but the syllabuses may be modified to suit local conditions. A Senate committee watches over the progress of these colleges, and in its report of the 1954-5 session records the graduation of the first group of M.B., B.S. students at the University College of the West Indies. A warm tribute is paid to Dr. T. C. HUNT, of St. Mary's Hospital, who played a large part in the work of establishing a teaching hospital in Jamaica. The report also records that, of the 11 students from Ibadan who came to Britain for their clinical studies (a teaching hospital is at present being constructed in Ibadan—see *Journal* of November 27, 1954, p. 1303), nine were successful in the Internal London M.B., B.S. finals.

Society of Apothecaries of London.—Dr. NEVILLE FINZI was elected Master of the Society of Apothecaries in succession to Sir CECIL WAKELEY at a meeting of the Court of Assistants on August 16. Dr. MACDONALD CRITCHLEY and Dr. REGINALD FISHER were elected Wardens, and Dr. KENNETH PERRY was appointed examiner in medicine in succession to Dr. NEVILLE OSWALD, who has resigned.

Research on Ageing: Ciba Foundation Awards.—The Trustees of the Ciba Foundation announce five awards for 1955-6, of average value £300, for reports of research "relevant to basic problems of ageing." Reports should not exceed 7,000 words in length, and the last date for their receipt is February 10, 1956. The results will be judged by

an international panel of distinguished scientists. Further details from Dr. G. E. W. WOLSTENHOLME, Ciba Foundation, 41, Portland Place, London, W.1.

Standard Scalpels.—The British Standards Institution has issued for comment a draft British Standard for surgical scalpels (CV(SGC)6346). The draft was prepared by the Institution's Surgical Cutting Instruments Committee, whose chairman is Sir HENRY SOUTAR. Any comments on the draft standard should be sent to the British Standards Institution, 2, Park Street, London, W.1, not later than October 7.

Consultant Psychiatrist to the Army.—Dr. R. F. TREDGOLD has been appointed honorary consultant in psychiatry to the Army at home in succession to Dr. J. R. REES. Dr. Tredgold holds appointments as regional psychiatrist to the South-east Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board and physician to the department of psychological medicine at University College Hospital, London.

Dr. Frank Falkner, lecturer in child health at the Institute of Child Health, Great Ormond Street, and coordinating officer to the Centre International de L'Enfance, Paris, for their international growth studies of children, will take up an appointment as assistant professor of child health at Louisville University, Kentucky, in January. Dr. Falkner will retain his Paris appointment, and one of his tasks will be to initiate a growth study in Kentucky, as so far there is no North American contribution to this investigation.

COMING EVENTS

Radio and Television.—Spiritual healing: an inquiry (Sunday, September 4, Home Services at 9.15 p.m.). "Atoms for Peace": report by Professor J. ROTBLAT (St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical School) on Geneva Conference (Tuesday, September 6, television at 8.45 p.m.).

International College of Surgeons.—The following meetings have been arranged, details being obtainable from Dr. JAMES F. BRAILSFORD, 20, Highfield Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, 15: September 12-15 at Philadelphia; October 12-16 at Belo Horizonte, Brazil; October 22-23 at Vienna; October 22-26 at Mendoza, Argentina; October 30 at Tokyo; and November 18-20 at Amsterdam.

Tuberculosis Course.—Postgraduate course for general practitioners at Royal Berkshire Hospital, London Road, Reading, and Peppard Chest Hospital, Henley-on-Thames, week-end October 22-23. Details from Tuberculosis Educational Institute, Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS

BIRTHS

- Bailey.**—On August 15, 1955, at Port Elizabeth, South Africa, to Sheila (formerly Watts), M.B., B.S., wife of Robert Anthony Bailey, F.R.C.S., a son.
- Baird.**—On August 21, 1955, at Jessop Hospital, Sheffield, Yorks. to Ivy (formerly Hayhurst), wife of Ian McLean Baird, M.B., M.R.C.P., a daughter—Fiona.
- Lovel.**—On August 22, 1955, at 27, Cedar Road, Sutton, Surrey, to Joan (formerly D'Arcy), M.D., D.C.H., and Lester Lovel, of Banstead, Surrey, a daughter—Mary Patricia.
- Pettitt.**—On August 18, 1955, at Weir Maternity Hospital, London, S.W., to Helga, wife of Dr. G. C. Pettitt, of Sydney, Australia, a son—Martin Charles Gordon.
- Pillai.**—On June 21, 1955, at Swansea, to Lenora (formerly Anthony), wife of S. Pillai, M.B., F.R.C.S., a sister for Mohan Anthony—Karen Indira.
- Rigby.**—On August 20, 1955, at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Boscombe, Hants, to Dina (formerly Bowen), wife of Philip Rigby, M.B., Ch.B., 24, Sycamore Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, a son—Peter Wesley.
- Turner.**—On August 5, 1955, at Shearwood Nursing Home, to Dr. Naomi (formerly Myers), wife of Dr. M. H. Turner, of 1, Victoria Road, Sheffield, 10, a daughter—Deborah Celia.

MARRIAGES

- Abrahamsson—Oliver.**—On August 9, 1955, at The Oratory, Bengt Paul Abrahamsson to June Marie Oliver, M.B., Ch.B., D.A. Address: Nybrogatan 5, Eskilstuna, Sweden.

DEATHS

- Grant.**—On August 17, 1955, at 82, Graham's Road, Falkirk, Stirlingshire, Robert Grant, M.B., Ch.B.
- McEwan.**—On August 17, 1955, at 7, Palmeira Square, Hove, Sussex, Mary McEwan, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
- Prosser.**—On August 8, 1955, Frank Atkinson Prosser, M.B., Ch.B.
- Speirs.**—On August 8, 1955, at Fairfax House, Colton, Hovingham, York, James Miller Speirs, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., late of 119, Wortley Road, Leeds.