

A Famous Institution

Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne, 1870-1970. Lyndsay Gardiner, M.A. (Pp. 231; \$5.25.) Royal Children's Hospital. 1970.

All who are interested in the history of famous institutions will find abundant material to satisfy their curiosity about the trials and tribulations encountered during the first hundred years of the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne.

The story begins in a semidetached cottage, with two doctors, one nurse, and accommodation for six children. The doctors were honorary medical officers and the nurse received £26 per annum. The progress over the years is graphically described, and by the end we find a wonderful multistorey building on a 10-acre site with accommodation for more than 400 children, a resident medi-

cal staff of 57, an annual intake of 220 medical students, and outpatient attendances of 47,000.

Inevitably much of the story is concerned with the financial problems because they represented the major task throughout the century. The heroic and continued efforts of successive committees, with many notable members, specially among the ladies, to raise funds for the ever increasing needs of the hospital, are described in some detail. The most remarkable feat was the success of the building appeal for the new hospital; this raised £434,000 in two months in 1960. Almost everybody in Melbourne must have contributed to this fund and it is evident that the hospital is indeed the Melbourne children's own hospital. The author has contrived to weave such an admixture of finance, his-

tory, and anecdote that the reader has to continue to find out what next befell, perhaps to a matron or hospital secretary or to some recalcitrant committee member.

This is a story of grit and determination, of a fight against long odds and of a worthy victory, culminating in the official opening of the new hospital by the Queen on 25 February 1963. There are many photographs of worthies throughout the century who had worked for the hospital and of its various buildings, but the quality of most of them reflects their authenticity rather than their pictorial excellence.

There is no doubt that this book will prove of widespread interest to the citizens of Melbourne, but it will also appeal to many others over a much wider field, lay as well as professional, who have at heart the welfare of children all over the world.

WILFRID GAISFORD

Spina Bifida Babies

The Orthopaedic Management of Spina Bifida Cystica. Malcolm B. Menelaus. (Pp. 116; £3.) E. & S. Livingstone. 1971.

This is another very valuable contribution by a member of the enthusiastic team of the Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne. Mr. Menelaus, as deputy chief orthopaedic surgeon, has been responsible for the management of orthopaedic problems in spina bifida children and has obviously accumulated a vast personal experience. The author stresses the importance of team approach to this problem of the multiply-handicapped child, and rightly points out that orthopaedic surgery for these children should be performed only in centres where all other necessary facilities for their treatment are available.

The separate chapters are devoted to deformities of the feet, knees, hips, and spine. The various deformities are beautifully illustrated by excellent photographs and good x-ray reproductions, and though operative procedures are described briefly these are not illustrated. The book contains a number of appendages. The first of these is a series of tables analysing the author's work, and these provide extremely useful facts and figures for anyone interested in the treatment of myelomeningocele. A second appendix discusses the use and function of a spina bifida clinic and a final appendix is a copy of the notes for parents which the Melbourne's Children's Hospital supplies. These notes are remarkably detailed and possibly too ambitious for the average parent.

Mr. Menelaus's approach to orthopaedic deformities in myelomeningocele is obviously an aggressive one, and while physiotherapy and splinting are discussed in detail his main line is corrective operative surgery. Most of this is orthodox and sound, but the use of early tenotomy of the tendo Achillis with prolonged plaster of Paris immobilization for secondary talipes could be argued.

This book is a must for anyone who has to treat spina bifida children, and there is no doubt that it will become the standard reference book on the subject. The author and publishers are to be congratulated on producing such a beautifully printed and illustrated volume at such a reasonable price.

H. B. ECKSTEIN

Glasgow Approach to Rheumatism

Clinical Rheumatology. James A. Boyle, M.D., and W. Watson Buchanan, M.D. (Pp. 587; £12.) Blackwell. 1971.

At long last this important subject is coming into its own, as witnessed by the appearance in the last few years of several comprehensive textbooks written by experts with adequate up-to-date lists of references on the different aspects of the subject.

This volume is the latest addition to the list and a very good one. It is excellently produced, well-illustrated, clearly written, and

with full and up-to-date lists of references. It does great credit to the active Glasgow Rheumatism Centre which produced it, for it is entirely the work of the physicians of this centre. In medical textbooks today multiple authorship is the rule, with all its attendant defects and deficiencies. To find only two authors' names on a book of this calibre is not only unusual but extremely pleasant, for the writing is even and clear and there is no unnecessary repetition and conflict of opinions. Other members of the team have helped in a number of ways, but

the book is essentially a two-author book and an exceptionally good one.

Criticisms are few. Some illustrations are unclear and one is upside down, but in general they are excellent and the reproduction of radiographs unusually good. Opinions expressed by the authors are critical and well-balanced; nowhere in any section does one feel undue bias, whether positive or negative. For the rheumatologist this book is a "must"; for the general physician and for the general medical reader, graduate or post-graduate, a strong "should".

F. DUDLEY HART

SELECTED NEW TITLES

Membranes and Ion Transport. Vol. 3. E. Edward Bittar. (Pp. 382; £6.50.) Wiley-Interscience. 1971.

Elements of Medical Genetics. 2nd edn. Alan E. H. Emery, M.D., F.R.C.P.E. (Pp. 222; £1.25.) E. & S. Livingstone. 1971.

Vocabulary of Medicine and Related Sciences. W. J. Gladstone. (Pp. 298; 48F.) Masson & Cie. 1971.

Proceedings of the European Dialysis and Transplant Association. Vol. VII. Ed. J. Stewart Cameron. (Pp. 527; £6.10.) Pitman. 1970.

Social Stress and Chronic Illness. David L. Dodge and Walter T. Martin. (Pp. 331; £4.75.) University of Notre Dame Press. 1971.

Clinical Neurosurgery. Vol. 17. Congress of Neurological Surgeons, Boston. (Pp. 420; £7.50.) E. & S. Livingstone. 1970.

Metabolism of Vitamins and Trace Elements. Ed. Marcel Florin and Elmer H. Stotz. (Pp. 297; £7.75.) Elsevier. 1971.

Services de Sante en Pays Africain. André Prost. (Pp. 158; 40F.) Masson & Cie. 1970.

Cancer and Radiotherapy. J. Walter, F.F.R., D.M.R.E. (Pp. 275; £2.50.) J. & A. Churchill. 1971.

Surgery Annual 1970. Vol. 2. Philip Cooper, M.D., and Lloyd M. Nyhus, M.D. (Pp. 352; £5.80.) Butterworths.

Intestinal Transport of Electrolytes, Amino Acids and Sugars. Ed. W. McD. Armstrong, Ph.D., and A. S. Nunn, jun., Ph.D. (Pp. 352; Price not given.) Charles C. Thomas. 1971.

Abortion Laws. A Survey of Current World Legislation. (Pp. 78; £1.) World Health Organization, Geneva. 1970.

Computers in Electrocardiography. Josef Wartak, M.D. (Pp. 250; \$19.50.) Charles C. Thomas. 1970.

On the Phylogeny and the Ontogeny of the Human Larynx. J. Wind, M.D., Ph.D. (Pp. 157; Price not given.) Wolters-Noordhoff Publishing. 1970.

care, and administration of health services. "It is, in short, medicine applied to a group rather than to an individual patient." The statement adds that it is hoped that the provisional Faculty will be in a position to receive applications from those wishing to become founder members later in the year. Further announcements will be made.

Monoamine-oxidase Inhibitors

The Pharmaceutical Society has printed an MAOI warning card and suggests that it should be issued whenever one of the following drugs is dispensed: Iproniazid; Isocarboxazid; Mebanazine; Nialamide; Pargyline; Phenelzine; Pheniprazine; Phenoxypipazine; Pivhydrazine; Tranylcypromine.

The format of the card, which will be supplied to chemists and dispensing doctors, is as follows:

TREATMENT CARD

Carry this card with you at all times. Show it to any doctor who may treat you other than the doctor who prescribed this medicine, and to your dentist if you require dental treatment.

INSTRUCTIONS TO PATIENTS

Please read carefully

While taking this medicine and for 10 days after your treatment finishes you must observe the following simple instructions:

- 1 Do not eat CHEESE.
- 2 Do not eat or drink BOVRIL, OXO, MARMITE or ANY SIMILAR MEAT OR YEAST EXTRACT.
- 3 Do not take any other MEDICINES (including tablets, capsules, nose drops, inhalations or suppositories) whether purchased by you or previously prescribed by your doctor, without first consulting him.

NB *Cough and cold cures, pain relievers, tonics and laxatives are medicines.*

Report any severe symptoms to your doctor and follow any other advice given by him.

M.A.O.I.

The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

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

Monday, 17 May

ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY.—At Medical Buildings, Foresterhill, 5.30 p.m., dental centennial lecture by Sir Robert Bradlaw: Pigmentation.
INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—4.30 p.m., Mr. R. R. Phillips: Photographic Methods in Dermatology.
INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Combined consultation clinical meeting.
INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY.—At Queen Charlotte's Hospital, 3 p.m., discussion: Postmaturity. (Admission by ticket only, obtainable from Secretary, Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Chelsea Hospital for Women, London S.W.)*

Tuesday, 18 May

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL COLLEGE.—5 p.m., Professor P. E. Polani: Sex Chromosomes and their Anomalies.
WESTMINSTER MEDICAL SCHOOL.—At Meyerstein lecture theatre, 5.45 p.m., inaugural lecture by Professor D. M. Matthews: Experimental Approach in Chemical Pathology.

Wednesday, 19 May

INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. M. L. Rutter: Maternal Deprivation—Effects and Mechanisms.
INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY.—At Hammersmith Hospital, 2 p.m., Professor J. Chassar Moir: Prolapse; 3 p.m., Dr. Jean Lumley: Problems Associated with Acute Blood Loss. (Admission by ticket only, obtainable from Secretary, Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Chelsea Hospital for Women, London S.W.)*
OXFORD UNIVERSITY.—At Radcliffe Infirmary, 5 p.m., Litchfield lecture by Professor P. J. Randle: Insulin and Fat Metabolism.
ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL.—5.15 p.m., Dr. K. S. Warren (Cleveland, U.S.A.): Schistosomiasis.
ROYAL POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL.—2 p.m., Professor J. Mandelstam: Sporulation in Bacteria as a Simple Model for Differentiation in Higher Organisms.
WILLESDEN GENERAL HOSPITAL.—8.30 p.m., Mr. H. R. Thompson: The Bird That Got Away.

Thursday, 20 May

DUNDEE UNIVERSITY.—5 p.m., Dr. E. S. Clarke: New Ways in the History of Medicine.
INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY.—At Queen Charlotte's Hospital, 3 p.m., discussion: Caudal and Epidural Analgesia. (Admission by ticket only, obtainable from Secretary, Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Chelsea Hospital for Women, London S.W.)*
LONDON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—5 p.m. E.M.B.O. lecture by Dr. G. Braunitzer (Max-Planck Institute): Vertebrate and Insect Haemoglobin.
ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—5.15 p.m., Dr. A. Hordern: Motivation and Contraceptive Failure.

Friday, 21 May

FACULTY OF RADIOLOGISTS.—At Royal College of Surgeons of England, 4.30 p.m., Crookshank lecture by Lord Snow: The World Prospect.
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE REGIONAL NEUROLOGICAL CENTRE.—At Newcastle General Hospital, 5.30 p.m., Dr. D. G. F. Harriman: Skeletal Muscle in Cachexia.
ROYAL POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL.—11 a.m., Symposium: Injuries to the Legs.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

CAMBRIDGE
M.D.—M. T. Haslam, A. D. M. Bryceson, R. J. White.

M.B.—T. E. Stacey, G. S. Feggetter, J. C. Henderson, J. S. Uff, S. Bennett Britton, R.A.F. Burn, P. M. G. Reynolds, E. M. Berry, M. F. M. Bamford, D. F. M. Thomas.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
Appointments.—Dr. J. M. Parkin (senior lecturer, dept. of child health); Dr. J. D. Reed (senior lecturer, department of physiology).

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON
Licences to practice have been conferred on the following candidates:

H. W. Aitken, Janet E. F. Anderman, D. J. Anton, P. Arnison-Newgass, M. J. Bailey, A. J. Banks, P. A. Barker, A. H. C. Boddam-Whetham, J. Booth, B. Bose, S. E. T. Bowden, I. R. Bowen, W. A. Brooks, Carole S. Brown, C. E. Brownson, P. V. Buckingham, M. Burke, P. C. G. Chan-Kam, D. W. Chester, Alison J. M. Christopher, L. Chung, Janet

A. Clements, P. A. Connell, Patricia A. Crawford, G. A. Copper, M. R. Dean, L. L. Dombe, D. P. De Bono, J. P. Delamere, Gillian P. Duncan, D. B. Dunger, C. E. G. Farquharson, Pamela C. Fenney, Daphne C. Fielding, I. R. Fletcher, M. S. Fletcher, Po-Kai Fok, G. J. Frost, R. M. Galbraith, Elizabeth A. S. Galvin, D. J. Giraldi, Jennifer I. Glover, B. A. Greenway, Mary Griffin, J. F. Hamlyn, M. H. Hampton, G. P. Harris, P. B. Harvey, A. C. Hillyard, Gillian M. M. Hodge, N. Holmes, Sheila M. Hope, C. C. Hugh, Joanna E. Ide, Alison Ironside, Keatley E. James, W. J. Jarrett, Celia A. Jenkins, J. R. Jenner, P. D. Jones, C. L. Kennedy, N. D. Kennedy, E. J. Kershaw, I. G. Kidson, N. J. P. Killala, R. M. P. Kumar, A. S. T. Lamb, Sarah A. Lange, P. Laverick, J. Maguire, R. E. Mansel, R. B. S. Mason, Annabel J. May, P. C. May, J. P. Maynard, Renice Mendelson, C. S. H. Middleton, A. L. H. Moss, S. C. Norton, H. A. Nour, B. C. O'Dwyer, Janine M. O'Kane, A. Onsi-Abdeen, D. H. Oram, T. G. Palferman, J. G. Pearson, T. R. Penistan, G. B. Piercy, A. L. Pierscianowski, H. L. Pihlens, Premilla D. Pinto, Mary Piper, P. R. Platt, A. F. Polmear, R. J. Powell, J. E. Pring, Lenka Pstrossová, C. K. W. Pugh, R. A. Rayner, R. J. Rhodes, S. B. Richardson, G. N. Richmond-Peck, Anne Rickerby, I. Roberts, Wendy S. Robertson, D. W. Robins, G. D. Rooker, A. M. Ross, J. R. McC. Ross, Patricia A. Ross, P. G. Rudd, J. E. Ryder, M. G. Sadler, Loretta Salter, P. T. R. Saunders, S. J. Searle, R. A. J. Seaman, G. Shaw, Gillian M. P. Shillito, R. M. Smith, Elizabeth J. Southcott, P. J. Steer, Pamela J. Taylor, Susan Taylor, M. Thirlwall, T. L. Thomas, M. J. Thornton, Susan V. Thwaites, L. A. Toby, D. A. Turner, Pauline A. Tyrell, R. W. Warne, Hilary A. Whitaker, Eileen Whittle, G. R. Williams, D. M. Wood.

Diplomas have been granted, jointly with the Royal College of Surgeons of England, as follows:

D.C.H.—R. N. K. Abbott, R. J. Adair, K. A. R. Adam, Folasade A. Adekunle, S. M. Akram, T. S. Ansari, M. A. Arif, H. S. Badrek, Irene M. Bailey, Gillian Baker, Kathleen M. C. Barclay, D. A. C. Barter, S. G. A. Bartlett, Sayda Bashar, N. Bokhari, J. D. Bonifant, E. Brookman-Amisshah, M. J. Bructon, I. G. de C. Chalmers, T. L. Chambers, M. T. Chandnani, N. K. Chattopadhyay, R. G. Cockbain, G. J. Coe, D. G. Colin-Thorne, I. G. Cox, Heather H. Crewe-Brown, R. C. Dassanayake, Isobel J. Davies, Mallika De, M. L. N. de Olavarria, S. A. H. Dilaimi, Judith A. Dixon, Dian Donnai, M. J. Drake, M. P. Ellis, Penelope J. Everill, S. Fathe'azam, M. J. Y. Fisher, J. A. Flattery, C. F. Fleming, R. Flew, B. S. Gaynor, P. G. Ghedia, Phillipa F. Gibian, N. D. Gowda, S. H. S. Hamdan, K. C. Harvey, Sittana I. Hassan, D. F. Howat-Jaboor, E. W. Hill, Jill H. Howell, M. Husain, Zeenat Isani, S. M. Jacobson, P. P. Johnson, R. G. Jones, Hun Hun H. Kang, Abdulaziz A. Kasmani, D. C. Kent, G. D. Kewley, Joyce Kingsley-Jones, Quee P. Lee, Mary E. Loudon, D. J. Luck, T. M. Lynch, S. O'D. McCall, A. Mifusud, J. I. H. Mitcheson, D. F. Morgan, Jacqueline M. Morgan, Amita Mukherjee, Z. W. Nakhshkerian, Janet E. Napier, A. J. S. Nicholls, O. A. El. K. Omer, Penrose J. Owen, Ruth D. Owen, A. H. Paliwala, Raj Rani Pawa, Juliet Pearson, Sheila Picken, T. G. Pinn, K. G. Poyner, Roslyn C. Ridgway, A. A. Sathe, Jacqueline M. Scurluck, J. A. Seaman, Sipra Sen, Y. D. Sharma, L. J. Sheffield, K. Y. Siddiqui, N. Silk, Heather M. Snook, A. V. Srinivasa Murthy, Margaret A. E. Stuart, C. A. Sykes, D. G. Thomas, Alice M. S. Thompson, Linda R. Thompson, Virginia A. Todd, R. Venkiteswaran, P. von Knorring, R. K. Walkom, Elizabeth M. Webb, R. D. Whitley, P. D. Wimberley, K. A. Withana, S. Worthington, Philippa K. Wright, Gillian D. Yudkin.

CORRECTION

Screened Fibrinogen for Prophylaxis of Venous Thrombosis

In a letter by Dr. N. C. Allan and colleagues (8 May, p. 340) the word "no" was inadvertently included in the last line of the first paragraph. The sentence should have read: "Venography . . . is therefore only warranted when there is other evidence of thrombosis."

Notice to Authors

When original articles and letters for publication are not submitted exclusively to the *British Medical Journal* this must be stated.

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Authors wanting reprints of their articles should notify the Publishing Manager, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, WC1H 9JR, on receipt of proofs.

COMING EVENTS

Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.—Joint meetings with Société Belge de Médecine Tropicale and the Nederlandse Vereniging voor Tropische Geneeskunde, 19-20 May, London. Details from the assistant secretary, R.S.T.M.&H., Manson House, 26 Portland Place, London W1N 4EY. (Tel. 01-580 2127.)

Royal Society.—Discussion meeting, "Penicillin and Related Antibiotics—Past, Present and Future," 20-21 May, jointly with Royal College of Physicians of London, organised by Sir Ernest Chain, F.R.S., and Dr. Joan Stokes. All interested are welcome and details of this and the programme of meetings are obtainable from the executive secretary, Royal Society, 6 Carlton House, Terrace, London S.W.1. (Tel. 01-839 5561, extn. 278.)