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REGISTERED TRADE MARK

on whose character and activities he touched lightly and tactfully. His medical work had also been conducted in ships, while he had once occupied a consulting room and a waiting room in Wimpole Street, both of which, however, he had found to come under the latter title. The remaining toasts were the Chelsea Clinical Society; the Allied Societies, with special reference to the Hunterian Society, the dinner meetings of which had been copied by the Chelsea Clinical Society; and the health of the president, who said that the society aimed at being of particular value to general practitioners. A gratifying feature was the excellent attendance at its meetings during the past year, while the membership had also reached its highest point so far. The prospects for the future were very good.

AT the third Pan-Pacific Scientific Congress, to be held at Tokyo from October 30th to November 11th, the following subjects will be discussed in the medical section: (1) the prevalence, prophylaxis, and treatment of diseases on the Pacific Coasts; (2) the prevalence, symptomatology, prevention, and treatment of dysentery, ankylostomiasis, and Japanese schistosomiasis; (3) the climate, feeding, clothing, and power of resistance of the inhabitants of different parts of the South Sea Coast.

DR. HAMEL, President of the German Health Department, has been elected member of the Commission for Combating Tuberculosis appointed by the Committee of Hygiene of the League of Nations.

THE late Mrs. Margaret H. Hamilton-Fallowes, who died in August last leaving estate amounting to nearly £2,000,000, has bequeathed £1,500 to the Boscombe and West Hants Hospital to endow a bed in her memory, and £1,000 each to the Royal Waterloo Hospital for Children and Women, the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, and the Royal Ophthalmic Hospital.

Letters, Notes, and Answers.

All communications in regard to editorial business should be addressed to **The EDITOR, British Medical Journal, British Medical Association House, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.**

ORIGINAL ARTICLES and LETTERS forwarded for publication are understood to be offered to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL alone unless the contrary be stated. Correspondents who wish notice to be taken of their communications should authenticate them with their names, not necessarily for publication.

Authors desiring REPRINTS of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL must communicate with the Financial Secretary and Business Manager, British Medical Association House, Tavistock Square, W.C.1, on receipt of proofs.

All communications with reference to ADVERTISEMENTS, as well as orders for copies of the JOURNAL, should be addressed to the Financial Secretary and Business Manager.

The **TELEPHONE NUMBERS** of the British Medical Association and the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL are **MUSEUM 9861, 9862, 9863, and 9864** (internal exchange, four lines).

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The address of the Irish Office of the British Medical Association is 16, South Frederick Street, Dublin (telegrams: *Bacillus, Dublin*; telephone: 4737 Dublin), and of the Scottish Office, 6, Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh (telegrams: *Associate, Edinburgh*; telephone: 4381 Central).

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

RECURRENT MONSTERS.

"PELVIS" asks for suggestions for the treatment of the following case: A woman, married three years, now aged 29, has twice become pregnant. The pregnancies terminated at seven and six and a half months respectively with hydramnios, anencephaly, spina bifida. Her husband is about 40. There is no suspicion of venereal trouble on either side. This woman suffered from spinal scoliosis as a girl. There is still some deformity and apparent tilting of the pelvis.

RECURRENT BOILS.

DR. D. McASKIE (Southsea) writes: If "W. L.-C." (Torquay) (JOURNAL, October 16th, p. 717) will, as soon as he sees a boil appearing, apply 88 plaster-mull, the boils will be at once aborted.

SURGEON-LIEUTENANT L. P. SPERO, R.N., states that he has found the following line of treatment of recurrent boils very satisfactory: (1) The urine is often strongly acid; if so, it should be rendered alkaline with potassium citrate and sodium bicarbonate (large doses are necessary sometimes), and then endeavour to maintain the urine neutral, or, at all events, to diminish the

acidity as much as possible. (I am presuming the question of diet has been tackled.) (2) Take a piece of lint larger than the boil and cut a very small hole in the centre. Smear ung. hydrarg. ammon. lil. on the lint and apply to the boil and surrounding area, so that the aperture is over the centre or that part which is most likely to "point"; now soak a piece of gauze in 1 in 20 carbolic, squeeze out and place over the aperture, covering all with a thick pad of wool and bandage. This simple dressing is most effective and should be done once or twice a day. It is said, I believe, that hot fomentations tend to reinfect. I have had far better results since giving them up entirely.

WARTS AND EGGS.

DR. C. LUTHER BATTESON (Watford) writes: In answer to Dr. Leonard Williams's inquiry in the JOURNAL of October 23rd (p. 763), it used to be a common superstition in my young days in the East End of London that drinking water in which eggs had been boiled would cause warts. I have known people make tea or cocoa with the water in which eggs had just been boiled, but have no evidence that warts were ever caused thereby.

INCOME TAX.

Assessment.

"J. W. G." refers to the reply to "A. G." in our issue of October 2nd, 1926, and asks for a fuller explanation of the distinction referred to therein.

* * The case of Tennant v. Smith (*Appeal Cases*, 1892, p. 150) decided that if the holder of an office receives a salary and, in addition, an advantage—such as free residence—of which he is obliged to avail himself, and which he cannot transfer to others for profit to himself, then he is assessable in respect of his salary only. In the later case, Cordy v. Gordon (41 *Times Law Reports*, p. 401), Rowlatt, J., drew a distinction between the above facts and the case where a person is paid a salary and out of that salary has to pay a counter amount to secure himself some necessities which his employers think he ought to have in a certain form; in such a case the gross salary, and not the excess over the counter-charges, is held to be assessable.

LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

POTASSIUM CHLORATE IN CONGENITAL GOITRE.

DR. R. VERNON BAILEY (Manchester) writes with reference to Dr. R. K. White's article on potassium chlorate and congenital goitre (JOURNAL, August 14th, p. 332) to point out that Professor W. E. Fothergill of Manchester published the description of a similar case in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, 1903, i, p. 847, and also in the *Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology* in January, 1904, under the title of "Maternal eclampsia: hypertrophy of foetal thyroid."

TREATMENT OF NEOPLASMS.

MR. G. S. THOMPSON, F.R.C.S. (Sydney, N.S.W.) writes: In view of the recent articles and work on the treatment of malignant growths and the claims to priority therein, I wish to call attention to the special (prize) article written by me in 1909 from Kimberley, South Africa, and published in the *Hospital* (London) on June 4th, 1910 (pp. 283-84), in which I elaborated my theory and practice of the treatment of neoplasms by inoculation of growth substances to produce active and passive cure, either by inoculating the patient with growth substance (active immunization) or immunized serum (passive immunity), etc.

ST. KILDA.

DR. ROBERT GORDON MACDONALD (Dunedin, New Zealand), who tells us that it is now some fifty years since he joined the British Medical Association, sends the following note on the article on St. Kilda, published on July 10th:

I visited St. Kilda many years ago when on a visit to the Old Country, and was much interested in the place and its people. The "shore cough" you refer to was, and probably still is, quite common throughout the more remote Highlands, both on the islands and mainland. The people spoke of it as "Cnatan na gall," or Saxon's cold. On settling in Dunedin over forty years ago I thought I would never again hear of "Cnatan na gall," but it is quite common here. When shepherds from far inland sheep stations visit town in winter, which is their off season, they invariably develop "Cnatan na gall" on the second or third day of their visit. The Saxon shepherds call it "flu," while the Highland shepherds still call it "Cnatan na gall." All these people live in a germ-free atmosphere at home, but when they meet strangers or visit towns they invariably develop feverish symptoms with cough. Though St. Kilda and Dunedin are about the extreme ends of the British Empire, they are one in "Cnatan na gall."

VACANCIES.

NOTIFICATIONS of offices vacant in universities, medical colleges, and of vacant resident and other appointments at hospitals, will be found at pages 37, 38, 39, 42, and 43 of our advertisement columns, and advertisements as to partnerships, assistantships, and locumtenencies at pages 40 and 41.

A short summary of vacant posts notified in the advertisement columns appears in the *Supplement* at page 203.