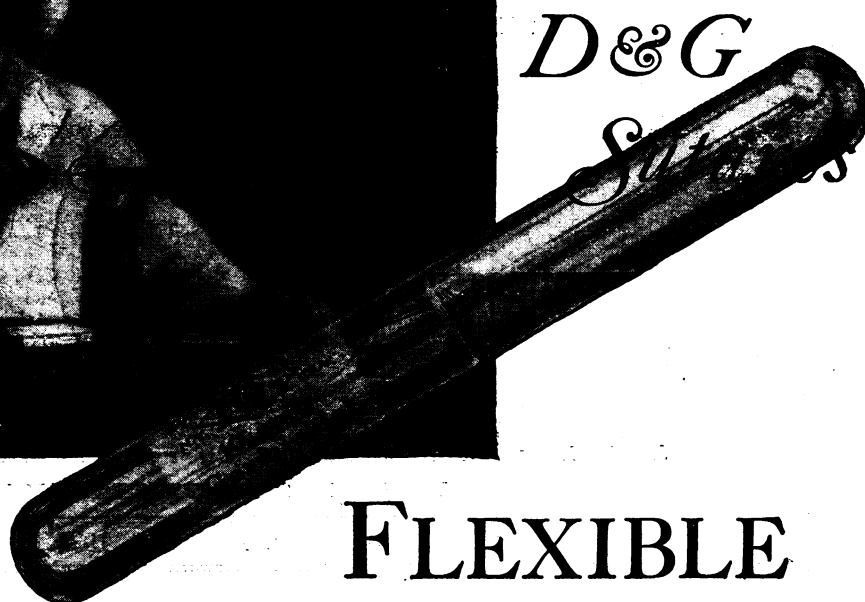




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The fifth French Congress of Stomatology will be held in Paris, under the presidency of M. Gires, from October 24th to 30th, when the following papers will be read: surgical extraction of teeth, by M. Monier; osteitis of the lower jaw, by M. Gornovec. The following subjects will also be discussed: buccal hygiene of children at school and at home, introduced by M. Tellier; sterilization in stomatology, introduced by M. Fargin-Fayolle. Further information can be obtained from the general secretary, M. Leclercq, 9, Boulevard de la Madeleine, Paris, 1^e.

The celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the French Society of Public Health and the fourteenth Congress of Hygiene will be held at Paris from October 25th to 28th at the Pasteur Institute, with Dr. Roux, director of the institute, as president of honour, and Dr. Léon Bernard, professor of hygiene in the Paris Medical Faculty, as president. Papers will be read by Professor Madsen of Copenhagen on the International organization of public health, and by Professor Dopfer, of the Val-de-Grâce Military Hospital, on military hygiene. Further information can be obtained from the secretary, Dr. Dujarric de la Rivière, 26, Rue Dutot, Paris, XVI^e.

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).

The TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESSES are:

EDITOR of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, *Aitiology Westcent, London.*

FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND BUSINESS MANAGER (Advertisements, etc.), *Articulate Westcent, London.*

MEDICAL SECRETARY, *Mediscera Westcent, London.*

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: 4361 Central).

QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

RAISING A BOOT FOR SHORT LEG.

DR. W. D. HOPKINS (Hayes, Middlesex) writes: When a boot is to be raised an inch or so I have usually had it done with an extra leather sole, which makes a weighty article for feeble muscles. What inexpensive method can be used to add the least weight?

* * We have referred this question to Mr. E. Muirhead Little, who has been good enough to reply as follows:

When a boot or shoe is to be raised an inch at the heel and not at the tread a piece of cork of that thickness can be fitted inside the shoe, and in such a case it is not always necessary to alter the leatherwork of the shoe. A leather heel of, say, 2 in. (in place of the usual 1 in.) is not heavy enough to matter much, but above that height the weight is important, and cork is preferable. Two inches or even more may be placed inside the boot, but, of course, in that case the boot must be specially made to take it. Larger amounts are placed in whole or part outside the boot, between the welt and the sole. For the sake of appearances part of the cork may be placed outside and part inside the boot. It is only possible to adapt an ordinary boot when the amount of shortening to be accommodated is small, say, up to 1½ in. at most. For greater disparity specially made surgical boots are needed. There seems to be no inexpensive method of raising the height of the heel and sole beyond a small

amount, but any bootmaker should be able to insert 1½ in. of cork between sole and welt without difficulty, although he will generally decline the job as being "surgical."

INCOME TAX.

Three Years' Average.

"J. V. B." claimed, and was allowed as for an expense of the year 1925, £310 as the cost of replacing his car. For 1927-28 he will be assessed on the basis of the 1926 earnings, and therefore will lose two-thirds of the benefit of the renewal allowance. Has he any remedy?

* * The cost of renewal has to be treated in the same way as any other professional expense, and no special claims can be made to set a portion of it against the 1926 profits. If, however, "J. V. B.'s" profits for 1925, as adjusted for income tax purposes, were less than the average earnings of the practice for the six years up to and including 1923—or for such shorter period as he may have been the owner of the practice—he can claim to be assessed for 1927-28 and 1928-29 on the basis of the three years' average, in accordance with Section 29 of the Finance Act, 1926-27. His claim must be lodged by October 5th.

LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

THE "MEDICAL DIRECTORY."

THE Editors of the *Medical Directory* inform us that their annual circular has been posted to each member of the medical profession. Should any form not have reached its destination, they will be glad to send a duplicate. They hope that completed forms may be sent to them at 7, Great Marlborough Street, London, W., by an early post.

MEDICAL MARKSMEN.

DR. C. W. WIRGMAN (London, E.C.) writes: I was glad to see the excellent notice given in the JOURNAL of July 23rd to the victory of Dr. C. H. Vernon at Bisley. It is curious that the medical profession have in the last three years twice occupied the second place and won this year. A very strong team of ten could have been got up from among doctors attending the meeting. The following attended and had a very good meeting on the whole: Captain A. B. Bratton, D.S.O., M.C., Colonel H. D. Brook, V.D., J. Elgood, M. J. Harker, Colonel L. Langford Lloyd, D.S.O., F. H. Kelly, Colonel W. F. McLean, C. Robertson, G. C. F. Robinson, Captain C. H. Vernon, Major C. W. Wirgman.

* * We take this opportunity to correct an error in our note on the King's Prizeman. Dr. Vernon's age is 35, not 45.

TREATMENT OF VARICOSE VEINS BY INJECTION.

MAJOR-GENERAL T. M. CORKER, A.M.S., draws attention to recent references in our columns to the treatment of varicose veins by injection (February 26th, p. 375, and *Epitome*, March 12th, para. 286) and suggests that some clear statement is desirable as regards the possible danger of thrombosis. He adds that, if there is little risk of trouble from this cause, the advantages of the injection treatment, particularly the avoidance of a cutting operation, and the rapidity with which recovery seems to follow, would render this procedure worthy of more thorough investigation, with a view to its general adoption. He invites comment from those who have had experience of the results of treating varicose veins in this way.

PORTUGAL FOR THE TOURIST.

WE have received an illustrated pamphlet about Portugal, published by the Sociedade Propaganda, and extolling the beauties of that country in climate, landscape, and watering places. The pamphlet was published in 1916; it has only just reached us, presumably, because, as the preface states, "the functioning of the various services" during the war was "somewhat less regular." It is noted that the political and geographical situation of Portugal, in face of the European conflagration, readily explained the influx of foreigners, who were quietly awaiting an opportunity to return to their own lands. The pamphlet might have mentioned also that the national industry, revolution, is carried on in a gentlemanly manner, with a minimum of bloodshed. We fully agree that the country is admirably adapted for the development of "tourism"; and the well known affection of the Portuguese for the English makes it additionally attractive. The illustrations of scenery and buildings in the pamphlet invite the visitor. The address of the Sociedade Propaganda de Portugal in 1916 was Rua Garrett, 103; Lisbon.

VACANCIES.

NOTIFICATIONS of offices vacant in universities, medical colleges, and of vacant resident and other appointments at hospitals, will be found at pages 31, 32, 33, 36 and 37 of our advertisement columns, and advertisements as to partnerships, assistantships, and locumtenencies at pages 34 and 35.

A short summary of vacant posts notified in the advertisement columns appears in the *Supplement* at page 100.