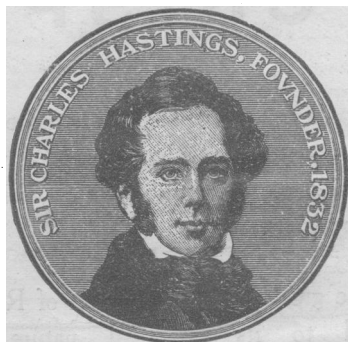


The
British Medical Journal
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No. 3627.

SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1930.

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The **TELEPHONE NUMBERS** of the British Medical Association and the *British Medical Journal* are **MUSEUM 9361, 9362, 9363, and 9364** (internal exchange, four lines).

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QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

BROMIDROSIS.

"B. B. C." asks for suggestions as to the treatment of a public school boy, aged 14, who suffers from profuse perspiration of the feet, with a persistent objectionable odour, in spite of one or two baths daily.

TREATMENT OF HAEMORRHOIDS BY INJECTIONS OF SODIUM MORRHUATE.

DR. A. STANLEY ROSS (Edinburgh) asks for information about the treatment of haemorrhoids by the injection of sodium morrhuate. "I have used this preparation for injecting varicose veins in several cases recently with very good results. I have also treated two cases of haemorrhoids of a severe type with it, with apparent relief."

TREATMENT OF JELLY-FISH STINGS.

"M.B." (Wales), while bathing last summer, was stung by a jelly-fish; the irritation was intolerable for hours afterwards. Since he is going on holiday to the same resort this year suggestions for treatment would be acceptable.

TREATMENT OF PRURITUS ANI.

"M.R.C.S." writes: As a sufferer on several occasions my experience may be of service. The patient should take neither wine nor malt liquor; but a little whisky, with plenty of water, is harmless. Avoid spinach and greens and all fruits, except cooked apples and bananas; potatoes may be taken. After defaecation wash with sponge and cold water, dry with Turkey towel, and apply carbolized vaseline (1 in 5) every second or third day. For the irritation the best thing is nugg, sorbefacien applied every two or three hours; it may be obtained from Thos. Christy and Co., and contains menthol and boric acid in a basis of lanoline. Better than a sanitary towel to avoid staining is an old silk handkerchief attached to a band round the body.

SOLIDIFICATION OF MILK IN HOT WEATHER.

"LOWLANDER" writes: On several occasions lately a patient of mine on heating milk in a cup placed in a saucepan has found that after a few minutes' heating the milk goes almost semisolid and quite "stringy." He changed his dairy, but the same thing recurred. I should be grateful for an explanation of this phenomenon.

* * The phenomenon described is probably due to the rapid multiplication of organisms that occurs in milk during hot weather. Within a few hours an originally good specimen of milk may contain ten or more million organisms per cubic centimetre. Many of these organisms produce lactic acid, and in the presence of lactic acid very little heat is liable to produce clotting.

CLOTHES MOTHS.

H. G." writes: I should be grateful if one of your readers would tell me of a remedy for the devastation to clothes, etc., caused by a plague of moths. My flat is situated between shops which have a considerable amount of litter in the attached yards. We have tried the usual methods suggested, but cannot keep down the number of moths, nor prevent the damage done, although woollens, clothing, etc., are frequently turned out, and then wrapped up in paper.

* * Some correspondence on this subject in the pages of *Nature* was summarized in a note in our issue of December 8th, 1923 (p. 1126). Some authorities threw doubt on the efficacy of camphor and naphthalene; on the other hand, Mr. James Ritchie of the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh, gave refer-

ences to the work carried out at the United States Department of Agriculture, which led to the conclusion that naphthalene in good condition is "one of the safest and best materials for protecting fabrics against moth injury." It must, however, be used in moderately tight receptacles, so that the fabrics remain in a naphthalene-permeated atmosphere. Mr. Ritchie added that camphor used in the same way was said to be almost as effective, its fumes killing all stages of clothes moths.

INCOME TAX.

Charge for Clerical Work.

"ARGENT" asks, "What is a reasonable salary to charge for my daughter, who does my clerical work?" The charge he proposes is £73 per annum, but the inspector of taxes will agree to £39 only.

* * It is impossible to say definitely without knowing all the circumstances, but the answer, in general terms, seems to be the amount which "Argent" would find it necessary to pay to a competent person willing to take on the work and reasonably anxious to earn money in that way. We are assuming that the amount of clerical work is sufficient to make the employment of someone reasonably desirable to free "Argent" for actual work in the practice.

LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

VACATION EMPLOYMENT FOR UNDERGRADUATES.

THE EARL OF DERBY writes: In increasing numbers each summer English undergraduates are making efforts to find paid work to occupy their long vacation. In the United States and Canada the student who earns enough during the summer to contribute substantially towards his living expenses during the rest of the year is as often the rule as the exception. In England, however, there is no tradition in favour of such employment, and now that many students from the middle and working classes find it necessary that they should make some contribution to the family exchequer, the difficulties in the way of their obtaining temporary paid posts are almost insuperable. Partly this is the result of bad economic conditions and of the fact that students have no desire to displace ordinary labour. The students' difficulties, however, are at least in part due to the reluctance of employers to employ undergraduates in a way with which the last generation was not familiar, and I feel that if more were known of the students seeking such employment, it would be found that there are many temporary posts which they could suitably occupy. In the present summer many hundreds of students are looking for vacation work as secretaries, salesmen and saleswomen, farm workers, assistant engineers, guides, coaches, governesses, and so on. The National Union of Students, 3, Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.1, is in a position to introduce suitable students to any employer who will apply to the secretary.

OSTEITIS FIBROSA.

DR. J. TERTIUS CLARKE (Harrow) writes: In the *Journal* of July 5th (p. 9) is a description by Drs. J. Salisbury Craig and James H. Shearer of a case of osteitis fibrosa "with initial symptoms resembling rheumatic infection." I shall be much obliged if the authors will explain why it was considered that the initial symptoms resembled rheumatic infection.

THE FOOT IN CLASSICAL SCULPTURE.

DR. GEORGE JONES (Lewisham) writes: Apropos of the annotation on "The foot and the shoe" (July 5th, p. 27), a cast from the Venus de Milo would show only the toes of the right foot. A photograph of the statue is before me as I write, and a bronze over 3 ft. high is in the next room. The two agree: the left leg and foot are entirely hidden by the drapery, which covers all but just the end of the right foot. Perhaps the medical officer of health was thinking of the Medicean Venus in the octagonal room at Florence, generally known as the Tribuna, where there are, or were, two life-size nudes. There is a very fine, but little known, collection of casts in the basement of the British Museum. The way down to it is through the gallery on the ground floor, past the portrait statues of the Caesars.

PATRICK MANSON HOUSE.

MISS MILDRED WENYON, secretary of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, writes: His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has sent to our president a donation towards the memorial to Sir Patrick Manson, to which the Duke of York has already subscribed. Some time ago you very kindly reminded your readers of this plan to perpetuate the memory of the Father of Modern Tropical Medicine, to whom we are all, directly or indirectly, so much indebted. Just over £3,200 has been received, and further donations will be very gratefully acknowledged by the president of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, 11, Chandos St., Cavendish Square, W.1.

VACANCIES.

NOTIFICATIONS of offices vacant in universities, medical colleges, and of vacant resident and other appointments at hospitals, will be found at pages 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 59, and 60 of our advertisement columns, and advertisements as to partnerships, assistantships, and locumtenencies at pages 56 and 57.

A short summary of vacant posts notified in the advertisement columns appears in the *Supplement* at page 15.

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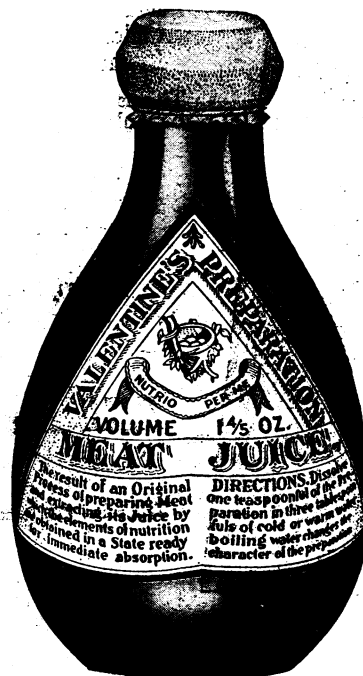
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