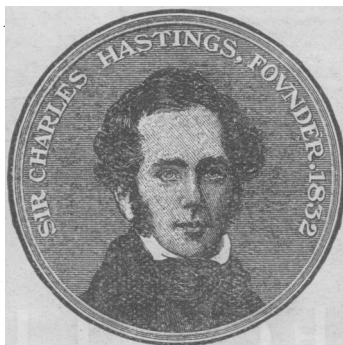


# The British Medical Journal

THE JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.



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## MEDULLA RUBRA

BONE-MARROW IN ANAEMIA  
FROM HAEMORRHAGE

W. Borchardt (*Deut. med. Woch.*, March 28th, 1930, p. 521) records the results of his experiments on young dogs in which anaemia had been artificially produced by the removal of about half their blood. In the first series some of the animals were fed with rib-marrow, others with marrow from the long bones. Control animals received a corresponding amount either of fat or of liver extract. The basal diet in each case contained a sufficiency of iron (5 mg. per cent.). Only the animals receiving the red rib-marrow showed a definite increase of weight, and their haemoglobin formation was more rapid than that of the others. In the next series the experiment was repeated, but the iron content of the diet was reduced to 1.4 mg. per cent. The result was similar but more striking, the dogs receiving the rib-marrow regaining their haemoglobin far more quickly than the others.

THIS extract from the "Epitome of Literature," published in the "BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL," dated May 3rd last, is important as representing, in 1930, a complete justification of the formula upon which

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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.

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### QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

#### ? CHEIROPOMPHOLYX.

"SYMINGTON" asks if any of his professional brethren can assist him in tracing the cause of a dermatitis that occurs in his hand now and then. It starts with a numbness feeling about and between his fingers, followed by intolerable itching, papules, and small vesicles, which become pustules, then lymphangitis and enlarged glands in the axilla, and seems to defy all remedies. It has been called gout, rheumatism, neuritis, etc., by specialists. He understands it has affected other medical men.

#### PYLORIC CANCER: REMISSION OF SYMPTOMS.

MR. A. P. BERTWISTLE (London, W.1) writes: In reply to "Wicklow's" inquiry in the *Journal* of September 13th (p. 455), two possibilities occur to me as regards the case recorded; only an operation could clinch the diagnosis. In the first place the case may be one of benign gastric neoplasm; the Mayo Clinic states that as many as 2 per cent. of gastric tumours are benign. A polypus in the pyloric canal would cause spasmodic pain in the stomach, gaseous eructations, loss of weight by starving, possibly haematemesis and melaena, and a "filling defect" on radiographic examination identical with that of cancer. In the second place, is the case one of gastric syphilis? Since these cases do not often come to necropsy, little is known of them, though there is considerable literature on them in France, and Carman mentions them in his work on radiology.

#### ANHYDROSIS AND ABSCESS.

DR. R. H. THOMSON (Uphall, West Lothian) writes: In reply to Dr. Johnston McNab's inquiry on September 13th (p. 456), I have had three cases similar to those reported by Dr. A. Kendrew on September 20th (p. 504), as the result of using a well-known and much-advertised proprietary depilatory. One patient was especially ill, being confined to bed for fully three weeks. High temperature and rapid pulse continued, even after the abscesses had been incised and drained. I feared that a general septicæmia might ensue; however, the patient made a slow but good recovery.

#### INCOME TAX.

##### Valuation of Property.

"G. L. B." points out that the forms now being issued require taxpayers to state whether their houses are occupied solely as private residences or partly for business or professional purposes. Will that fact affect the valuation to be made for income tax, Schedule A?

\* \* No doubt the authorities desire to have as full particulars of the premises as possible, but the basis of valuation is the letting value in open market, and the purpose for which the premises are used seems immaterial, unless it indicates some special site value.

##### Payment of Capital by Instalments.

T. S." has purchased a share in a partnership on terms which allow him to discharge the capital sum by instalments consisting partly of principal and partly of interest on the principal outstanding. Can he deduct the amounts of interest for income tax purposes?

\* \* The interest should be specifically shown as deductions in the statement of total income from all sources in the space

provided for "charges on income." But "T. S." will have to pay tax at the standard rate on that interest. On the other hand, when he pays the interest, he should deduct tax from it at the standard rate, so that in the end the tax will have been suffered by the recipient of the interest and not by himself—as, of course, is the proper result.

### LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

#### PASTEURIZATION AND MILK-BORNE EPIDEMICS.

MR. P. B. TUSTIN, technical adviser to United Dairies, Ltd., and formerly chief of Food and Dairy Division, City of Winnipeg, writes: I note in your issue of August 16th (p. 255) an article on the pasteurization of milk in Canada, referring to the annual report of Dr. A. J. Douglas, medical officer of health for Winnipeg. You say, "Experts in Great Britain will prefer to think that where adequate precautions have been taken pasteurization is needless." There have been three recent milk-borne epidemics in Great Britain. The paratyphoid outbreak in Kensington was due to raw cream, the outbreak of sickness among Leeds school children was traced to raw milk, and the outbreak of septic sore throat at Brighton was due to raw milk. Dr. D. Forbes, the medical officer of health for Brighton, points out in his annual report for 1929 that in his view pasteurized milk is the only designated milk which gives protection to consumers. I know of no milk-borne epidemic in this country that has been traced to properly pasteurized milk or cream. The figures in the official report of the United States Health Service for 1926-27-28 on milk-borne epidemics, including outbreaks of typhoid, paratyphoid, septic sore throat, scarlet fever, diphtheria, gastro-enteritis, and Malta fever, are as follows:—1926: 68 epidemics, 3,363 cases, 95 deaths; all reported as caused by raw milk; 1 of septic sore throat at Hamden, Conn., due to certified milk. 1927: 36 epidemics, 952 cases, 41 deaths. 1928: 43 epidemics, 2,129 cases, 94 deaths; all reported as caused by raw milk, none to pasteurized milk.

#### PREGNANCY AND CERTIFICATION.

DR. D. C. MURRAY PAGE (Pittenweem, Fifeshire) writes: In connexion with the note from "H. R." on "Pregnancy and Certification" (*Journal*, September 20th, p. 504) may I relate my sole experience regarding this matter. In July a married patient asked to be signed on the panel, since she was seven months pregnant, and her insurance agent told her that she was entitled to benefit. She was quite fit, and working away in the house and baiting fish lines every day. I told her that I did not think she was entitled to benefit, but that I would write to the Scottish Board of Health for advice. In his reply the Secretary to the Department of Health for Scotland said that no woman was entitled, on the occasion of her confinement, to receive sickness or disablement benefit as a matter of right prior to confinement. These benefits could only be paid if there was incapacity for work, and that condition must be satisfied in every case. The society's agent had misinformed the insured person, and I understand that he was properly dealt with by his superiors.

#### UNOFFICIAL AUNTS.

MRS. E. W. HARDY (7, Darley Avenue, W. Didsbury, Manchester) writes: The Voluntary Unofficial Aunts will be pleased to help in the following and similar ways: (1) To stay in the house in charge of children to enable the parents to go out together for an hour or two. (2) To take children out, or to the doctor, dentist, hospital, etc. (3) To visit old or feeble people, read to them, or play a game with them, and so occasionally to give relief to the one in charge. (4) To sew or mend garments sent to those "aunts" unable to do outside work. The "V.U.A." are purely voluntary workers, anxious to help, but not qualified in any way. They accept no responsibility, but will do their best to be of service, although, of course, they are not prepared to replace ordinary domestic labour or trained nursing. Anyone desiring to help, or to be helped, should apply to me.

#### CORRIGENDA.

##### The Mechanism of Swallowing.

WE regret that the concluding remarks by Mr. John F. O'Malley in the discussion on this subject before the Section of Radiology at Winnipeg were erroneously recorded in the *Journal* of September 20th (p. 486). The sentence should have read as follows: "He had pointed out some four years ago that in the human foetus at five months the epiglottis was in the nasopharynx, which was the position in the adult whale and alligator, and such animals had no difficulty in swallowing without any falling over of the epiglottis."

In our report of the discussion on functional disorders of the colon (September 20th, p. 474) Dr. Hugh Barber of Derby was incorrectly described as coming from London.

#### VACANCIES.

NOTIFICATIONS of offices vacant in universities, medical colleges, and of vacant resident and other appointments at hospitals, will be found at pages 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 61, and 62 of our advertisement columns, and advertisements as to partnerships, assistantships, and locum tenencies at pages 58, 59, and 60.

A short summary of vacant posts notified in the advertisement columns appears in the *Supplement* at page 159.

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GUILDFORD

30/6/30

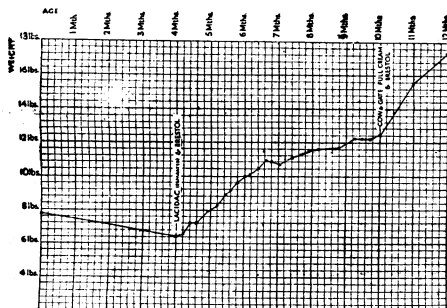
"Baby Hook, came under my care shortly after birth suffering with marasmus following whooping cough. Broncho-pneumonia developed and was with great difficulty cleared up, leaving the child in a very low condition. Feeding proved a difficult problem, several things were tried without beneficial results. The results with Cow & Gate were truly wonderful, indeed it is a case of 'a resurrection.'"

(Signed).....M.B.Ch.B.

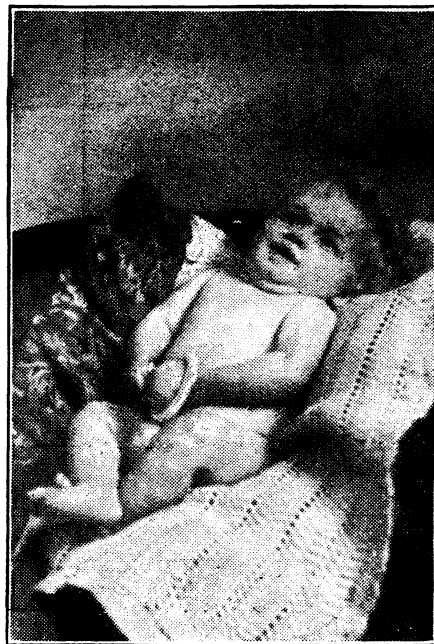
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Progress Chart



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