

An international introductory course on homoeopathy is being organized by the Berlin Academy for Post-Graduate Medical Training from October 14th to November 9th in Berlin; fee 75 marks (40 marks for surgical assistant). During the course drugs will be tested on healthy persons. Those taking part will also be afforded facilities by the Association of Homoeopathic Physicians and the University Polyclinic. For detailed programmes application should be made to the Geschäftsstelle der Berliner Akademie für ärztliche Fortbildung, 7, Robert Koch Platz (Kaiserin Friedrich-Haus), Berlin, N.W.7.

The International Union against the Venereal Peril and the International League of Red Cross Societies have decided to hold an international maritime conference to study the questions relating to the prophylaxis and treatment of venereal diseases among trading seamen. The Geneva conference will be preceded by preparatory national conferences in each country.

The annual meeting of the council of the National Institute for the Deaf was held on July 30th at the new headquarters, 105, Gower Street, W.C. In the absence of Lord Charnwood, the president, Mr. M. Birley took the chair. The report for the past year recorded a further period of rapid expansion of work among the deaf. Satisfaction was expressed that the work of school medical services, infant welfare clinics, and special hospitals was reducing the incidence of acquired deafness among school children. The report also warned deaf persons against quacks, and advised them to seek medical assistance before purchasing aids to hearing. A list of approved firms who supply aids is kept at the institute.

The international Florence Nightingale medal has been awarded to Frau Friederike Zehetner of the Wilhelmina Hospital, Vienna.

Letters, Notes, and Answers

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

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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

Car Sickness in Children

Dr. A. HAWKYARD (Leeds) writes: I should like to thank the members of the B.M.A. who kindly answered my query about motor car sickness. My patient obtained most benefit from tablets called "White Wings," made in Ipswich, the composition, stated on the box, being natrii brom. 0.389 gram, hyoscin. hydrobrom. 0.216 mg.

Dr. SIDNEY MATTHEWS (Crawley) writes in reply to "H. V." with reference to car sickness: (1) Sit in front of car; (2) take small dose of chloretone before starting and repeat during journey if necessary.

Dr. W. E. BOYD (Glasgow) writes in reply to "H. V." (July 27th, p. 193): The symptomatology produced by cocculus suggests that it might prove of help. One powder of this drug in the 200 potency given prior to the journey, combined with glucose barley sugar during the journey, has helped many of my small patients and my own children. Nelson (Duke Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.) supply it.

Treatment of Tapeworm

Dr. S. P. WILSON (Wakefield) writes to suggest that "J. R. F. P." (August 3rd, p. 242) might like to try the method described by Dr. P. W. Philip in the *Journal* of March 9th, 1935 (p. 514)—namely, administering chloroform in simple syrup, followed by castor oil.

Income Tax

Replacements

"R. L." replaced five broken electric-light brackets in his surgery with new ones, and replaced the coal-fire grate by an anthracite stove—the grate needed repairing. The inspector of taxes claims that the expenditure represents alterations or improvements, and is not allowable.

* The inspector is correct, but only as regards that part of the total expenditure which would exceed (a) the cost of replacing the brackets with similar ones plus (b) the cost of repairing the grate. That expenditure is, as it were, embedded in the total cost, and is allowable as being incurred on replacements and repairs.

LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

Preventive Medicine Up to Date

"H. E. G." writes: In this age of preventive medicine the following drama shows the attitude of the education authorities. *Act 1*: A girl attending the village school develops mumps. I give a certificate stating that her brother should be in quarantine, and should stay away from the county school, which he is attending. *Act 2*: His head master sends a note to the effect that the education mandarins care for none of these precautions, and that the boy should return to school. *Act 3*: My winged words on this attitude are evidently repeated, and not only wring the withers of the schoolmaster, but call forth a long explanation from the school medical officer, of which the gist, reading between the lines, is that the record of attendances and the money grants in connexion are of more account than the health of the community. *Act 4*: The brother develops mumps, having in all probability infected some of his schoolfellows, who would otherwise have escaped. The last laugh is certainly with me, and this only shows that sometimes that despised animal, the G.P., has more *vous* than the pundits in Government departments.

A Question of Nomenclature

Dr. JAMES C. WATT (Lindsey, Hadleigh, Suffolk) writes: May one protest against the use of such jargon as that of the title of the paper in the *British Medical Journal* of August 3rd—"Nutritional Iron-deficiency Anaemia." If it means anything, this title would seem to mean "Anaemia, accompanied, or caused by deficiency of iron, having a nutritional value." I think one may quite properly remark that the authors would have done better by sticking to English, and entitled their essay, "Anaemia due to Deficiency of Iron in the Diet."

"Punch" Among the Doctors

Original drawings illustrating medical humour, chiefly arising out of situations between doctor and patient, which have appeared in the pages of *Punch* during the past eighty-five years or so, are to be shown in the Pump Room at Bath for four weeks, opening on August 10th. The collection was first made for the Centenary Meeting of the British Medical Association, but many members of the profession may not have seen the drawings, and others will be glad to renew their acquaintance. Bath, which in its long history as a therapeutic centre has itself not been without its medical humour, seems to be a particularly appropriate place for such an exhibition.

Vacancies

Notifications of offices vacant in universities, medical colleges, and of vacant resident and other appointments at hospitals, will be found at pages 36, 37, 38, 39, 42, and 43 of our advertisement columns, and advertisements as to partnerships, assistantships, and locum tenencies at pages 40 and 41.

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