

be £375 - £10 = £365, and we suggest that "J. H. A." might point out to the inspector of taxes that he is still within the six years' time limit for the correction of errors, and that he asks for an adjustment of his liability for the year concerned. The older and higher car costs do not influence the effect of the present transaction, and this case illustrates, what we have pointed out in the past—namely, that failure to claim the depreciation allowance often involves the practitioner in loss.

LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

The British Legion Fund

The 1935 Poppy Day appeal of Earl Haig's British Legion Fund realized the gross total of £527,302. This exceeded the appeal of 1934 by £21,674, and the previous record collection of 1930 by about £3,000. The bulk of the money is allocated to the Benevolent Department of the British Legion, but grants are also made to the Officers' Benevolent Department, Preston Hall, and the British Legion Poppy Factory at Richmond. In addition, £20,000 is given to the Prince of Wales's British Legion Pension Fund, and St. Dunstan's receives an annual grant of £15,000. Occasional grants are also made to other societies which help ex-service men; during the last financial year these grants numbered seventeen, and the total so distributed was £4,870. A small fixed percentage of the net income of the British Legion Fund is applied for the purposes of the General Fund, which finances the work of the Legion, including its Pensions, Disablement, and Employment Departments. The Poppy Day report for 1935 comprises details of the activities thus forwarded. In spite of the better statutory allowances now available for unemployed persons, cases of emergency among ex-service men are not infrequent, and in the year under review £61,923 was devoted to men and their families suffering from acute illnesses. Help was also given to sufferers from chronic diseases from time to time, particularly during the autumn and winter seasons, when aid is most desired. Dental treatment was provided for 1,526 cases at a cost of £4,331. Loans and grants were made to 904 cases to assist in the establishment of new small businesses, and £3,879 was employed in promoting schemes for the employment of ex-service men in varied other remunerative activities. A new scheme of assistance came into being in 1935, in which provision was made for the fatherless children whose mothers had had to undergo treatment in hospitals, and for the maintenance of total orphans of school age. It has been possible to assist twenty-five ex-service men and their families to emigrate to the Dominions. The total amount administered by the Benevolent Department during 1935 was £465,874. During the two years ended September 30th, 1935, 880 patients were admitted to the British Legion Village; 681 were discharged, of whom 429 were definitely improved. The average number of patients in residence is about 400, the highest figure reached since the British Legion took over the charge of Preston Hall in 1925. The surgical treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis has made outstanding advances there, and the radiographical equipment has been much improved.

Public Health Congress

A Public Health Congress and Exhibition is to be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, next week from November 16th to 21st. It will be opened by Sir Kingsley Wood, Minister of Health, and on the first afternoon an address on "The Rise of the Medical Officer of Health" will be given by Sir Arthur MacNalty, Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry. The sessions on succeeding days and in different sections will be devoted to discussions, among other subjects, on the welfare of mothers and pre-school children, recreational physical training for adolescents and adults, occupation as a therapeutic and educational agent, problems of institutional administration with special reference to voluntary hospitals, and the past, present, and future of the municipal hospital. One day (Friday) is to be devoted chiefly to mental health, when papers will be read on such subjects as the organization of recreations and amusements in mental hospitals, the therapeutic value in mental illness of physical fitness through exercise, and the extension of holiday provision for working patients in mental hospitals. One paper to be read in another section on the Friday is on air raid precautions so far as they affect the departments of the municipal and county engineer and cleansing superintendent, by the city engineer of Sheffield (Mr. R. Nicholas). The exhibition will be generally devoted to equipment for the public health services. The arrangement of the event is

in the hands of an organizing council presided over by Sir Frederick J. Willis and including representatives of the Ministry of Health and Board of Control, the County Councils Association and Association of Municipal Corporations, and other national bodies interested in local government.

Relief of Spanish Distress

The following letter, signed by Lord FITZALAN OF DERWENT, Lord HOWARD OF PENRITH, and Mr. A. HUNTERFORD POLLON, has been received for publication: The Catholic Bishops' Committee for the Relief of Spanish Distress (president, the Archbishop of Westminster) recently appealed for funds to assist the refugees and children rendered destitute and orphaned by the civil war in Spain, and to mitigate the suffering of the wounded of both sides now in the care of the Burgos authorities. We have since learnt that the case of the wounded is the more poignant, for the reason that drugs, medical comforts, etc., are almost unobtainable. The generous response to our first appeal has enabled us to acquire, fully equip, and dispatch a motor ambulance, auxiliary lorry, tent, operating instruments, anaesthetics, antiseptics, etc., and we have funds to maintain this unit in the field for some time. But many more, and more completely equipped, units, as well as blankets and woollen clothes, are urgently needed. We have secured that everything sent out will be administered with Red Cross impartiality. The state of the wounded is appalling; and we cannot believe that our fellow-countrymen, whatever their creed, can be indifferent to the call of mercy. We therefore beg them, irrespective of faith or party, to help us to assuage the appalling miseries of these war victims. All subscriptions, large or small, will be gratefully received and acknowledged by the Honorary Treasurer, National Bank Ltd., 21, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1.

Autumn in Sweden

Professor I. WALKER HALL, M.D., writes: Advice is often sought as to the suitability and facilities of foreign resorts by those who wish to winter abroad. It may be of assistance to indicate, therefore, that the terrain and climate of the southern part of Sweden offer certain advantages to rheumatic, bronchitic, arteriosclerotic, and neurasthenic patients. There are several resorts to which a practitioner may send his inquiries with every confidence. One with which I am well acquainted is Tyringe. It is set in the midst of pine and birch forests, 500 feet above sea-level, with air that is unusually dry and ozonic, and soil that is sandy. There is an excellent hotel-sanatorium, replete with baths and all medical accessories. The resident physician speaks English. The food is varied and attractive. Vegetarian, diabetic, and special diets are available. The staff is most efficient, both medical and general. As I happen to be staying here for a time I shall be glad to reply to any practitioner who may wish for further independent information.

p-Aminobenzenesulphonamide

Evans Sons Lescher and Webb Ltd. (56, Hanover Street, Liverpool) write: Although supplies of this drug have actually been prepared by us sufficient data regarding clinical application have not yet been accumulated to justify its introduction into common practice. While clinical trials have so far been encouraging, the uses, dosage, and possible dangers of the product are not yet fully determined. At the moment, therefore, it is undesirable to administer the drug indiscriminately, but small supplies are available for the use of the medical profession for trial on proved cases of haemolytic streptococcal infection, and will be issued free of charge on request, subject to it being agreed that the practitioners concerned will take the necessary steps to ensure the presence of haemolytic streptococci in the case, prior to the institution of treatment, and will undertake to supply full particulars to the Medical Director, Evans Biological Institute, Runcorn, Cheshire.

Corrigendum

We have to correct an error in last week's *Supplement*. In our vacancies column the London Hospital was incorrectly stated to have advertised for a house-surgeon.

Vacancies

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

A short summary of vacant posts notified in the advertisement columns appears in the *Supplement* at page 267.