

from that date on the basis that there are two appointments and not merely an increased salary for additional service to the same council.

*. The matter is not entirely free from doubt, but we fear that the fundamental differences—in clientele and in the source of the emoluments—are sufficient to justify the Revenue regarding the £100 per annum as arising from a different appointment.

LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

Sir Thomas Bodley at St. Bartholomew's

In "Sir Thomas Bodley's London House," reprinted from the *Bodleian Quarterly Record*, Sir D'Arcy Power throws further light on the story of this Elizabethan diplomatist and scholar, the founder of the Bodleian Library at Oxford, and contributes some interesting data to the history of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. It had long been known that Sir Thomas and Lady Bodley lived in the "Great House" within the precincts of the hospital from 1599 to 1612, paying an annual rent of £5 6s. 8d., and that Lady Bodley was buried "in the upper chapel without knells, 18s. 4d.," in the Church of St. Bartholomew-the-Less. From the examination of a plan of the hospital property, which can be dated between 1604 and 1613, Sir D'Arcy has been able to establish the exact position of the house and to reconstruct its character. The site of the house is now occupied by the newer portion of the Queen Mary's Institute for Nurses. The building, which stood at right angles to Little Britain, was of three stories. In front was a courtyard with stable and offices, and to the east a small garden divided into two parts. The house overlooked the burial ground for the parishioners of St. Bartholomew-the-Less, a part of which Sir Thomas Bodley had been allowed to buy. Although Sir Thomas lived for part of his later life in Fulham, in his old age he returned to the "Great House," where he could be well nursed by the hospital sisters and be well treated by "little Doctor Harvey," the discoverer of the circulation of the blood and physician to the hospital. Bodley was a consistent member of the Church of Rome, and compounded with His Majesty James I for a certain yearly sum not to come to church. His two sons, John, who died at the age of 96, and Thomas, were both doctors of medicine and Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians.

Home Training of Mental Defectives

The Central Council for Mental Welfare (24, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1), which has done so much for the feeble-minded by caring for them in special schools and occupation centres and in other ways, has now issued a small pamphlet making suggestions for the home training of those who can never be dealt with in these ways, but who have to be kept at home and provided for there. The title of the pamphlet is "Children Who Can Never Go to School." It is issued at the price of threepence, and is full of wisdom. The advice is set out in ten clear paragraphs, and is of the most practical character. The source from which it comes ensures its being skilful, sensible, and understanding. The pamphlet is offered to the parents of such a child in the hope that it will bring encouragement and help. It certainly ought to bring both abundantly to any parent or private attendant who has a mentally defective child in charge, and it should be of great use to the medical practitioner responsible for such a case. The enormous difficulties of the situation are fully faced, and the need for faith, hopefulness, and pity, for unfaltering courage and unremitting patience, is not only recognized but emphasized. These are rare gifts, and the results, even with them, may be so far from brilliant that there are members of the public, members even of the medical profession, who state or imply that the effort is not worth while. It is well that this pessimistic, almost inhuman, creed should be met by the conviction, based on experience, stated in the concluding words of this admirable pamphlet: "that a personality imprisoned behind the bolts and bars of an imperfectly functioning physical brain can be relieved from the deepest of its darkness to lay hold, however feeble its grip may be, on something of the joy and beauty of life."

Thermal Treatment of Common Urinary Infections

Mr. MORTON WHITBY (London, W.1) writes: The commonest organisms to infect the urinary tract are the gonococcus, *B. coli*, and *Staphylococcus albus*. Less common are

tubercle bacillus, streptococcus, pneumococcus, and typhoid bacillus. The former generally attack the urinary tract by direct spread; whereas the latter are usually haematogenous in origin. That many of these organisms are the precursors of urinary calculi there can be no doubt. In the July number of the *British Journal of Venereology* Dr. W. M. Simpson describes the effects upon the gonococcus by artificial fever treatment. He states that 99 per cent. are killed in two hours and the remaining 1 per cent. in four to five hours, but the method is fraught with certain dangers, as the patient may die. It seems unwarranted to subject a patient to such possible results while other methods are at hand whereby a cure can be effected without pain or danger. I refer to ultra-short-wave therapy. My letter published in your columns on July 4th of this year illustrated the excellent results obtained in the case of the gonococcus. Recently I have had experience with seven cases of *B. coli* and three cases of staphylococcus infections of the urinary tract, and had equally good results. I tried Turkish bath treatment, without very satisfactory results. Ultra-short-wave therapy cannot be relied upon alone. It must be combined with other methods of treatment—for example, diet, medicinal, autogenous vaccine, colon lavage, and, in some cases, renal and bladder lavage, seminal and vesicular and prostatic instillations. Every case must be adequately investigated clinically, bacteriologically, radiologically, and sometimes urethroscopically and cystoscopically before a prognosis can be expressed. The lethal dosage necessary from ultra-short-wave therapy for the destruction of common organisms is between 103° and 105° F. The rectal temperature will rise to this degree after treatment of the bladder or genital area.

The Pomaret Scheme

"SIXTY FOUR" writes: In a note "Whither Medicine?" your Paris correspondent, in the *Journal* of October 31st, refers to the Pomaret scheme, which says "in effect that it is just as reasonable to make an old doctor give place to a younger and possibly better man as it is to withdraw postmen, admirals, and policemen from the active lists." There is no similarity, however. Men entering the said services understand that they must retire at a certain age, but on a pension. There is no such provision for medical men in general or consultant practice. A great many would be reduced to beggary if they were deprived of their means of earning a living.

Medical Register: Office Edition

The Registrar of the General Medical Council informs us that orders for the office edition of the *Medical Register*, 1937, published by the Council at the special price of 10s. a copy, post free, must be received, with a remittance, at the office of the Council not later than December 31st, 1936. The office edition differs from the ordinary edition of the *Register* to the extent that it does not contain reprints of the Medical and Dentists Acts and other preliminary matter, and is printed on more inexpensive paper and bound in boards. It includes, however, the same entries relating to registered medical practitioners as are included in the ordinary edition, and is therefore equally serviceable to public authorities and others who find it necessary to ascertain whether particular persons are registered medical practitioners or not. The Council also prepares monthly lists of names added to, and removed from, the *Register*, and particulars of the terms and conditions upon which copies of these lists may be made available can be obtained on application to the office of the Council, 44, Hallam Street, Portland Place, W.1.

Air Raid Precautions Reserve

The British Red Cross Society, at the request of the Home Office, is enrolling an Air Raid Precautions Reserve of men and women qualified by the possession of the society's certificate in first aid in chemical warfare to serve in connexion with air raid precautions duties with a detachment of the society. Further particulars are available at the office of the society, 14, Grosvenor Crescent, London, S.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 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 64, and 65 of our advertisement columns, and advertisements as to partnerships, assistantships, and locum tenencies at pages 62 and 63.

A short summary of vacant posts notified in the advertisement columns appears in the *Supplement* at page 295.