

GENERAL NOTES

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE,

1 Wimpole Street, London, W. 1.

Section of Laryngology—President, Mr H. J. Banks-Davis, M.B., F.R.C.P.—Hon. Secretaries, Mr J. F. O'Malley, F.R.C.S., and Mr E. D. D. Davis, F.R.C.S.

The next Meeting of the Section will be held on Friday, 7th March, at 4.45 P.M. A discussion will take place upon "The Suppurative Diseases of the Upper Nasal Accessory Sinuses, the Frontal, Ethmoidal, and Sphenoidal Cavities." Illustrative cases will be shown at the Meeting. All communications should be addressed to the *Senior Hon. Secretary*, Mr J. F. O'Malley, 6 Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.1.

Section of Otology—President, Mr Sydney Scott, M.S. Hon. Secretaries, Mr Archer Ryland, F.R.C.S.Ed., and Mr T. J. Just, F.R.C.S.

The next Meeting of the Section will be held on Saturday, 8th March, at 10 A.M. Communications should be addressed to the *Senior Hon. Secretary*, Mr Archer Ryland, F.R.C.S.Ed., 50 Harley Street, London, W.1.

During the Session 1923-24, the *Sections of Laryngology and Otology* will meet upon the following dates:—

Section of Laryngology, on Friday, 7th March, 4th April, and 2nd May (*Annual Meeting*).

Section of Otology, on Saturday morning following each of the above dates, with the exception of the date in April.

A Conjoint Summer Meeting of the two Sections will be held in London on Friday and Saturday, 27th and 28th June 1924.

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THE JOURNAL OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY, LTD.

The Third Annual Ordinary General Meeting of the Company will be held at 11 Chandos Street, London, W.1, on the afternoon of Friday, 7th March, at 6.30 P.M. The General Report and the Balance-Sheet of the Company will be submitted.

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ANNUAL "JOURNAL" DINNER.

The arrangements in connection with the above are in the hands of the Hon. Secretary of the Editorial Committee, Mr Archer Ryland, F.R.C.S.Ed., 50 Harley Street, London, W.1, to whom applications for seats should be addressed not later than 5th March.

The Dinner will take place at Pagani's Restaurant, Great Portland Street, W.1, at 7.45 P.M. Tickets 7s. 6d., are payable at the table.

Sir William Milligan, Chairman of the Board of Directors, will preside.

General Notes

It is hoped that the shareholders, subscribers, contributors and their guests will welcome a function which should assist in bringing together those who are working in the best interests of the *Journal*.

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THE SCOTTISH SOCIETY OF OTOTOLOGY AND LARYNGOLOGY AND THE SCOTTISH OPHTHALMOLOGICAL CLUB.

A discussion upon "The Relation of Visual Disturbances and Affections of the Nasal Cavities and Sinuses" will be held in the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, on the afternoon of Saturday, 29th March.

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THE LUMLEIAN LECTURES, 1924.

The Lumleian Lectures upon "Foreign Bodies in the Air Passages" will be delivered at the Royal College of Physicians of London, Pall Mall East, S.W.1, on the 3rd, 8th, and 10th April, by Dr Thomas M'Crae of Philadelphia. As Dr M'Crae has been closely associated with the Bronchoscopic work of Dr Chevalier Jackson, the lectures should be of special interest to laryngologists. Attention is drawn to the fact that the first lecture will be given on Thursday, 3rd April, the day preceding the meeting of the Section of Laryngology.

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BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, BRADFORD, 1924.

The Ninety-second Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be held at Bradford in the latter part of July, under the Presidency of Mr J. Basil Hall, M.Ch. (Cantab.).

A Combined Section of Laryngology and Otology, meeting upon two days, will be presided over by Walter Jobson Horne, M.D. (London). *Vice-Presidents*—W. Appleyard, F.R.C.S.; C. A. Scott Ridout, M.S., F.R.C.S.; W. S. Syme, M.D. *Hon. Secretaries*—T. H. Just, F.R.C.S., 16 Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.1; Donald Watson, F.R.C.S., 103 Manningham Lane, Bradford.

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THE MITCHELL LECTURE, 1924.

Sir St Clair Thomson has been appointed by the Royal College of Physicians of London to deliver the Mitchell Lecture in November of this year. The title selected for the address is "Tuberculosis of the Larynx."

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THE VISITING ASSOCIATION OF THROAT AND EAR SURGEONS OF GREAT BRITAIN: EDINBURGH MEETING, 1924.

Notwithstanding the vicissitudes of travelling which were likely to be encountered as the result of unexpected alterations in the railway timetables, during the recent strike, the first Meeting of the Association was held in Edinburgh on the 25th and 26th January, the dates previously announced in the *Journal*.

A Programme illustrating the various activities of the Ear and Throat Department of the Royal Infirmary occupied the attention of the Association during the first day of the Meeting. On the following morning,

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the members were privileged to see the work of Professor Sir Harold Stiles in the Surgical Department, and later, they had the opportunity of attending the Ear and Throat Department of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, which is under the charge of Dr Douglas Guthrie.

The operations, which had been arranged for in the Ear and Throat Department of the Royal Infirmary on Friday morning, were duplicated, the visitors being divided into two groups, so that greater facility for observation was thus provided. With the object of illustrating the technique employed in primary grafting of the tympanic and mastoid cavities, Dr J. S. Fraser operated upon two cases of chronic middle-ear suppuration. He demonstrated the application of one large skin graft so as to cover the entire cavity, the graft being maintained in accurate position by the pressure exerted by strands of iodoform worsted, the ends of which were brought out through the meatus, the post-aural incision being closed. Dr W. T. Gardiner operated by the Sluder method upon two cases of nasal polypi. The operations were conducted under local anæsthesia by blocking the sphenopalatine ganglion with one drop of 90 per cent. cocaine solution, and with a similar application to the lateral and medial nasal branches of the ophthalmic nerve. Mr J. D. Lithgow showed the induction of fibrosis in the inferior turbinals by the injection of a 60 per cent. solution of carbolic in glycerine. Cases previously operated upon by him, in this way, were demonstrated. The morning's work was concluded by Dr Ewart Martin, who gave the members an opportunity of seeing the possibilities of bronchoscopy without a general anæsthetic. One of the cases shown had a bronchiectatic cavity, which Dr Martin washed out with boracic lotion. The patient, as the result of two previous washings, had gained one and a half stone in weight, and the fœtor had temporarily disappeared.

During the afternoon, Lantern Demonstrations were given in the Lecture Room of the Department. Drs Logan Turner and F. E. Reynolds dealt with the incidence of, and the pathways of infection in, intracranial complications of accessory sinus suppuration, the former illustrating a number of points based upon statistical evidence derived from his experience in the Department; and the latter showed a series of beautiful sections demonstrating the route of infection from the sphenoidal air sinuses to the cavernous sinus and the cerebral membranes. Dr J. S. Fraser illustrated his work on the pathology of the labyrinth in a series of slides depicting the changes met with in fractures of the middle cranial fossa, labyrinthitis, syphilis, and tubercle of the labyrinth, otosclerosis, deaf-mutism, and tumours of the acoustic nerve.

On Saturday morning, Sir Harold Stiles was able to operate upon two patients, both of whom suffered from conditions which were of special interest to the members of the Association. The first was a case of pharyngeal pouch, and the second had extensive tubercular cervical glands. In both instances, the surgeon provided his audience with a very complete display of the anatomical structures in the neck. At the Sick Children's Hospital, Dr Douglas Guthrie showed his method of tonsil dissection under ether anæsthesia, employing long, fine-pointed dissecting forceps and the snare.

The Association Dinner was held at the Caledonian Station Hotel

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on Friday, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. Sir William Milligan presided. The Toast of the Association was proposed by Sir Harold Stiles, who congratulated the specialty on having inaugurated a Visiting Association and predicted a successful future for it. The Chairman gave the toast of "Our Hosts," and voiced the feeling of the members when he said that a high standard of work had been set by the Edinburgh Staff. Dr Logan Turner, who replied, thanked the members of the Association for the great compliment which they had payed the Ear and Throat Department by selecting Edinburgh as the place of the first Meeting, and he hoped that they would return on a future occasion.

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SECTION OF OTOTOLOGY: AUSTRALASIAN MEDICAL CONGRESS.

At the Meeting of the Congress held in Melbourne in November last, the Section of Otology was presided over by Dr T. S. Kirkland of Sydney, and a variety of subjects was discussed. A preference was given to the administration of general anæsthesia in enucleation of the tonsils, as reactionary hæmorrhage appeared to occur more frequently when local anæsthesia was employed. Dr Frank Andrew, of Melbourne, in dealing with the intracranial complications of aural suppuration, emphasised the importance of opening and draining the cerebral abscess along the stalk, so as to lessen the risk of meningeal infection. In those cases in which the abscess was not stalked, he made an artificial one by turning down a small flap of dura mater. A small hernia resulted, adhesions quickly formed, and it then became possible to drain the abscess through the artificial channel thus established.

Dr Kent Hughes, of Melbourne, introduced the subject of accessory sinus disease in children, pointing out that polypoidal degeneration of the mucous membrane might exist in these cases without any suppuration in the sinuses. He was inclined to suspect sinus infection in children when rhinitis, otorrhœa, deafness, lassitude, or headache were unrelieved after removal of adenoids and tonsils. Dr Robert Godsall, of Sydney, in operating upon chronic suppuration of the frontal sinus, removed the floor of the cavity and the diseased mucous membrane. The wound was left open and allowed to granulate, secondary suture being carried out at a later date. He believed that in this way post-operative osteomyelitis could be eliminated.

A combined discussion with the Section of Neurology dealt with lesions of the static labyrinth and cerebellum. Dr Frank Andrew, in his remarks, warned neurologists not to place too much reliance on the results of the examination of the vestibular mechanism.

We are indebted to our contemporary, the *British Medical Journal*, for an account of the Section's work, from which the above notes have been abstracted.

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THE PROFESSION AND GENERAL LITERATURE.

In a recent article in one of our leading weekly periodicals, the question was asked, why doctors did not take more often to literature. It was

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further suggested that, in fiction, they would find a perfect outlet for their energies in that direction. There are other paths of literature, however, which are open to them, some of which have been successfully explored by more than one member of our profession. Amongst those who, in their leisure moments, have recently wandered along literary byways, we are pleased to welcome one who for many years contributed actively to the scientific advancement of our specialty. Although, at first, concealing his identity under *lettres de plume*, Dr Peter M'Bride, in his most recent publication, has revealed his authorship to his readers.

In the summer of 1922, a little volume bearing the title *The Philosophy of Daily Life* appeared above the letters E. C. M. The book, which is eminently readable, takes the form of a series of essays dealing with many aspects of everyday life, and includes such subjects as finance, success, religion, recreation, courage, credulity and criticism, premature old age and psychology. Perusal of its pages makes it obvious that the writer is a shrewd observer, and that he possesses an intelligent understanding of his fellowmen and women.

Those of our readers who followed the correspondence upon Psycho-Analysis, which appeared in the *British Medical Journal* during the winter of 1922-23, and who had an opportunity of reading an article upon the same subject which appeared, in 1923, in the March number of *The Empire Review*, above the signature E. C. M., will hardly be surprised to learn that Dr M'Bride has further developed his views upon this topic, and has now presented to the reading public a volume entitled *Psycho-Analysts Analysed*. We are not in a position to criticise the main subject with which he deals, but, after reading Dr M'Bride's analysis, we cannot fail to form the opinion that his exposition of the case and his criticisms thereon are very reasonably stated, and that he has produced a book which should appeal to the judgment of his fellow members in the profession, as a fair statement of the case. It is evident that the lucidity of expression and the logical sequence of his arguments, both of which characterised his contributions to the literature of our specialty, have been again employed in dealing with a difficult and a controversial subject. To those who are conversant with, and to those who are ignorant of, the complexes and the complexities of Psycho-Analysis, the volume should provide very interesting reading.

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We have been asked by Mr Michael Vlasto, F.R.C.S., 26 Wimpole Street, London, W. 1, to bring to the notice of our readers his desire to obtain post-mortem specimens or sections of the submaxillary and sublingual salivary glands, of both sides, from cases of old-standing, unilateral, chronic middle-ear suppuration, which may, or may not, have undergone the radical mastoid operation, and which have died from intracranial complications or from other causes.

The receipt of these specimens would greatly facilitate his research into the question of the atrophy of the glands, as the result of interference with their nerve supply through the chorda tympani. Communications should be addressed direct to Mr Michael Vlasto.

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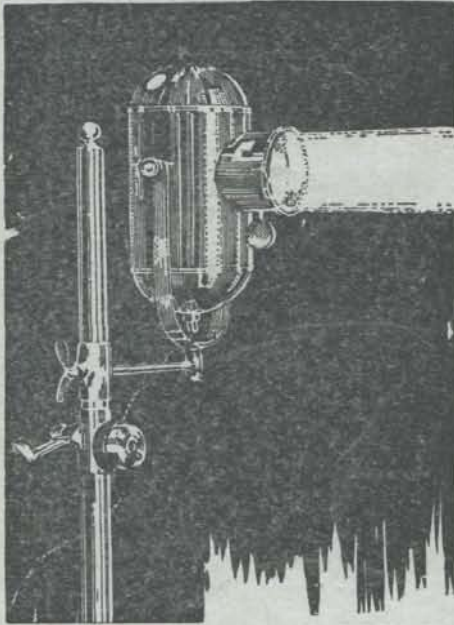
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