

## ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS FOR 1894.  
ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

MEETINGS of the Council will be held on April 11th, July 11th, and October 24th, 1894. Candidates for election by the Council of the Association must send in their forms of application to the General Secretary not later than twenty-one days before each meeting—namely, March 22nd, June 21st, and October 3rd, 1894.

Any qualified medical practitioner, not disqualified by any by-law of the Association, who shall be recommended as eligible by any three members, may be elected a member by the Council or by any recognised Branch Council.

Candidates seeking election by a Branch Council should apply to the Secretary of the Branch. No member can be elected by a Branch Council unless his name has been inserted in the circular summoning the meeting at which he seeks election. FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary*.

## BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

**BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.**—The fourth ordinary meeting of the session will be held at the Grand Pump Room Hotel, Bath, on Wednesday, February 28th, at 7.30 P.M.; R. Shingleton Smith, M.D., President. The following communications are expected: 1. On the Use of Chloralose, Mr. C. E. S. Flemming. 2. Notes of a Case of Disseminated Sclerosis, E. H. Biddlecombe, M.B. 3. Nasal Disease as a Factor in Affections of the Lower Respiratory Tract, P. Watson Williams, M.D. 4. A Case of Appendicitis, F. K. Green, F.R.C.S. Eng.—W. M. BEAUMONT, E. MARKHAM SKERRITT, Honorary Secretaries, Bath.

**LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE BRANCH.**—A special meeting of this Branch will be held at the Grosvenor Hotel, Deansgate, Manchester, on Friday, March 9th, 1894, at 4.30 P.M., for the discussion of a motion, to be moved by Dr. Rentoul, and seconded by Dr. W. Hughes (or other member), with regard to the "proposed new order of midwifery practitioners," and to appoint a committee "to watch the progress of and to oppose any proposed legislation for the registration of midwives."

**SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT.**—The annual meeting will be held at Chylton Lodge, East Cliff, Ramsgate, on Thursday, March 8th, at 2.45 P.M.; Mr. W. Curling in the chair. Agenda: Dr. Welsford will move a resolution as to the suppression of irregular and fraudulent practice. Dr. Frederick Eastes will advocate the claims of the Medical Defence Union and the Medical Sickness, Annuity, and Life Assurance Society to the support of members of the District. Dr. Styan and Mr. Raven will show a case of Myxoedema cured by Thyroid Tabloids. The Chairman will be glad to see members to luncheon at his residence, Chylton Lodge, at 1.30 P.M. Members intending to lunch with the Chairman are particularly requested to send acceptances by Tuesday, the 6th, or they will not be expected. Tea and coffee will be served after the meeting. All members of the South-Eastern Branch are entitled to attend these meetings, and to introduce professional friends.—THOS. F. RAVEN, Honorary District Secretary, Barfield House, Broadstairs.

**SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: WEST KENT DISTRICT.**—A meeting of this District will be held at the West Kent Hospital, Maidstone, on Tuesday, March 6th, at 4 P.M.; Dr. Joyce, of Cranbrook, in the chair. Communications.—Mr. Pridaux Selby: On the Diagnosis and Treatment of Perforating Ulcer of the Stomach. Dr. Tirard: Some Sequelae of Diphtheria. Dr. Joyce: On the Differentiation of Tuberculous Disease of the Kidney from Renal Calculus. Mr. Hugh Smith: On Brain Syphilis. The dinner will take place at the Mitre Hotel at 6.30 P.M. Charge 6s. 6d., exclusive of wine. Gentlemen who intend to dine are requested to signify their intention to the Chairman (Dr. Joyce, of Cranbrook) not later than Monday, March 5th. All members of the South-Eastern Branch are entitled to attend this meeting and to introduce professional friends.—E. GROUND, Honorary Secretary, Ashford Road, Maidstone.

**SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST SURREY DISTRICT.**—The spring meeting of this District will take place at Upper Norwood on Thursday, March 8th, at P.M.; Dr. Rice Oxley, of Streatham, in the chair. Members desirous of reading papers or exhibiting specimens are requested to inform the Honorary Secretary at once.—HENRY J. PRANGLEY, Tudor House, Anerley, S.E.

**METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: NORTH LONDON DISTRICT.**—A meeting of the North London District will be held at the St. Pancras Infirmary, Dartmouth Park Hill, Highgate, on Wednesday, February 28th, at 5 P.M. Dr. McCann, Medical Superintendent of the Infirmary, will show interesting cases in the wards. Dr. Shuttleworth, of Richmond Hill, late Medical Superintendent of the Royal Albert Asylum, Lancaster, will read a paper on Types of Idiocy and Imbecility. Dr. Cleveland will preside.—HUGH WOODS, Honorary Secretary, Archway Road, Highgate, N.

**METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: SOUTH LONDON DISTRICT.**—The next meeting will be held (by kind permission of the Treasurer) in the Court Room of St. Thomas's Hospital, at 8.30 P.M. on Wednesday, February 28th. A paper on Treatment of Recto-urethral Fistula and Growth of Rectum will be given by G. H. Makins, F.R.C.S. Cases of clinical interest from the wards of the Hospital will be shown, commencing at 8 P.M. All practitioners, whether members of the Association or not, will be heartily welcomed.—H. BETHAM ROBINSON, Honorary Secretary, 1, Upper Wimpole Street, Cavendish Square.

## SOUTH-WESTERN BRANCH.

AN intermediate meeting of this Branch was held at Plymouth on February 14th, Dr. THOMPSON, of Launceston, Vice-President, in the chair.

*New Members.*—The following gentlemen were elected members: G. S. Barstow, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., Exeter; G. Evans, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., Seaton; H. Faulkner, L.R.C.P.E., M.R.C.S., Exeter; T. R. Macdonald, M.B., C.M., Kingskerwell; J. Mackereth, M.B., C.M., Exeter; L. Meade-King, M.B., B.S., Exeter; R. Martyn, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Exmouth; Surgeon-Captain Mathias, A.M.D., Exeter; R. V. Solly, M.D.; F.R.C.S., Exeter; C. W. Vickers, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., Paignton; G. S. Welsford, M.B., Tiverton; D. C. White, M.B., Ashburton.

*Representative of the Branch at the International Congress.*—J. Woodman, M.D., F.R.C.S., Vice-President, was appointed by the Council.

*Communications.*—Dr. R. THOMAS, Exeter, read a paper on Scarlatina in the Puerperal Woman.—Mr. PAUL SWAIN, Plymouth, read Three Cases of Hydatid Disease, and showed a case of Extirpation of the Tongue and Entire Lower Jaw.—Mr. W. SQUARE, Plymouth, read a paper on Roman Fever, and showed a specimen of Urethral Calculus.—Mr. ROYER, Exeter, read a paper on the Importance of Early Treatment of Squint.—Mr. LUCY, Plymouth, showed a case of Arthroctomy of the Ankle Joint.—Mr. HARRIS, Exeter, read a paper on Tetanus or Hydrophobia.—Dr. Fox, Plymouth, showed some cases of Cretinism treated by Thyroid Extract; also a case of Transposition of Viscera in a Boy suffering from Pseudo-hypertrophic Paralysis.—Dr. GORDON, Exeter, read a paper on Abdominal Compression of the Ureters as a Means of Diagnosis.

## SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

## PARIS.

*Socialism and the Sale of Drugs.—Medical Students and Military Service.—A Discovery at the St. Louis Hospital.—Bodily Infirmities and Military Service.—Want of Pure Wine as a Cause of Alcoholism.—Foreign Students in Paris.—Births and Deaths.*

M. JULES GUESDE, the socialist deputy, intends bringing before the Chamber of Deputies the question of municipal dispensaries for the purpose of providing the poor population with medicine at cost price. The municipality of Roubaix has three times voted that such dispensaries should be organised, and each time the Prefect has vetoed the vote. The municipality in question has appealed to the Conseil d'État, which declares that the Assistance Publique can distribute medical and pharmaceutical aid to any extent, and no one has a right to prevent it. The *Journal de Médecine* argues that on legal grounds municipal dispensaries cannot be opposed, if they are organised and directed according to the laws relating to them. The pharmaceutical profession is not the only one that is threatened by State socialism. The new law on medical practice which has been passed will soon be supplemented by another concerning rural medical help, which will place medical men in the position of Government servants, like priests and schoolmasters.

The Senatorial Commission concerning the military service of medical students has not yet arrived at a decision on the subject. The Minister of War is opposed to Professor Cornil's proposals on account of the increase of expense which they would cause, and especially on account of the loss which they would entail on infantry regiments. M. Cornil combats these objections by stating that he does not ask for medical students the status of officers. Notwith-

standing their doctor's degree, he is content that they should serve for some months as common soldiers; all he asks is that after a few months in the ranks they should be allowed to complete their military service as *infirmiers* (male nurses). The increase of expense which is feared he declares would be very trifling, inasmuch as the first year's service would be as common soldiers, then if necessary as *sous-officiers*, which would cause an expense of only £8,000 a year. MM. Lourties, Cornil, and Labbé have been deputed by the Commission to interview the War Minister on the subject.

On January 31st an inspector from the Assistance Publique visited the St. Louis Hospital. After inspecting the kitchen, he proceeded to inspect the pantries, etc., and asked the sister attached to the kitchen to open a door that was locked. As she refused to do so, it was opened by the locksmith, and a stock of provisions discovered that almost suggests preparations for another siege of Paris. The following is a partial inventory of the "find": 30 kilos of *pâtes* for soup, 600 kilos of rice, 200 kilos of lentils, 18 kilos of butter, 16 kilos of figs, 40 kilos of sugar, 3 kilos of pepper, 20 kilos of dry cakes, 63 kilos of macaroni, 10 kilos of raisins, 100 Comté cheeses, 300 kilos of flour, 343 kilos of bread, 50 kilos of haricots, 20 kilos of jam, 20 kilos of vermicelli, 300 kilos of salt, 365 kilos of meat, 78 kilos of French plums, 10 kilos of fresh fruit, 37 kilos of bacon, 1,000 eggs, etc. This discovery has caused a great sensation. The *Progrès Médical* regrets that legal proceedings were not immediately taken, and demands that M. Peyron should make a strict and exhaustive investigation into the question.

A soldier suffering from a hernia was condemned to a year's imprisonment because he refused to do military exercise on account of the intolerable pain. Dr. Noël makes the following revelation: Before entering military service, the smallest hernial sac is a reason for exemption from service; but, once enrolled, unless the sufferer is positively unable to walk, the condition is not taken into account. This regulation is evidently not based on pathological facts, but is a vestige of past times, when substitutes were paid to replace the rich, who preferred parting with their money than their ease; infirmities were then hidden in order to pocket the money, and afterwards ostentatiously brought to light, in order to be exonerated from service. Now those who wish to be exempt from military service are more likely to indicate their infirmities than to hide them; therefore the sentence is harsh to cruelty. The medical press urge the *corps de santé* to have this law abolished as a surgical heresy injurious to the army and justice.

The question how to supply the working classes with pure wine, though intimately connected with public health, is somewhat neglected by sanitarians. It is now being considered by the daily press. The duty on wine brought direct from wine growers prevents families who live from hand to mouth from protecting themselves against the adulteration practised by the middleman, who sells them retail wine alcoholised, and containing noxious substance. Thus the working classes, being unable to procure natural wine, seek stronger and stronger drink. A municipal councillor recently declared that before five years have passed Paris will be obliged to create special hospitals for its alcoholic patients. The responsibility for this will, he adds, lie at the door of the present *octroi* system.

The number of foreign students increases in Paris in the same proportion as that of French students. In 1893 there were 107 more than in 1892. Female students also increase; there are 155 women medical students, of whom 16 are French, and 6 at the Pharmaceutical School. In 1893 the Medical Faculty held 6,803 examinations, and the Pharmaceutical School 1887.

In 1890 there were 38,446 more deaths than births in France; in 1891, 10,505; in 1892, 20,041.

THE Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia has resolved unanimously to institute a compulsory four years' course with the session of 1895-96.

MR. JAMES T. REYNOLDS, late medical officer and public vaccinator of the Boxford District of the Cosford Union, has been awarded for the third time the Government grant for successful vaccination.

THE French Congress of Otolaryngology will meet in Paris on April 30th.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### THE PROPOSED TEACHING UNIVERSITY FOR LONDON.

SIR,—In considering the details of the scheme for a teaching university in London, we may with advantage inquire how far it meets the views of the British Medical Association on this subject. As you have correctly stated, it is held that the preliminary science and matriculation examinations of the London University, are a real obstacle in the way of our average medical students obtaining a degree in medicine. The question is, how does the scheme now before us deal with this difficulty?

The members of the Association were canvassed in 1880 as to their views regarding the nature and standard of examinations through which a student should pass before being allowed to enter his name on the *Register* of the General Medical Council. From the answers then received a report was drawn up, which was adopted at a general meeting of the Association, and I find it stated in this report "that in England the principle of demanding from students entering the profession a sound knowledge of English, of mathematics, and Latin up to a certain standard, is strongly insisted on, and there seems to be no diversity of opinion as to the advisability of committing these examinations to our university, and other educational authorities." This applies to students entering our medical schools, with the intention of obtaining a licence to practise. Regarding those who desire a degree it is stated, that "all students save those who have already matriculated at other universities should be required to pass the matriculation examination of the University of London, previous to entering at a London school." What we asked for was, that metropolitan students should have "facilities granted them for obtaining degrees in medicine, such as are enjoyed" by men graduating in other universities of the United Kingdom.

If we turn to the report of the Royal Commission on University Education in London, we find it is recommended that the scope of the entrance examination into the proposed university should be determined by the university, "having regard to the course of study which the student is to follow," the university having power to accept certificates from schools, or otherwise of examinations of equal standard. It will be observed, therefore, that the recommendations of the Royal Commission as regards matriculation meet the wishes of the members of the British Medical Association on this subject. I take it that it means if a man does not desire to pass the matriculation examination of the proposed University of London, he will be allowed pass Responsions at Oxford, or a corresponding examination in one of our other universities; having done this, he will be permitted by the London University to enter at one of the London schools, and proceed in due course to the science and other examinations for his degree. Our London students will thus be on all fours as to matriculation, with men going up to other universities, for they will have the same facilities for entering the London University as other students have of entering their universities.

With reference to the preliminary scientific examination, the Association in the report above referred to, state that this examination, has been the chief obstacle in the way of London students obtaining a degree, and that "this depends on the existing University not being in touch with the teachers in the metropolitan medical schools."

Under the scheme of the Royal Commission it is proposed that the teachers in our medical schools shall constitute the faculty of medicine, and that this faculty is to appoint a certain number of its members to form a board of studies. The examiners, on the part of the University, in those branches of science which appertain to medicine and surgery, are to be nominated by the board of studies. The Commission observe on this subject "that the University should have power to enter into arrangements with the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, for conducting in common examinations in such portions of the subjects included in the course for the degree as may be determined by common consent between the University and the Colleges." The examiners of the Royal Colleges are teachers in anatomy, physiology,