

Medical News

National Association for Mental Health.—Mr. R. A. BUTLER, the Home Secretary, announced on March 6 that the Government would introduce legislation to give effect to many of the proposals of the Royal Commission on the Law Relating to Mental Illness and Mental Deficiency. This would not be during the present parliamentary session, but might be in the next. Mr. Butler was speaking at the opening of the two-day annual conference of the National Association for Mental Health, which was held at Church House, Westminster, on March 6 and 7. The conference was opened by the DUCHESS OF KENT, and had as its subject the implications for local authorities and the general public of the Royal Commission's report. Mr. BUTLER pointed out that one of the major problems would be the translation of recommendations made by the Commission into legal form. It was essential that satisfactory legal definitions should be found for the various types of mentally ill persons who might be liable to compulsory detention.

The Medical Society of London.—The 178th anniversary dinner of the Medical Society of London was held in the Royal College of Surgeons on March 6. In proposing the toast of the Society, Lord MOUNTBATTEN, referring to the foundation of the Society in 1773, said that three members were then resident in the North American colonies. Looking into the history of its founder, Lettsom, he calculated that Lettsom in one year earned the equivalent of £300,000 in terms of the value of money to-day. Lord Mountbatten went on to express his gratitude to the medical profession for their great contribution to the war in the Burma campaign. To begin with, for every casualty there, there were 120 men sick. In 1944, for every casualty there were 40 sick, and at the end of the war the proportion had fallen to six sick men for every casualty. In reply, the president of the Society, Sir CECIL WAKELEY, reviewed its activities during the past year. The toast of the guests was proposed by Mr. E. G. MUIR, who made everybody feel at home. In response Dr. T. F. FOX livened the proceedings with what was more an entertainment of great wit than a speech, and much appreciated by those present.

Wellcome Museum.—On March 11 there was a short ceremony at the Wellcome Museum of Medical Science, Euston Road, London, N.W.1, to mark the completion of its reorganization. The museum deals mainly with the subject of communicable disease in man, particularly as it relates to the tropics, and in this field there have been great changes in recent years. Emphasis has shifted so that diseases of the first importance when the museum opened in 1914 are no longer so, while other conditions then perhaps unknown or of relatively less importance have now come to the fore. The purpose of the present major reorganization has been to take account of these changes. For instance, virus diseases now have eight bays allotted to their illustration, whereas the space given to syphilis has been reduced to an eighth of what it used to be. Diseases are presented synoptically. A written account is illustrated and supplemented by pictures, charts, diagrams, pathological specimens, and photomicrographs. And in each bay folders containing abstracts of current literature keep the material up to date. Another help for the user of the museum is a small, well-illustrated book which describes the scope and contents of the museum. The major subjects covered are protozoal diseases, bacterial diseases, helminthic infestations, virus diseases, tropical haematology, nutrition, fungus diseases, infections due to large viruses and rickettsiae, spirochaetal diseases, and medical zoology. Last year some 10,000 doctors, nurses, medical students, and others visited the museum.

Carlsberg-Wellcome Fellowship.—Applications for the 1958-9 Carlsberg-Wellcome travelling research fellowship

for a British research worker are now invited. The closing date for applications is April 30.

The directors of the Carlsberg Foundation, in Copenhagen, and the Wellcome Trustees, in London, instituted in 1957 a system of Carlsberg-Wellcome travelling research fellowships, with the object of encouraging friendly co-operation, on an exchange basis, between Danish and British research workers in any branch of the natural sciences which has a bearing upon human and animal medicine. One fellowship annually is awarded to a candidate from the United Kingdom for a year's work in Denmark and one annually to a Danish candidate for a year's work in the United Kingdom. The stipend may range from £800 to £1,200 per annum (or the equivalent sums in Danish kroner) for whole-time research. Travelling and some incidental expenses are provided in addition. It is intended that the second appointment shall be made in respect of the academic year beginning in September, 1958.

Inquiries about these Fellowships from candidates in the United Kingdom should be addressed to the scientific secretary of the Wellcome Trust, 52, Queen Anne Street, London, W.1, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

Benger Prizes for Family Doctors.—The 1957 Benger Prizes for "Original Observations in General Practice" were awarded last week at an entertaining and unusual ceremony, for the first prize winner was in the Queen's Hotel, Montreal, and the second and third prize winners were in the Connaught Rooms, London. A transatlantic "hook-up" by telephone kept the two gatherings in contact with each other for nearly one hour. Sir CLAVERING FISON opened the proceedings in London by thanking the family doctors all over the world who had responded to the challenge and entered for the prizes. Dr. JACK MACKENZIE, president of the College of General Practitioners of Canada, then presented the first prize of £250 to Dr. E. Hugh Evans, of Rockingham, Nova Scotia. After Dr. Evans, in Montreal, had briefly summarized his essay on "The Susceptible State to Viral Infections," Sir Clavering Fison presented the second prize of £150 to Dr. J. F. Burden, of Torquay, Devon, for his paper on "The Postural Density Change of Urine," and the third prize of £100 to Dr. J. J. Hobbs, of Ashington, Northumberland, for his paper on "The Administration of Pitocin for the Stimulation of Labour." Entries for this year's competition must be in the hands of the chairman of the Awards Committee, College of General Practitioners, 54, Sloane Street, London, S.W.1, by July 31, 1958.

Lecture Theatre for Royal Faculty.—The Maurice Bloch Trust is giving £20,000 to the Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow for a new lecture hall. The hall will be built on a site behind the Faculty's present premises. The Maurice Bloch Trust is the creation of Sir MAURICE BLOCH, honorary president of the Glasgow Jewish Board of Guardians.

Royal Society of Edinburgh.—Among those whose election to the Royal Society of Edinburgh was announced on March 3 were Dr. I. R. W. LOMINSKI, senior lecturer in bacteriology, Glasgow University; Dr. ANDREW MEIKLEJOHN, senior lecturer in industrial health, Glasgow University; Dr. R. V. RAJAM, Government General Hospital, Madras; and Professor M. F. A. WOODRUFF, professor of surgical science, Edinburgh University.

Harben Medal and Smith Award.—The council of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene has awarded its triennial Harben medal to Sir HOWARD FLOREY, F.R.S., for his eminent services to the public health. The triennial Smith award to an M.O.H. recognized as having done the most noteworthy work in the discharge of his official duties has been made to Dr. C. F. WHITE, formerly M.O.H., City of London. The presentations will be made on July 10.

Sir Hans Krebs, F.R.S., Whitley professor of biochemistry at Oxford, has been awarded the gold medal of the Netherlands Society for Physics, Medical Science, and Surgery.

COMING EVENTS

Drug Action.—Symposium on "Quantitative Methods in Human Pharmacology and Therapeutics," March 24 and 25, at the Wellcome Building, Euston Road, London, N.W.1. Arranged by the Co-ordinating Committee for Symposia on Drug Action. Details from Dr. D. R. LAURENCE, University College Hospital Medical School, University Street, London, W.C.1.

Mental Health Research Fund.—The seventh annual meeting will be held on March 25 at the Royal Society of Medicine, London. The business meeting at 4 p.m. will be followed at 5 p.m. by a public meeting.

Lister Festival Dinner.—At the Royal College of Surgeons, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.2, March 28, at 7.15 for 7.45 p.m. Tickets (50s. inclusive) from Mr. W. F. DAVIS at the college.

Institute of Dermatology.—Semi-permanent exhibition from March 31 to April 25, on "Moniliasis."

Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland.—Annual meeting, April 10-12, in Belfast. Details from the association, 47, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.2.

Radiation Hazards.—Course for medical officers of health, April 10-12, at the Royal Society of Arts, 10, John Adam Street, Adelphi, W.C.2. The course has been arranged by the Services Group of the Society of Medical Officers of Health, Tavistock House South, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

Refresher Course.—For general practitioners at the Southern Hospital, Dartford, Kent, on each Friday from April 11 to June 20, at 2.45 p.m. Details from Dr. J. C. HOGARTH at the hospital.

"Mental Health in the Public Health Field."—Residential course for M.O.H.s at Lupton Hall, Leeds, April 11-19. A few vacancies remain. Apply to northern secretary, National Association for Mental Health, 9, Mount Preston, Leeds, 2.

Institute of Psychiatry.—Lecture and demonstration courses for postgraduate students in psychiatry, commencing April 14, at the Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, London, S.E.5. Details from the hospital.

Ophthalmological Society of the U.K.—Annual congress, April 17-19, in Cardiff. Details from the society, 47, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.2.

Biochemical Society.—Annual general meeting, April 18 (10.45 a.m.) and 19, at University College, Gower Street, London, W.C.1. Details from Dr. C. E. DALGLIESH, Postgraduate Medical School of London, Ducane Road, London, W.12.

Postgraduate Course.—For N.H.S. principals, April 28 to May 10 at the Welsh National School of Medicine. Details from the secretary of the school, 34, Newport Road, Cardiff.

SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

A fee is charged or a ticket is required for attending lectures marked ●. Application should be made first to the institution concerned.

Monday, March 17

● **HUNTERIAN SOCIETY.**—At Talbot Restaurant, London Wall, E.C., 7 for 7.30 p.m., Third Dinner Meeting. 8.30 p.m., discussion to be opened by Dr. J. A. Dudgeon and Dr. W. H. Kelleher: Poliomyelitis.
POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF LONDON.—(1) 9.30 p.m., Professor A. K. Basu (Calcutta): Clinico-Pathological Study of Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis Treated by Antibiotics and Pulmonary Resection. (2) 4 p.m., Dr. K. G. Lowe: Acute Renal Failure.
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON: DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY.—At Physiology Theatre, Gower Street, W.C., 5 p.m., public lecture by Dr. J. D. Judah: Oxidative Phosphorylation—(2) Interpretations and Mechanisms.

Tuesday, March 18

B.B.C. TELEVISION.—9.30 p.m., "Your Life in Their Hands," No. 6.—The Ever-Lessening Shadow, from Sully Hospital, Glamorgan.
HEATHERWOOD ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL.—8.30 p.m., Mr. G. P. Arden: Radioactive Isotopes in Orthopaedic Surgery.
INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. I. Friedmann: Microscopical Anatomy of the Ear.
INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Professor N. F. MacLagan: Biochemistry of Coma. (Postponed from March 4.)
WEST END HOSPITAL FOR NEUROLOGY AND NEUROSURGERY.—5.30 p.m., Mr. K. I. Nissen: Orthopaedic Aid for Spastic States.

Wednesday, March 19

EUGENICS SOCIETY.—At Royal Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., 5.30 p.m., symposium: New Human Demands in Industry. Speakers, Mr. A. Rodger, The Hon. Michael Layton, Mr. R. Peddie, and Dr. K. Hutton, D.Phil.
FACULTY OF ANAESTHETISTS: ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—4 p.m., Joseph Clover Lecture by Professor W. D. M. Paton, F.R.S.: Mechanisms of Transmission in the Central Nervous System.
HARVEIAN SOCIETY OF LONDON.—8.15 p.m., Harveian Lecture by Professor Robert Kark (Illinois): Bright's Disease Then and Now.
INSTITUTE OF DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—5 p.m., Mr. E. F. Chin: Indications for and Results of Surgery in Funnel Chest and Congenital Sternal Prominence.
INSTITUTE OF UROLOGY.—4.30 for 5 p.m., Mr. J. D. Fergusson: Control of Advanced Cancer.
MIDLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Dudley Road Hospital, Birmingham, 8.15 p.m., clinical meeting.
POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF LONDON.—2 p.m., Dr. R. Winston Evans: Certain Aspects of the Pathology of Ovarian Tumours.
ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HYGIENE.—3.30 p.m., Dr. A. C. Boyle: Role of the Disk in Backache.
WILKESDEN GENERAL HOSPITAL MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Department of Physiological Medicine, 8.45 p.m., Mr. T. Holmes Sellors: Surgery of the Oesophagus.

Thursday, March 20

BRISTOL UNIVERSITY.—At Large Physics Lecture Theatre, Royal Fort, 8.30 p.m., Patrick Watson Williams Memorial Lecture by Mr. T. E. Cawthorne: Facial Palsy.
BRITISH INSTITUTE OF RADIOLOGY.—8 p.m., Presidential Address by Dr. L. F. Lamerton, M.Sc., Ph.D.: Examination of the Clinical and Experimental Data Relating to Possible Hazard to the Individual of Small Doses of Radiation.
FOUNTAIN HOSPITAL.—5.30 p.m., subject: Neural Malformations. Papers by Dr. J. W. Millen and Dr. D. H. M. Woolam: Experimental Production of Malformations of the Brain; Dr. L. Crome: Gross Neural Malformations in Mental Defectives.
HILL END HOSPITAL MEDICAL SOCIETY.—8.45 p.m., Sir James Paterson Ross.
HYPNOTHERAPY GROUP.—At Royal Society of Medicine, 8 p.m., annual general meeting. Discussion to be opened by Dr. T. F. Main and Dr. D. E. R. Kelsey: Agoraphobia.
LIVERPOOL MEDICAL INSTITUTION.—3 p.m., Dr. P. H. Whitaker and others: radiological demonstration.
LONDON ASSOCIATION OF THE MEDICAL WOMEN'S FEDERATION.—At Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, 8 for 8.30 p.m., annual general meeting. Discussion: The Problems of Young Married Medical Women.
LONDON JEWISH HOSPITAL MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Medical Society of London, 8.30 p.m., Sir Reginald Watson-Jones: Physical and Psychological Problems in Orthopaedic Cases.
MANCHESTER MEDICAL SOCIETY: SECTION OF ANAESTHETICS.—At Staff House, Manchester University, 7.45 for 8 p.m., Dr. J. A. Lee: Some Experiences with Extradural Analgesia.
NORTH-EAST LONDON CLINICAL SOCIETY.—At Prince of Wales's General Hospital, Tottenham, N., 2.30 p.m., meeting.
ROYAL EYE HOSPITAL.—5.15 p.m., Dr. T. H. Whittington: Ophthalmic Lenses and Their Effects.
ROYAL SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE.—At Royal Army Medical College, Millbank, S.W., 7.30 p.m., laboratory meeting.
● **WEST LONDON MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.**—At Star and Garter Hotel, Putney Bridge, W., 7.30 for 8 p.m., dinner meeting. Mr. A. Dickson Wright: Famous Operations in History.
WEST OF ENGLAND CHILD HEALTH GROUP.—At Ham Green Isolation Hospital and Sanatorium, Pill, near Bristol, 6.30 p.m., clinical meeting, by invitation of Dr. J. Macrae.

Friday, March 21

FACULTY OF RADIOLOGISTS.—At Royal College of Surgeons of England, 4.45 p.m., Dr. J. F. Loutit, Dr. A. S. McLean, and Dr. J. D. Abbott: Medical Problems Associated with Applied Atomic Energy.
INSTITUTE OF DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—5 p.m., Dr. F. H. Scadding: clinical demonstration.
INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.—3.30 p.m., clinical discussion for general practitioners. Mr. G. H. Howells: Cancer of the Larynx.
LEICESTER CHRISTIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.—At Leicester Royal Infirmary, 8.30 for 8.45 p.m., Dr. E. F. Griffith: Psychotherapy and Marital Disharmony.
ROYAL INSTITUTION.—9 p.m., Woodhull Lecture by Professor C. D. Darlington, D.Sc., F.R.S.: Control of Evolution in Man.
ROYAL MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY OF GLASGOW.—At Stobhill Hospital, Springburn, Glasgow, 8.30 p.m., clinical night.

Saturday, March 22

LONDON JEWISH HOSPITAL MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Savoy Hotel, 6.45 p.m. to 1 a.m., annual dinner dance.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS

BIRTHS

Alexander.—On February 17, 1958, at the City General Hospital, Sheffield, to Susan Lillas (formerly Munro), and Conel Alexander, M.B., M.R.C.P., a daughter.
Evans.—On February 4, 1958, at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, E.C., to Muriel, wife of Robert J. Evans, M.D., a son—Miles Liddiard.
Evans.—On February 23, 1958, at Morfa, New Park Road, Holyhead, Anglesey, to Dr. Joan Evans (formerly Wilson), and Dr. Emrys Evans, a brother for David and Philip.

DEATHS

Smith.—On February 21, 1958, in hospital, Reginald Hubert Smith, F.R.C.S.Ed., D.L.O., of Mawden, Wood End Lane, Stalybridge, Cheshire, aged 57.
Sprunt.—On February 15, 1958, at 35, Castle Terrace, Berwick-on-Tweed, William Rodger Sprunt, T.D., M.B., Ch.B., aged 63.
Wilkes.—On February 12, 1958, in the Birmingham General Hospital, Addie Wilkes, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of 41, Birmingham Road, Great Barr, Staffs, late of Pelsall, Staffs.