

by the Countess of Pembroke. This part of the proceedings took place in the Lecture Theatre in the new school buildings, where Mr. Cosmo Bonsor, M.P., the Treasurer, took the chair. The Treasurer stated that two of the Governors, Messrs. Harvey and Stewart, had died during the year, whilst the school had lately had to deplore the loss of Mr. Davies-Colley, in whose honour the staff were raising a memorial. They had also to deplore the deaths of some former students of the hospital in the present South African campaign. The new nursing home was rising from the ground, and the sons of the late Mr. Raphael had given a swimming bath, and a fund for nurses who might break down in the discharge of their duties. A new laundry and department for x-ray work were also being added. Astley Cooper Ward had just been fitted up for patients, and was ready to be occupied. The provision of the funds for the maintenance of the hospital, notwithstanding the sum subscribed by the public, still caused great anxiety. The prizes were then distributed by Lady Pembroke, and Lord Pembroke congratulated the prize winners. He said that students of medicine had a great advantage over those of other professions since medical students did a practical work. Formerly there was only one operating theatre, occupied perhaps twice a week; now there were three used almost daily, and shortly there would be two more. The practical work of tending the sick could not be carried on as it is except with the help of the students. The Yeomanry Hospital in South Africa had three of the staff of Guy's amongst its medical officers, and he was confident that when the inquiry into the medical problem of the war was held, it would be abundantly proved that the medical officers of the army and their civilian brethren had done most excellent work. Dr. Frederick Taylor, Senior Physician, proposed a vote of thanks to Lord and Lady Pembroke, and observed that the students and the hospital both benefited by the union between the hospital and the school, and neither could do without the other. The vote was seconded by Dr. Thomas Stevenson, representing the medical school, and acknowledged by the Earl of Pembroke.

THE LONDON SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FOR WOMEN.

The prizes were distributed by Sir Owen Roberts on June 28th. Mr. Charles Burt, J.P., Chairman of the Weekly Board of the Royal Free Hospital, who presided, spoke of the pleasure at the connection between the School and the Royal Free Hospital. He made the announcement that the increased accommodation for the medical and nursing staff at the Royal Free Hospital had made it highly probable that in future two of the Resident Medical Officers would be women. The posts will of course be invaluable to old students of the School, and keen competition for them may be expected. Sir Owen Roberts attributed his views on the education of women to his perusal at Oxford of John Stuart Mill. He has been instrumental in obtaining from the St. Dunstan's Charities a sum of £300 a year at least for the medical education of women in connection with the University of London. Mrs. Garrett Anderson said that two new wings of the new school buildings were paid for, but that it had been necessary to borrow £3,000 for the third wing, and that a special effort must be made when the war was over to pay off this debt. The principal prize takers were as follows: Misses Slater, Bolton, Whitlock (anatomy), Mrs. Willey (Medicine), Misses Shephard, Scharlieb, and Walters (Midwifery), and Miss McDougall (operative midwifery). Misses Smith and Hooper won the Mackay Prizes and Miss Sommer the Entrance Scholarship.

ROYAL NAVY AND ARMY MEDICAL SERVICES.

ROYAL NAVY MEDICAL SERVICE.

The following appointments have been made at the Admiralty:—GERALD B. BROWN, Surgeon, to the *Britomart*, June 28th; JOHN W. BIRD, Surgeon, to the *Bramble*, June 28th; J. O'HEA, Surgeon, to the *St. Vincent*, lent during the manoeuvres, July 10th; G. M. EASTMENT, Surgeon, to the *Excellent*, lent during the manoeuvres, July 10th; HUBERT HOLYOAKE, Staff-Surgeon, and GEORGE E. GLYNN, B.A., M.B., Surgeon, to the *Vandative*, July 4th; JOHN H. LIGHTFOOT, Surgeon, to the *Boscawen*, for the *Wanderer*, July 4th.

Staff-Surgeon E. P. MOURILYAN, M.B., of H.M.S. *Doris*, who has been serving in South Africa, is returning home invalided in the transport *Monteagle*.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

COLONEL W. E. RIORDAN is placed on retired pay, July 4th. His commissions are thus dated: Assistant-Surgeon, September 30th, 1864; Surgeon, March 1st, 1873; Surgeon-Major, September 30th, 1876; Brigade-Surgeon, May 6th, 1890, and Surgeon-Colonel, April 15th, 1895. He was in the Egyptian War of 1882 and was at the surrender of Kafr Dowa (medal and Khedive's star); in the Sudan campaign in 1885 in charge of No. 3 Field Hospital and organised the Camel Ambulance of the force; and at Suakin from May 28th to November 28th as Senior Medical Officer of the British troops there (clasp).

Lieutenant-Colonel JAMES MCNAMARA, M.D., is promoted to be Colonel, vice W. E. Riordan, July 4th. Colonel McNamara was appointed Assistant Surgeon, April 1st, 1871; Surgeon, March 1st, 1873; Surgeon-Major, April 1st, 1883; granted the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, April 1st, 1891; and made Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, July 9th, 1895. He was in medical charge of the troops (detachments of Royal Artillery and 10th Foot) sent into the Native State of Sunghie Ujong, Malay Peninsula, in 1874, and was present at the attack and capture of the Kapayan stockades (medal with clasp). He served in the Afghan war in 1880, and was in medical charge of Brigadier-General Brooke's Brigade covering the retreat from Malwand (mentioned in despatches), took part in the defence of Candahar, and present at the battle of Candahar (medal with clasp). He was also in the Sudan expedition in 1884 under Sir Gerald Graham, and was present in the engagement at El Teb and Temai (mentioned in despatches, medal with clasp, and Khedive's Star).

Sergeant-Major ALFRED H. H. NIBLETT is appointed Quartermaster, with the honorary rank of Lieutenant, to complete establishment, July 4th.

Major DODD, R.A.M.C., is seriously ill at the Base Hospital at Maritzburg; and Civil Surgeon W. B. BENNETT is reported dangerously ill at No. 1 Stationary Hospital, Mool River.

Major A. WRIGHT, R.A.M.C., has been discharged from hospital to duty.

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

The following officers will accompany the regiments proceeding to China: Lieutenant-Colonel Bookey (Principal Officer), Lieutenant-Colonel Esmonde-White, Majors Mould and Whitechurch, and Captains Kenrick, Walton, and Price. Those proceeding with the hospitals are: Lieutenant-Colonel Waddell, Majors Burton, Fooks, Thomson, Marshall, and White, Captains Jenny, Carr, Moorhead, Harriss, and Hamilton, and Lieutenants Fenton, McCay, Megaw, G. Stewart, Willmore, Meakin, Gidney, and Douglas. Captain Walton and Lieutenant Douglas have been placed in charge of the x-rays apparatus. Major Cree, R.A.M.C., also proceeds on hospital duty with the force. The 1st Brigade will be accompanied by Nos. 39 and 43 Field Hospitals; the 2nd Brigade by Nos. 42 and 47 Field Hospitals. Nos. 25 British and 54, 63, and 66 Native Hospitals also proceed to China.

Surgeon-General G. G. W. MAITLAND, late of the Bombay Medical Department, died at Sion Place, Bath, on June 30th, aged 82. He entered the service as Assistant-Surgeon, March 6th, 1842, and became Deputy-Surgeon-General, October 20th, 1871. He retired with the honorary rank of Surgeon-General, February 24th, 1877.

MILITIA MEDICAL STAFF CORPS.

MR. ERNEST U. BARTHOLOMEW is appointed Surgeon-Lieutenant, June 18th.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

The undermentioned gentlemen are appointed Surgeon-Lieutenants in the corps respectively specified, dated July 4th: ARTHUR C. HARTLEY, M.D., 1st Bedfordshire Engineers; JAMES M. DUNCAN, M.B., 3rd Volunteer Battalion the Lincolnshire Regiment; CECIL A. CORKE, 2nd Volunteer Battalion the Worcestershire Regiment.

Surgeon-Captain JOHN H. A. LAING, the Queen's Rifle Volunteer Brigade, the Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment), resigns his commission, and is appointed Captain, July 4th.

Surgeon-Captain CHARLES S. A. RIGBY, 1st Volunteer Battalion the Royal North Lancashire Regiment, also resigns his commission, and is appointed Captain, July 4th.

COLONELS, R.A.M.C.

The increase of three colonels, R.A.M.C., in the Home Establishment, foreshadowed in the estimates for the current year, has not yet been carried out. We suppose the war is responsible for the delay, but trust the increase will soon be effected. Meanwhile the loss to the Corps is considerable.

MEDICO-LEGAL AND MEDICO-ETHICAL.

PARTNERSHIP ACCOUNTS.

M. B. DUR. writes: A has recently taken B. into partnership. Should all bills from date of partnership be sent in the joint names of A. and B., or only those that bear date after the partnership?

. After the partnership all bills should be sent in the name of the firm.

MEDICAL ADVERTISING.

M. D.—Such a paragraph appearing every second day in a public newspaper is unquestionably advertising. As the offender is a member of the British Medical Association, we will refer the matter to the Ethical Committee.

PUBLIC HEALTH

AND

POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

HEALTH OF ENGLISH TOWNS.

IN thirty-three of the largest English towns, including London, 6,592 births and 3,368 deaths were registered during the week ending Saturday last, June 30th. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had been 18.0 and 14.9 per 1,000 in the two preceding weeks, rose again to 15.1 last week. The rates in the several towns ranged from 9.0 in West Ham, 9.4 in Portsmouth and in Swansea, and 9.9 in Croydon, to 18.1 in Halifax, 18.6 in Wolverhampton, 20.7 in Manchester, 21.3 in Salford, and 22.7 in Liverpool. In the thirty-two large provincial towns the mean death-rate was 15.6 per 1,000, and exceeded by 1.1 the rate recorded in London, which was 14.5 per 1,000. The zymotic death-rate in the thirty-three towns averaged 1.9 per 1,000; in London this death-rate was equal to 2.0 per 1,000, while it averaged 1.8 in the thirty-two provincial towns, among which the highest zymotic death-rates were 3.2 in Sunderland, 3.4 in Derby and in Sheffield, 3.5 in Huddersfield, and 3.8 in Blackburn. Measles caused a death-rate of 1.0 in Huddersfield, 1.1 in Cardiff and in Hull, 1.8 in Sunderland, and 1.9 in Derby; scarlet fever of 1.0 in Gateshead and 1.9 in Blackburn; whooping cough of 1.0 in Oldham and in Sheffield, 1.4 in Derby and in Gateshead, and 1.7 in Wolverhampton; "fever" of 1.0 in Huddersfield; and diarrhoea of 1.1 in Blackburn and 1.8 in Birkenhead. The 70 deaths from diphtheria in the thirty-three towns included 29 in London, 10 in Sheffield, 6 in Leicester, and 5 in Liverpool. One fatal case of small-pox

was registered in Salford, but not one in any other of the thirty-three towns. There were 16 cases of small-pox under treatment in the Metropolitan Asylum Hospitals on Saturday last, June 30th, against 15 and 13 at the end of the two preceding weeks; 8 new cases were admitted during the week, against 8 and 0 in the two preceding weeks. The number of scarlet fever patients in these hospitals and in the London Fever Hospital, which had been 1,754, 1,766, and 1,810 at the end of the three preceding weeks, had further risen to 1,832 on Saturday last; 210 new cases were admitted during the week, against 203, 210, and 219 in the three preceding weeks.

HEALTH OF SCOTCH TOWNS.

DURING the week ending Saturday last, June 30th, 1,056 births and 552 deaths were registered in eight of the principal Scotch towns. The annual rate of mortality in these towns, which had been 19.9 and 16.5 per 1,000 in the two preceding weeks, rose again last week to 17.9, and exceeded by 2.8 per 1,000 the mean death-rate during the same period in the thirty-three large English towns. Among these Scotch towns the death-rates ranged from 12.6 in Leith and 13.3 in Aberdeen to 21.9 in Perth and 25.8 in Greenock. The zymotic death-rate in these towns averaged 2.7 per 1,000, the highest rates being recorded in Glasgow and Greenock. The 271 deaths registered in Glasgow included 2 from small-pox, 11 from measles, 5 from scarlet fever, 23 from whooping-cough, and 8 from diarrhoea. Four fatal cases of measles, 2 of "fever," and 4 of diarrhoea were recorded in Edinburgh. Four deaths from diarrhoea occurred in Dundee, 3 in Aberdeen, and 3 in Greenock.

THE RELATION OF THE NEW FACTORY BILL TO CERTIFYING SURGEONS.

We have received from the Association of Certifying Factory Surgeons a statement concerning the Factories and Workshops Amendment and Consolidation Bill, 1900, lately introduced into the House of Commons by Mr. Caldwell and others, and particularly to those portions of it which relate to the duties at present performed by certifying surgeons. These duties, according to existing Factory Acts, include (1) the medical examination of persons under 16 as to fitness for employment in factories; (2) the investigation of the cause and results of accidents; (3) the investigation of cases of industrial poisoning and disease; and (4) the periodical medical examination of those engaged in certain dangerous trades.

The Bill proposes to abolish all this supervision of factory surgeons except the periodical examination of persons in dangerous trades by excluding all persons under 14 from employment, and by requiring the local inspector to investigate all accidents and poisoning cases. It undertakes to provide what shall take the place of medical supervision of persons from 14 to 16 by requiring the inspector to detect in them any disease or bodily infirmity, and, as an additional duty, to diagnose any infectious disease which may affect the workpeople generally.

The returns of the Association for the year 1899 show that of the total number of candidates for employment under 16 which were examined by the factory surgeons only 15 per cent. were under 13, 41 per cent. under 14, while 59 per cent. were 15, or 16. The rejections were 1.54 for children under 13, and 1.86 for those under 14, but 2.54 for those from 14 to 16. It is contended therefore that if, as is purposed by the Bill, the qualifying age is raised to 14, and thereby from 15 and 30 per cent. of the candidates excluded there are still at least 70 per cent. of the 400,000 who yearly present themselves that need medical inspection proper. The memorial points out that while the inspectors acted as detectors of weakly candidates during four years from 1895 to 1898, 3 persons alone were referred back, all of them in 1897, to the certifying surgeon for re-examination. During the same period 1,439,271 medical examinations were made, and 18,919 persons were rejected. The comparative value of the two methods is therefore in the ratio of 18,919 to 3. The statement further points out that the provision of sufficient inspectors to meet the requirements of the Bill would mean a very large increase in the expenditure of the department. The position of the Bill on the papers is so unfavourable that it hardly appears to come within the range of practical politics at the present moment.

FREE SANITARY CONVENIENCES FOR WOMEN.

WITH reference to some remarks on this subject published in a recent issue, we have received a communication from Messrs. Finch and Co., Lambeth, the engineers who erected most of the underground conveniences in London. The managing director states that except where the traffic is very great such conveniences are run at a loss. He considers that the charge for use of a closet by women should be reduced to a half-penny, though he says that the charge of 2d. for washing only just covers expenses. We still hold that some such conveniences should be free. Messrs. Finch and Co. have introduced a urinal for women, which would be very useful in schools, shops, etc., and would obviate in some cases the objectionable practice of keeping utensils in dormitories. It can be erected at an average cost of £2 a seat, and is stated to be more economical in the matter of water than a closet.

THE WILLESDEN BOARD OF GUARDIANS AND THEIR MEDICAL OFFICER.

A.B.C. writes with reference to the statement of "X.Y.Z." published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of June 9th, p. 1448, that three of the four medical officers are in favour of the district being divided into three, that there are only two medical officers, and both condemn the tripartite arrangements. "A.B.C." also states that Kensal Green is one of the poorest wards in Willesden, all the houses being of the artisan class, and that it is also the most populous.

* * We do not think the discussion of this subject, which can only be settled by local arrangement, can be profitably continued in our columns.

HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY MANAGEMENT.

THE EXEMPTION OF HOSPITALS FROM LOCAL RATES.

THE Parliamentary Committee on this subject met for the second time on June 22nd. Mr. C. Burt, Chairman of the Central Hospital Council for London, said that the rates levied upon London hospitals amounted to £21,301 a year, which would provide for 4,000 more patients. He thought all institutions should be exempted which were carried on without profit, and would not include the medical schools. Mr. Manders, of the Irish Office, recounted the exemption of hospitals and charitable institutions in Ireland. The Hon. Sydney Holland, Chairman of the London, Poplar, and Tilbury Hospitals, thought that whether or not any particular hospital was to be exempted should be decided by the Local Government Board, and suggested that when an institution relieved the rates to a greater extent than it contributed to them, exemption should be allowed.

At a meeting of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, held on June 26th, Sir Edward Hamilton, Assistant Secretary to the Treasury, and a member of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation, said that he was opposed to the principle of exemption because it was equivalent to a grant from the rates. He drew a distinction between voluntary schools, which were given exemption three years ago, and hospitals, in that the benefit derived from schools could be much more definitely localised than in the case of hospitals, and he quoted the Ventnor Consumption Hospital as a case illustrating his point. If the hospitals were rate-aided the rate-payers would know what they were doing, but if exemption were granted they would not. Mr. Ralph Brocklebank, treasurer of the Liverpool Infirmary, claimed that hospitals should be completely exempted because they relieved the poor and municipal rates. The total exemption of the fourteen Liverpool hospitals would mean an increased rate of one-thirtieth of a penny, but, if supported out of the rates, of 4d. in the pound. Mr. Wainwright, Treasurer of St. Thomas's Hospital, stated that that hospital paid £2,566 last year in rates, and if the hospital was relieved of this it could reopen two wards which had been closed owing to lack of funds, and treat 380 or 400 additional in-patients.

The Rev. W. A. Jephson, speaking on behalf of the London School Board, and Dr. Rhodes, President of the Poor-law Unions Association of England and Wales, also gave evidence.

On July and Sir W. Hart Dyke, M.P., in giving evidence, drew a distinction between institutions for the benefit of the inhabitants of a large town but supported in another locality by voluntary contributions and local institutions for local requirements, and contended that the inhabitants of the locality in the former case would have a grievance if the outside institution were exempt from rates, and especially so if it were for infectious cases. As an example he quoted the conditions obtaining in the Dartford district. In this was a home for waifs and strays, certain convalescent homes, an asylum for idiots, the county asylum, and the City of London Asylum. On the other hand the cottage hospital at Dartford was properly not rated. The justice of the claims of the hospitals for exemption should be decided by the Legislature, and should not be left to the local rating authorities.

Mr. Barton, Commissioner of Valuation in Ireland, said that the Irish Valuation Act exempted all institutions purely for public, scientific, and charitable purposes from rates, and these alone. He was now engaged on the revaluation of Belfast, and he proposed to exempt all hospitals open to everyone without fee and without paying beds, but for those having one or other or both to make a separate valuation. The Marquis of Bristol made special reference to the Eastern Counties Asylum for Idiots and Imbeciles, and pointed out certain inequalities in rating. This and similar institutions were really voluntary schools as well as homes, and were heavily handicapped by having to pay local rates, especially School Board and Poor-rates. He argued that because these institutions derived no benefit from the Poor Law or School Board, they should be exempt from these particular rates. Mr. Hayward, Clerk to the Dartford Board of Guardians, while not opposing the principle of exemption, argued that the locality should derive benefit at least equal to the amount of the rates.

OPENING OF A NEW WING OF THE GENERAL HOSPITAL AT CROYDON.

ON June 30th H.R.H. Princess Christian, accompanied by the Princess Victoria, opened the Diamond Jubilee Victoria Wing of the Croydon General Hospital. Mr. C. T. Ritchie, member for the Borough, in thanking their Royal Highnesses for their presence, said they were especially glad to see Princess Christian, because they knew how closely to her heart lay the work of all hospitals, and how much the increase in the efficiency of hospital work, and especially of nursing work, was due to her efforts and sympathy.

THE JENNY LIND INFIRMARY FOR SICK CHILDREN AT NORWICH.

THE new Jenny Lind Infirmary for Sick Children was opened at Norwich by the Prince and Princess of Wales on July 1st. The site of the present building was presented in 1896 by the late Mr. J. J. Colman, and its erection was intended to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of the Queen. The hospital, the only one of its kind in the eastern counties, was established in 1849 from the proceeds of two concerts given by Madam Jenny Lind, who, throughout the closing years of her life, as was remarked by His Royal Highness, evinced the greatest interest in it. In 1897 it was considered that the site of the old buildings was not sufficiently salubrious for the use of in-patients, and the wards were accordingly closed and it was decided to build an entirely new hospital on the site given in the previous year by Mr. Colman. The Lord-Lieutenant of the county, the Earl of Leicester, subscribed £2,000, and afterwards an additional £1,000, an endowment fund, which has since been raised to £10,000, leaving £4,000 still to be raised. Mr. Russell Colman, in the course of an address, in which he described the origin and history of the institution, said that he had every confidence that as a result of the honour conferred on the infirmary by the presence of their Royal Highnesses, the amount required to complete the endowment would be speedily contributed. The Prince of