

sergeant to make a periodic inspection of barracks, and any further action depended on his report. O.C.s of regiments are extremely keen keeping sanitation up to a high standard, and it was rare to find any serious fault.

In recruiting depots where there are a large number of inoculations there seems no reason why trained nurses, male or female, should not be used, under the supervision of a M.O. His suggestion that the office of D.A.D.M.S. should be taken over by lay personnel is a more revolutionary one and not likely to commend itself to the powers that be, but it is undoubtedly feasible. A D.A.D.M.S. is the personal private secretary of the A.D.M.S., and it has always seemed a great waste of a healthy young doctor to make him sit on an office stool wading through indents and answering questions which his chief clerk could do equally well. If it is not possible to introduce laymen or women there is no doubt that women doctors could adequately fill this post in suitable areas.

Junior medical officers in field ambulances might be replaced by officers trained in hygiene and in the treatment of casualties during evacuation to hospital. So much of the work of a field ambulance is similar to that of a routine duty of any company officer, and again it seems a pity that a skilled tradesman should be used for this purpose.

Least it should be thought that this letter is directed entirely against extravagance in medical man-power in the Forces, it is only fair to say that in the larger cities, if the three main services—namely, public health, hospitals, and general practitioners—pooled their resources there could be a considerable saving of medical man-power, and, what is equally important, the public would not suffer.—I am, etc.,

Birmingham, Dec. 9.

R. C. L'E. BURGESS.

The Nation's Teeth

SIR,—Referring to Captain G. E. King-Turner's letter on "The Nation's Dental Services" (December 6, p. 827), I beg to point out that, during this war crisis, an exceptional opportunity presents itself for a National Dental Survey which would confirm and accentuate the views expressed in that letter. There is something radically wrong with the nation's dental services; they are not getting positive results. As factory medical officer to the Ministry of Supply, with over twenty-five years' experience of physical examinations in H.M. Navy, I now examine weekly some 300 to 400 new entries of both sexes, drawn from every section of the community. While taking stock of the teeth in a general way, I have also found time to keep records of between five and six hundred—a comparatively small number to date owing to other duties. But from this summary survey one fact emerges clearly—namely, that, despite the treasure that is being expended yearly on school dental services and on dental research, the standard of the nation's teeth has depreciated considerably during the last twenty-five years.

Among the thousands examined here, five Asiatics presented themselves—four Indians and one Burmese. One of these men had had three teeth missing, the other 29 being perfect and free from blemish, and of the three extracted, one sound tooth had been extracted in error. The contrast between the Asiatic dental standard and our own might be described briefly as follows: The teeth were larger and stronger, apparently more fully developed; the arches were wide, making room for full development; uniformity and white ivory aroused one's wonder and envy. All the surgery staff were invited to inspect and admire the beauty of all five as a contrast to what we have become accustomed to.

In examinations of over 1,000 Indian and 1,000 Chinese labour recruits on the Singapore Base (1923 onwards) 87% of Indians and 67% of Chinese exhibited this standard of complete and perfect teeth, free from defect, every tooth doing its duty. A similar examination of the active service personnel of one of H.M. ships in 1921, representing a highly select and well-cared-for part of the general population, revealed only 2.75% of the standard of perfection, but even these lacked the uniformity and ivory-like whiteness of the Asiatic teeth.

I suggest that the opportunity is at hand, and that a National Dental Survey is one of the urgent needs of the moment in the interests of the nation's health.—I am, etc.,

D. H. C. GIVEN, M.D., D.P.H.,

Surgeon Captain, R.N. (ret.).

Dec. 6.

Obituary

G. DE BEC TURTLE, M.D., M.R.C.P.

The passing of Godfrey de Bec Turtle removes another well-known medical man from the West End of London. Dr. Turtle was a man of many activities: at the time of his death on December 4 he was president of the Medical Defence Union, the Medical Sickness Assurance Society, and of the Clinical Section of the Royal Society of Medicine. He was also medical superintendent of the Luton and Dunstable Hospital, and it was in this hospital that he died after a very short illness.

He was an energetic and enthusiastic worker, and one who always believed in doing things in the right way no matter how much trouble it caused him. After an early medical education in Durham and King's College Hospital he held several house appointments, and became obstetric registrar and tutor to King's College Hospital. He practised for many years in the Hyde Park area, and was constantly to be seen exercising in the Park before breakfast; he always maintained that riding was the best exercise for a busy man, and he advised it for many of his patients.

It is impossible to cover all Turtle's activities, for they were legion. He was interested in the Post Office in the Paddington district, and was one of their district medical officers. He was an ardent supporter and a past president and treasurer of the Harveian Society of London, and the success of that society and its popularity are in great part due to his influence. He also found time to devote two mornings a week to the Public Dispensary, Drury Lane. He was consulting physician to Brentwood Hospital and to the Margaret Street Hospital for Consumption. He devoted much time and energy to the Royal Society of Medicine and was a most useful councillor, having filled the post of treasurer with distinction. Turtle was at his best at one of the social functions of the society, and was always keen to further the society's interest.

He leaves a widow, a son who is in the Royal Navy, and two daughters who are doing war work.

Medical missionary work in China has suffered a severe loss in the death of Dr. FRANCIS HENRY (ROBIN) MOSSE. The son of the Rev. E. H. Mosse, vicar of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, Dr. Mosse was educated at King's School, Canterbury, and Trinity College, Oxford. He studied medicine at King's College Hospital, and in 1913 qualified M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Lond. During the last war he served as temporary captain in the R.A.M.C. in Egypt and Palestine, and was with General Allenby's forces at the capture of Jerusalem. But Dr. Mosse's heart was set on medical missionary work, and in 1920, after taking the M.R.C.P., he sailed for China, under the S.P.G., to take up the post of physician to the Cheloo Christian University, Shantung, North China. There for twenty years Robin Mosse trained young Chinese men and women. "A picked group of the finest students in the world," he called them, and he counted himself "the happiest man in Asia" in being allowed to serve them in the name of Christ. He worked with them in refugee camps, in times of flood and famine, as well as in the lecture halls and wards of Cheloo Hospital. After the Japanese occupation of North China the majority of the 4,000 students at Cheloo trekked west to free China, but the hospital remained and Dr. Mosse stayed with it. Early this year he fell ill with tuberculous trouble, and was sent to the U.S.A. for treatment. He seemed to be making good progress, and his death, which followed an operation, was sudden and unexpected.

The death is announced of Dr. HENRY KING DAWSON, senior practitioner in the Ashted area of Surrey. He was educated for the medical profession at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and graduated M.B., B.S. of Durham University in 1892, proceeding to the M.D. in 1896. During the South African War he served as a civil surgeon with the Gloucestershire Yeomanry, and later with the 9th Lancers and the Coldstream Guards. He began practice at Ashted in 1902. On the formation of the

Territorial Force Dr. Dawson received a commission in the R.A.M.C.(T.), and on the outbreak of war in 1914 was embodied for service and joined the 6th London Field Ambulance, of which he was later given command with the rank of lieutenant-colonel. For his services in France he was thrice mentioned in dispatches and awarded the D.S.O. Returning to practice at Ashted he took part in many local activities, and during the present war was appointed medical officer in charge of the local mobile unit. He was on terms of friendship with all his colleagues, and until the passing of the National Insurance Act had been a staunch member of the B.M.A.

The Services

HONORARY PHYSICIAN TO THE KING

Colonel R. Sweet, D.S.O., I.M.S., has been appointed Honorary Physician to the King in succession to Major-General (local Lieut.-General) W. H. Hamilton, C.B., C.I.E., C.B.E., D.S.O., late I.M.S., who has retired.

ARMY AWARD

The Commander-in-Chief, Middle East, General Sir Claude Auchinleck, has, by the authority of the King, approved the immediate award of the Military Cross to Captain John Bissill Heycock, R.A.M.C., for gallantry in action during recent operations in the Western Desert.

CASUALTIES IN THE MEDICAL SERVICES

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE

In an India Office Casualty List published on December 11 Colonel EDWARD GALWEY KENNEDY, I.M.S., is recorded as having died. He was educated at Queen's College, Cork, and graduated M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., of the Royal University of Ireland in 1909. In the following year he entered the I.M.S. as lieutenant, became captain in 1913, major in 1922, and lieutenant-colonel in 1930. In 1937 he was promoted to colonel, and in the same year was appointed Deputy Director-General of the I.M.S. He had been a member of the British Medical Association since 1915.

Captain S. S. Apte and Captain Bazley Rabbi are included as "Died" in an India Office Casualty List published on December 11.

INDIAN MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

Captain R. H. F. Parkinson, D.C.M., is included as "Died" in an India Office Casualty List published on December 11.

Wounded

Assistant Surgeon K. C. Clarke.

Universities and Colleges

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

At a Congregation on December 6 the following medical and surgical degrees were conferred by proxy:

M.D.—T. D. Day.

M.B., B.CHIR.—R. E. M. Pilcher, R. E. W. B. Comerford.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

At a graduation ceremonial on December 12 the following degrees and diplomas were conferred:

M.D.—Fanny B. Chisholm (*née* Mackintosh), C. A. Gleadhill, *A. M. Macdonald, Lieutenant, R.A.M.C., †J. H. Patterson, Captain, R.A.M.C., †A. J. Rhodes.

M.B., CH.B.—I. R. W. Alexander, R. F. Antonio, B. A. Bembridge, G. D. Bonner, W. Boyd, A. K. Brown, L. F. Brown, W. J. J. Bryden, Rosemary E. Buchan, W. Campbell, J. M'D. Corston, J. Devine, N. G. Douglas, N. K. Farley, W. D. Frew, E. R. L. Gregson, C. J. C. Hinrichs, Jean Leith, Anne W. MacLennan, D. Malcolm, A. M. Plant, D. Pottinger, S. I. Pugh, †Anne R. M'C. Ross (*née* Sellar), Margaret C. Tate, H. D. Thompson, D. R. Tipping, †F. Viedge, A. L. Wallis, J. A. Watt, D. B. Wiseman.

DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC HEALTH.—†A. S. Qunta, T. M. Small, †Helena S. L. Taylor (*née* Lauder-Thomson).

DIPLOMA IN MEDICAL RADIOLOGY.—R. A. M'Kail.

D.Sc.—In the Department of Pure Science: †C. E. van Rooyen, M.D., Major, R.A.M.C.

* Awarded gold medal for thesis.

† In absentia.

POLISH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE IN EDINBURGH

M.B., CH.B.—W. K. Gatuszka, Jadwiga Mickiewicz, S. Schta, F. Solich.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

At an ordinary meeting of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, held on December 11, with Sir Alfred Webb-Johnson, President, in the chair, Mr. Seymour Barling was reappointed representative of the College on the Court of Governors of Birmingham University, and Mr. L. E. C. Norbury was reappointed representative on the Central Council for District Nursing in London.

A Final Examination for the Fellowship will begin on Thursday, February 5, 1942.

Diplomas

Diplomas of Fellowship were granted to the following candidates:

E. O. Harris, H. E. Blake, P. M. G. Russell, V. A. J. Swain, T. L. S. Baynes, B. G. A. Lilwall, E. W. O. Adkins, G. A. Fairlie-Clarke, A. R. Leask, S. I. Green, H. J. Richards, J. Moroney, G. M. Müller, A. G. Apley, J. B. Kinmonth, D. A. J. Ebrill, H. E. Hobbs, W. H. Weston, E. E. T. Taylor, L. H. Aitken, H. B. Boctor, C. H. Cullen, S. Eisenhammer, J. D. Gray, C. G. D. Halstead, J. N. Nish, C. M. Ley, W. Parke, J. J. Richmond, W. E. Springford, N. Waddle.

Diplomas in Anaesthetics were granted, jointly with the Royal College of Physicians of London, to the following candidates:

J. B. Adams, J. H. Crawford, H. de L. N. Davis, D. C. Devitt, R. R. Dickson, J. K. A. Dorman, H. Edwards, H. R. W. Franklin, Ysobel M. Garland, E. F. Gleadow, T. C. Gray, P. S. A. Heyworth, W. Kupfermann, C. B. Lewis, A. M. McKinlay, J. V. Mitchell, L. G. Morrison, G. B. Oliver, J. Patterson, G. Quayle, G. M. Rose, Enid B. Roulston, R. D. Scott, R. P. W. Shackleton, A. A. Shein, Janet Todd, E. C. Whitehall-Cooke, Joyce Worthington, A. M. Young.

Medical Notes in Parliament

National Service Bill

On the second reading of the National Service Bill it was stated for the Government that one woman doctor would be present at the medical examination of women. It was also stated that no woman would be taken from, among other services, full-time Civil Defence work, nursing, and domestic work in hospitals, and teachers would not be disturbed.

During discussion on December 10, in Committee on the National Service Bill, of an amendment proposing not to compel women to undertake service with the Armed Forces, Mr. HENDERSON STEWART said the conditions in A.T.S. camps were bad and also the physical conditions of the girls in many cases. Mr. BEVIN replied that the physical conditions were capable of improvement. With the Service Ministers he was trying to arrive at a proper standard such as they had on the munitions side. The Cabinet agreed that as Minister of Labour he should create hostels near the camps. His Department had received allegations concerning one camp, but an independent investigation showed there was not a single case of venereal disease there. The proposed amendment was negatived.

Subsequently Major HADEN GUEST asked what provision Mr. Bevin would make for detailed hygienic and medical supervision in the new factories which he was providing. No machinery existed, and there was a shortage of medical manpower. Mr. MARTIN asked what measures the Minister intended to take to look after the health of the people who were called up. If women who were constricted became unfit, could they leave their employment on a medical certificate of their own doctor, or would they have to get a certificate from some medical board? Mr. BEVIN said that he could not deal with the nationalization of the medical services under this Bill. The Services were being constantly expanded on the health side, and he had made provision for compulsory medical service in industry. That innovation had expanded and now included nursing.

The clause imposing compulsory service for women was carried by 223 to 0.