

## Medical News

### B.M.A.'s New Telephone Number is EUSton 4499

On Monday, July 23, the telephone number of the British Medical Association and the *British Medical Journal* was changed to Euston 4499 (16 lines).

### Physical Medicine Exhibition

The International Congress of Physical Medicine will be held in London in July, 1952, and there will be a small exhibition of apparatus, appliances, and literature produced in Britain. This will be designed to illustrate recent advances in physical medicine. Further information may be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, British Association of Physical Medicine, 45, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.2.

### The "National Formulary"

The Joint Formulary Committee of the B.M.A. and Pharmaceutical Society met on July 10 under the chairmanship of Professor E. J. Wayne, of Sheffield. For many months they have been engaged in revising the *National Formulary*, 1949, and the preparation of the new edition is nearing completion. An important innovation is the introduction of English titles for the various sections. This may well prove to be the first stage in a change to the use of English instead of Latin in prescribing as in the United States. It will facilitate reference; for instance, it will be possible to group nasal douches and sprays under one heading instead of separately under "Collunaria" and "Nebulae," and mouth-washes will no longer be under "Collutoria." For many reasons it has not been possible to use English titles for the formulae themselves. The English names for the prescriptions will, however, be included with the Latin titles. Another useful addition will be a section containing a pharmacological classification of the preparations in the *Formulary*. This will make for easy reference and should be of great assistance to prescribers. A special subcommittee has examined the prescriptions in the Children's Section to make them more palatable. The taste of many drugs, however, cannot be disguised—for instance, it is difficult to make potassium iodide or male fern palatable. Unfortunately there are no uniform standards for many fruit flavourings, but syrup of raspberry is an exception, and clinical trials have shown that this flavouring agent is liked by most children. It is certainly more effective than syrup of orange and chloroform water, and it is well known that young children do not take kindly to peppermint.

### Invalid Children

The Invalid Children's Aid Association has under its own management four special boarding schools for delicate pupils and four recuperative holiday homes; it is also in touch with 40 other such homes, in some of which the association has the use of all the accommodation. In London the association acts as an agent of the L.C.C. for placing invalid children in voluntary homes and schools, the cost of maintenance being borne by the council. To use available funds as widely as possible the council wants to concentrate on short holidays of a fortnight, but it has recognized the need for longer holidays, and allows and pays for maintenance for four weeks if the divisional medical officer confirms the need. More case work, housing reports, and other social work is now being done by local authorities themselves, but the association still accepts cases referred from local authorities and by almoners and obtains a picture of the family life and social surroundings of the invalid and handicapped child. One way of helping families with such a child is to find money for special diets. A study is being made of the needs of chronic sick children, and a special home is to be opened for them. The association would like to hear of any child in the London area who is so severely physically handi-

capped as to be unable to attend school (not mentally deficient children), and there is an information service to make known the available facilities for helping invalid children at 4, Palace Gate, London, W.8.

### Alvarenga Prize Award

On July 14 the College of Physicians of Philadelphia awarded the Alvarenga Prize for 1951 to George W. Thorn, Hersey Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic, Harvard University Medical School, for his outstanding contributions to our knowledge of the role of the adrenal cortex in health and disease. The Alvarenga Prize was established by the will of Pedro Francisco DaCosta Alvarenga, of Lisbon, Portugal, an Associate Fellow of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, to be awarded annually by the College of Physicians on the anniversary of the death of the testator, July 14, 1883.

### Ortho Award for Study of Sterility

Dr. Albert Sharman, gynaecologist at the Royal Samaritan Hospital for Women, Glasgow, was awarded the Ortho Award of \$1,000 by the American Society for the Study of Sterility. This was awarded for his presentation entitled "Ovulation after Pregnancy."

### Medical Publisher Honoured

On April 27, 1951, the Harvey Cushing Society presented a plaque to Charles C. Thomas, of Springfield, Illinois, in recognition of his great contributions to medical publishing, especially in the field of neurological surgery.

### "British Journal of Tuberculosis"

The latest issue of this journal, now in its 45th year of existence (XLV, No. 3, July, 1951), is a special Festival number which contains a review of the evolution of chest surgery in the past thirty years by T. Holmes Sellors, and a survey of the control of pulmonary tuberculosis in England by Sir Arthur MacNalty, as well as papers on siderosis, renal tuberculosis, the home treatment of primary tuberculosis in children, and other special topics. It is a pleasantly produced, readable, and useful quarterly which at 5s. 6d. an issue is remarkably inexpensive. The editor reports an intention to broaden the *Journal's* scope by inviting Dominion representatives to serve on the editorial board.

### University of Natal Non-European Medical School

The new medical school for non-Europeans was opened on February 16 at Durban. The primary object of the school is to train fully qualified medical practitioners for work amongst their own people in their own areas, where the need is very great; in the native territories there is only one doctor to every 22,000 inhabitants. Durban has been chosen as the centre for this training, because there is already a large non-European section covering a wide range of university work and also because it is close to thickly populated native reserves—there are nearly 3,000,000 natives living within a radius of 200 miles from Durban. Social medicine will be a special feature of the training as well as tropical medicine.

### Pathologists at Dinner

A large gathering of men and women from many countries assembled at Grosvenor House on July 20 at the banquet of the International Congress of Clinical Pathology, presided over by Sir Lionel Whitby, president of the congress. In proposing the toast of the International Society of Clinical Pathology, Dr. W. Russell Brain, President of the Royal College of Physicians, said that such a congress expressed among doctors a feeling of unity in a divided world. He thought there might be a good case for the establishment of a society of political pathologists, suggesting in a light vein that history might be written in terms of histamine. Specialism, he said, presented problems of integration, and he saw in clinical pathology itself an integrating force as shown when the clinical pathologist met the clinician at the

bedside. In response, Dr. Sidney Dyke said that in 1923 the American Society of Clinical Pathologists was founded, in 1926 the British society. The French Society of Clinical Biology had come into existence during the war, when France was occupied by the Nazis, and in 1947 the French had inaugurated the first international congress. Another event in their history had been the establishment of the European Society of Clinical Pathology, now merged in the International Society.

The health of the guests was proposed by Dr. D. Jaumain, of Brussels, who soon belied his plea that he was not an orator. He had, he said, acted as accoucheur at the birth of the Belgian Society, and in this connexion paid a tribute to his friend Professor E. J. Bigwood. Clinical biology (as the French describe clinical pathology) had, he said, been his mistress for 30 years. When he had been asked to speak it was, he admitted, the first time in his life he had obeyed an order. Perhaps a Belgian had been chosen for this honour because the English remembered that Wellington had once spent some time in Brussels. After paying tribute to one of the inspirers of clinical pathology, Louis Pasteur, he then hailed Sir Henry Dale, whom he described thus: "C'est un type, et c'est un chic type!" He also welcomed the presence of Dr. A. W. Sichel, President of the B.M.A., and gave a charming word of thanks to the ladies, and finally to the lady "La Biologie Clinique." Responding for the guests, Sir Henry Dale said he was really there in the place of Lord Addison, who would have been present but for illness, and to whom he paid a tribute as a member of the first Medical Research Committee and the first Minister of Health. Sir Henry thought he preferred the designation "clinical biology" to "clinical pathology." He pleaded earnestly for a growth of the international spirit in medicine and in all science. With anecdote and reminiscence Sir Henry entertained the company with charm and wit. The health of the chairman, Sir Lionel Whitby, was proposed by Dr. F. W. Sunderman, President of the American Society of Clinical Pathologists. The presence of representatives from so many countries was a source of inspiration and he hoped that this meeting would be a stimulus to the foundation of international societies in different parts of the world. In America they had a close feeling for Sir Lionel, who had recently been a visiting professor at Harvard, and whose daughter had married an American. This toast was seconded by Professor Kourilsky, who praised Sir Lionel's service as a soldier in the first world war, and recalled, too, that he had organized a transfusion service for the Free French Forces during the second world war. At a late hour in the evening Sir Lionel responded briefly, saying that one of the charms of such a conference for him was to see the bibliography come to life.

#### Publications Received

*Twelfth Annual Report, 1950*, Tuberculosis Association of India.

*Directory of Tuberculosis Institutions in India, 1950*, Tuberculosis Association of India.

*Prospectus of Courses of Training, 1951-2*, The Tavistock Clinic.

*Report, 1950*, National Institute for Research in Dairying, University of Reading.

*Annual Report, 1950*, Medical Research Council of Ireland.

#### COMING EVENTS

##### Refresher Course on Tuberculosis

The Scottish Branch of N.A.P.T. is holding a refresher course for doctors, nurses, health visitors, midwives, and administrative officials in the University New Buildings, Teviot Place, Edinburgh, 8, for four days, September 18-21. The registration fee is £1 1s. All correspondence and applications should be sent to the Scottish Secretary, Miss A. J. Weir, N.A.P.T., 65, Castle Street, Edinburgh, 2.

#### Reunion Dinner

A reunion dinner of the 22nd General Hospital will be held at the Stork Hotel, Liverpool, on Saturday, September 29. Further information and tickets may be obtained from Mr. C. Cooke, 17, Greenhill Avenue, Liverpool, 18, or from Mr. A. McKie Reid, F.R.C.S., 86, Rodney Street, Liverpool, 1.

#### Middlesex Hospital Medical School

The annual dinner of the Middlesex Hospital Medical School will be held at the Savoy Hotel (Victoria Embankment entrance), London, on Friday, September 28, at 7 for 7.30 p.m.

#### Congress of National Societies of Gastro-enterology

The third European congress will be held at Bologna from April 20 to 26, 1952, under the presidency of Professor Antonio Gasbarrini. The topics of the congress will be acute and chronic pancreatitis and chronic constipation. Requests for registration should be sent to the office of the Secretary-General, Institute of Clinical Medicine (Policlinico S. Orsola), Bologna, Italy, not later than January 30, 1952.

#### 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.

##### Tuesday

EDINBURGH POSTGRADUATE BOARD FOR MEDICINE.—At Edinburgh University (Anatomy Lecture Theatre), July 31, 4.30 p.m., "The Anatomy of Cutaneous Sensibility," by Dr. A. G. M. Weddell.

WEST END HOSPITAL FOR NERVOUS DISEASES, 40, Marylebone Lane, London, W.—July 31, 2.30 p.m., "Cerebrospinal Fluid Examination," clinical demonstration in neurology by Dr. Woodhouse Price.

#### APPOINTMENTS

EWING, JOHN A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M., Physician, State Hospital at Butner, Butner, North Carolina, U.S.A.

HOBBS, G. M., B.Com., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health for Eton Urban and Eton Rural Districts, and Divisional School Medical Officer.

ST. THOMAS' HOSPITAL, London, S.E.—Part-time Physician to Cardiac Department, R. Daley, M.D., M.R.C.P. Part-time Physician to Department of Thoracic Medicine, D. S. Cadman, M.B., M.R.C.P.

#### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS

##### BIRTHS

Baster.—On May 9, 1951, at Edmonton, Alberta, to Audrey, wife of Norman Baster, M.D., a daughter—Victoria Vivian.

Feilden.—On June 26, 1951, at Luanshya, Northern Rhodesia, to Dr. Elspeth M. Feilden (formerly Brown), wife of F. A. Feilden, a daughter.

Kyndt.—On July 13, 1951, at the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Nursing Home, Hampstead, to Mary Elizabeth (formerly Van Hee), wife of Charles Kyndt, M.R.C.S., a second son—Christopher.

Merry.—On July 12, 1951, at Poltimore Nursing Home, Exeter, to Margaret (formerly Field), wife of James Cameron Merry, M.B., Ch.B., a daughter.

Petit.—On July 18, 1951, at Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, to Dr. Joan Lamplugh, wife of Mr. J. Petit, a daughter.

Rollason.—On July 13, 1951, at Hull, to Margaret (formerly Rowbotham), wife of W. N. Rollason, M.B., Ch.B., D.A., a daughter.

##### MARRIAGES

Wilkinson—Fairlie.—On July 19, 1951, at St. Cuthbert's Church, Blyth, Northumberland, Frederick James Wilkinson, M.B., B.S., to Mary Cynthia Fairlie.

##### DEATHS

Bowden.—On July 20, 1951, at Trevoze, Riverside Road, West Moors, Wimborne, Dorset, Ellis Campbell Bowden, M.C., F.R.C.S.

Hollings.—On July 16, 1951, at a Scarborough nursing-home, Harold Thomas Hollings, L.R.C.P.&S.Ed., L.R.F.P.S., of 1, Granville Square, Scarborough, aged 82.

Lee.—On July 22, 1951, at 26, Stafford Terrace, Kensington, London, W., Robert Hammersley Lee, M.D.

Price.—On July 17, 1951, at The Hollies, Horton, Gower, Glam, Höel Parry Price, V.R.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.A., Surgeon Captain, R.N.V.R., retired.

Shanly.—On July 13, 1951, at European Hospital, Nairobi, Hubert Michael George Shanly, M.B., B.S.

Spicer.—On July 16, 1951, at Barton-on-Sea, Hants, Arthur Herbert Spicer, M.C., M.B., B.S., D.P.H., of Graffham, Petworth, Sussex, aged 79.

Steel.—On July 21, 1951, at 64, Church Lane, Wool, Warcham, Dorset, Richard Francis Steel, M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.S.Ed., Lieutenant-Colonel I.M.S., retired, aged 73.