

DIPLOMAS IN PUBLIC HEALTH AND TROPICAL MEDICINE

Most of the universities offer a full-time course in public health, lasting for nine months and beginning in October. In Durham there is a part-time course both for the Certificate and for the Diploma in Public Health, which is proving very successful and appears to be more popular than the whole-time course. Nine practitioners registered for the C.P.H. last October and eight of these passed the examination held in March. The D.P.H. course at Durham began in April and will continue until March, 1954, when the examination for the diploma will take place. The necessary instruction is organized by the Department of Public Health, which is closely associated with the child health, industrial health, bacteriology, and other departments of King's College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, for the purpose of providing specialized teaching in the various subjects covered by the syllabus. The next complete course for the certificate and diploma begins in October, 1954. At Leeds the D.P.H. continues to be a part-time course of five terms, and it is hoped that a new course will begin in October of this year. From the Welsh National School of Medicine it is stated that inquiries about the C.P.H. and D.P.H. courses have fallen to a low level. The Royal Army Medical College, Millbank, London, is a recognized teaching institute for the D.P.H. and D.T.H.

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

The work of this school is organized in ten main departments—namely, applied physiology, bacteriology and immunology, biochemistry, clinical tropical medicine, entomology, human nutrition, medical statistics and epidemiology, parasitology, public health, and the Ross Institute of Tropical Hygiene. The course for the University of London's postgraduate certificate and Diploma in Public Health, designed primarily for medical practitioners who intend to enter the public health service in Great Britain, begins in October each year and lasts for nine months. The examination for the certificate is held at the end of the first three months. In addition to the subjects covered by the D.P.H. syllabus the students are entitled to choose for special study one of the following subjects: industrial health, tropical hygiene, institutional administration, medical statistics and epidemiology, and local government. The industrial health lectures and practical work are recognized both by the Conjoint Board and by the Society of Apothecaries as fulfilling in part the requirements for entry to the Diploma in Industrial Health examination. Students who intend to enter for this examination, however, are required to make their own arrangements for attending clinics in accident surgery, dermatology, and ophthalmology. There are no vacancies for the D.P.H. course beginning this autumn.

The course for the University of London postgraduate Diploma in Bacteriology provides advanced instruction for graduates in medicine who intend to follow a career in bacteriology. The course begins in October and lasts for nine months. The course for the Conjoint Board's Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene is a continuous one of five months' duration and is open to qualified medical practitioners. It is held twice a year, commencing at about the beginning of October and the beginning of March.

The course for the University of London's postgraduate C. and D.T.M.&H. starts at about the beginning of October each year. Both the preliminary and the final courses extend over a period of not less than four months' study. Candidates for the final part of the course, who must have had at least 12 months' experience of medical practice in a tropical country, are required to specialize in one of the following elective subjects: clinical tropical medicine, medical biology in relation to tropical medicine, and tropical hygiene.

During the last year at the school 496 students from 33 different countries were admitted to the various courses, and 22 degrees and 201 diplomas were obtained.

In the department of public health the curriculum for the D.P.H. has been entirely changed since the second world war. There is now a preliminary course of one term, taking the form of a general introduction to the scope and character of the public health and social services, and in the final course, which occupies two terms, the main purpose is to develop the student's knowledge of the public health services to-day and to bring him closely into touch with the practical problems of public health administration. Much of the work during these six months is in the form of practical instruction or else entails independent study by the student. Practical work under the direct supervision of medical officers of health is a constant feature of the final course.

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine

At the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (Pembroke Place, Liverpool, 3) men and women students of any nationality who hold a medical qualification approved by the university are admitted to examination for the D.T.M.&H. Other students are also admitted to special courses in parasitology and entomology. The examination for this diploma is held twice yearly, in December and in April. The fee for admission to the examination is £6 6s., and for each subsequent examination, £5 5s., and the fee for the diploma £3 3s. The fees for the courses of instruction are £42 for the D.T.M.&H. course and £21 for the revision course. Each of the two courses for this diploma has been reduced from five months to three months. The school also gives courses of instruction in public health, parasitology, and entomology for students taking the D.P.H., and courses of instruction in veterinary parasitology and entomology for students taking the M.R.C.V.S. diploma and the B.V.Sc. degree.

Edinburgh University has courses for the D.T.M.&H., lasting two terms, beginning in October. Diplomas in industrial health are granted by a number of bodies, including the Royal Faculty of Glasgow and the Scottish Conjoint Board, and full-time postgraduate courses are arranged at certain universities.

Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene

The Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene furnishes courses of instruction for the C.P.H., beginning in March and October, and for the D.P.H., beginning in January and August. It also furnishes courses for the Diploma in Industrial Health (the course for Part I of which is the same as, and runs concurrently with, the course for the C.P.H. For the C.P.H., lectures are given by specialists on the various sociological aspects, and in the D.P.H. the practical work is carried out at a county borough. The D.I.H. course entails visits to all types of factories and to coal-mines.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

British Medical Association

The British Medical Association (Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1) was founded in 1832 to promote the medical and allied sciences and to maintain the honour and interests of the medical profession. Its membership is about 67,000, and it covers 85% or more of the working profession of the country. It is recognized by the Government, local authorities, and other organizations as the representative body of the profession. Members are elected by the Council of the Branch for the area in which they reside, or, if they are serving with the Forces or for other reasons are non-resident in a Branch area, they are elected by the Central Council. Newly qualified practitioners are admitted to membership at a lower subscription until the end of their fourth year after registration. The Association has important Branches in Australia and New Zealand and flourishing local units in many parts of the British Commonwealth. The Medical Associations of Canada and South Africa are affiliated to the B.M.A.