The coffin, though very heavy, was so short that it only reached from the shoulders of the first to those of the second couple of guardsmen, who had the greatest difficulty in balancing it as they slowly mounted the twenty-odd steep steps into the Chapel. The onlookers were aghast, as it looked as if the coffin would at any moment slide from its precarious position and tumble down the steps.

There are equally delightful accounts of Hurst's other great interests, Guy's, the Association of Physicians, and the Medical Pilgrims. Many who knew him in the first world war will turn to his adventures and discoveries then and will be vividly reminded of the scenes they shared together. The one figure they will miss in the picture is Hurst himself, and they will find no word of the disabilities of health from which he suffered. He is like a man who goes on a journey with a camera and takes many photographs, but none of himself. So, in spite of a frank and spirited account of the first fifty years of this century, as seen by a man who was a successful physician and a considerable scientist, the essential reticence is preserved and, like all great men, Hurst remains after all an inscrutable figure.

L. J. WITTS.

STATIC DISEASES OF THE LEGS


In Scandinavia the Bisgaard treatment of ulcer and eczema of the legs is established and accepted as being more quickly effective than other methods, and it has the advantage that the treatment is ambulatory. The late Holger Bisgaard, who was a general practitioner, had written extensively on the subject in Danish, and this monograph in English is in effect a résumé of his Danish book. The treatment consists essentially of massage and movements applied to the foot and the region of the ankle to move the static oedema of these parts. This is followed by careful padding in the hollows below the malleoli, using a "sized" wadding bandage for the purpose. Finally, an elastic bandage is added from the toes to the knee, and applied in such a pattern over the foot and ankle that the maximum pressure is brought to bear upon the sites which hold the stagnant oedema. No one with knowledge of the problem of gravitational disease would doubt the efficacy of such treatment, which will probably receive widespread recognition. In his account of the pathology of these diseases the author appears to be on less sound ground. He describes the static oedema and its sequelae below the malleoli and in the foot as "the infiltration," and to this he attributes much of the evil that arises in these diseased legs, including thrombosis and phlebitis, as well as ulcer and eczema. However, few would deny the material significance of what Bisgaard calls "the infiltration" in the treatment of gravitational disease, and this treatise is to be commended to the notice of general practitioners, dermatologists, and surgeons.

JOHN INGRAM.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Review is not precluded by notice here of books recently received


of our profession, which rightly earned for him the deep respect and affection of his patients. He had a strong sense of duty, and the promptitude with which he responded to urgent calls was commendable. His mental endowments were of a high order, which, combined with gentle, skilful hands and a rich experience, made him remarkably successful in his profession: many will cherish his memory with gratitude. Though not outwardly a very religious man, he had a deep faith, and daily read his Bible.

H. L. D. writes: To complete the admirable tribute to Lancelot Bromley's career by "W. E. T." (December 31, 1949, p. 1532), as a student at Guy's he was a member of the hockey eleven which for three years in succession won the Inter-hospital Cup. He also played for Sussex during those years. As a student, too, the unfailing neatness of his written work distinguished him from most of his fellows. I find it hard to realize that he has gone.

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**Universities and Colleges**

**UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE**

The Council of the Senate has gratefully accepted the bequest to the University by the late Mr. Walter Jowett of the sum of £5,000 for research into diseases of animals, especially those transmissible to man and tropical diseases of domestic animals.

Dr. Harry Butler and Michael Harty have been reappointed University Demonstrators in Anatomy for five years from October 1, 1949, and January 1, 1950, respectively; and Drs. Ivor William Broomhead and David Henry Morgan Woollam have been appointed University Demonstrators in Anatomy for three years from January 1, 1950.

In a Congregation held on December 10, 1949, the degree of M.D. was conferred on H. R. E. Wallis (by proxy) and M. H. K. Haggie (in person).

**UNIVERSITY OF LONDON**

The following lectures have been arranged at University College, Gower Street, W.C.:

- January 16, 23, and 30, at 4.30 p.m., Professor R. A. Morton, "Biochemistry of Carotenoids"; January 20 and 27 and February 3 and 10, 5.15 p.m., Dr. F. Bergel, "Aspects of Pharmacological Chemistry"; February 7, 14, and 21, 5.15 p.m., Dr. L. C. Thomson, "Visual Physiology"; February 13, 1.15 p.m., Dr. J. Joseph, "The Human Thumb"; February 21 and March 2 and 9, 4.45 p.m., Dr. T. S. G. Jones, "The Peptide Bond in Biochemistry"; February 27 and March 6 and 13, at 5.30 p.m., Professor J. Neyman (University of California), "Statistical Problems Connected with Medical Diagnosis"; March 9, 10, and 13, at 5.30 p.m., Professor B. Rensch, "Zoology." Admission to all the above lectures is free, without ticket.

A special University Lecture on "The Circulation in Disease" will be delivered by Dr. J. G. G. Borst, Professor of Internal Medicine in the University of Amsterdam, at Westminster Medical School (Meyerstein Lecture Theatre), Horseferry Road, London, S.W., on Tuesday, February 7, at 5 p.m. Professor P. Grabar, of the Pasteur Institute, Paris, will deliver a special University Lecture on "Origin and Functions of Globulins and Antibodies" at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, Gower Street, W.C., on Monday, January 23, at 5.30 p.m. The lectures are addressed to students of the University and others interested in the subjects. Admission is free, without ticket.

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**EPIDEMIOLOGICAL NOTES**

**Poliomyelitis in 1949**

The publication of the Registrar-General's weekly return for the week ended December 31, 1949, makes it possible to estimate the figures of incidence and mortality for the whole year with fair accuracy. Corrected figures of notifications and the number of deaths for the whole of England and Wales for 1949 are not yet available, and in the following table those for the last quarter have been estimated from the figures of uncorrected notifications and from the weekly returns of deaths in the Great Towns. The years 1926 and 1938 have been included in the table because they had the highest recorded incidences up to 1947.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Notifications</th>
<th>Rate per million</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>1,2971</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>1,5851</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1947</td>
<td>7,764</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>1,8599</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>5,8003</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Uncorrected. 2 Estimated on the assumption that the ratios "corrected" notifications Deaths in Great Towns in the fourth quarter were the same in the third quarter.

The epidemic of 1949 was second only to that of 1947 and considerably exceeded those of pre-war years. As in 1947 distribution was widespread, but in contrast to 1947 the incidence was relatively high in the South-West and relatively low in the North-East.

**Typhoid in S.S. Moorlan**

In all, some 45 members of the crew of the s.s. Moorlan are now in hospital, and the diagnosis of typhoid fever has been confirmed in 30. Examination of specimens of stools has demonstrated also five ambulant excretors of S. typhi. In passengers 8 cases have occurred (one each from Northern Ireland, Scotland, Lowestoft M.B., Oldham C.B., Shrewsbury M.B., Sunderland C.B., Twickenham M.B., and Wandsworth M.B.).

The dates of onset of the illness in those cases about which details are available suggest that the source of infection arose during the last three weeks of the voyage, and persisted until the vessel docked in the Port of London on December 15, 1949. Chloramphenicol is proving of value in the treatment of these cases.

**Discussion of Table**

In England and Wales during the fortnight reviewed there were decreases in the notifications of scarlet fever 439, acute pneumonia 100, and acute poliomyelitis 53, with increases in the incidence of measles 88 and dysentery 88.

The largest falls in the notifications of scarlet fever occurred in Lancashire and London, where the cases notified were 88 and 48, respectively, fewer than in the preceding week. In the first week reviewed an increase of 132 in the notifications of measles was reported in Durham, followed by a fall of 114 in the second week. The local trends of whooping-cough showed only small variations.

Notifications of dysentery are now at the highest level for over a year. The chief outbreaks during the fortnight were Glavgamshire, Penarth U.D. 30 and 43; Northumberland, Newcastle-upon-Tyne C.B. 7 and 26; Yorkshire West Riding, Barnsley C.B. 11 and 15; Yorkshire East Riding, Kingston-upon-Hull C.B. 16 and 2.

In Scotland the only significant variation in the notifications of infectious diseases was that of acute primary pneumonia, with an increase of 103 in the first week followed by a decrease of 94. The incidence of dysentery remained high; almost half the cases were notified in Glasgow.

In Eire the fall in the incidence of measles was continued, and the notifications of scarlet fever declined to a half of the level of a month earlier.

In Northern Ireland a rise of 37 and a fall of 49 were recorded for the notifications of measles during the two weeks. Londonderry County was the only area where the incidence of measles has increased in both weeks. The fall in the incidence of scarlet fever was continued, and the notifications in Belfast declined by 49 and 35.

**Week Ending December 31**

Notifications of infectious diseases in England and Wales during the week included: scarlet fever 2,327, whooping-cough 1,018, diphtheria 102, measles 1,978, acute pneumonia 842, cerebrospinal fever 22, acute poliomyelitis 61, dysentery 197, paratyphoid fever 2, typhoid fever 28.
SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

Friday

MAIDA VALE HOSPITAL FOR NERVOUS DISEASES, Maida Vale, London, W.—At Medical School, January 13, 5 p.m., demonstration of neuritis by Mr. E. S. Lamb.

ROYAL MEDICAL SOCIETY, 7, Melbourne Place, Edinburgh.—January 13, 8 p.m., dissertation by Mr. I. B. Tait.

WEST KENT MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.—At Miller Hospital, County Hall, Higher Road, London, S.E., January 13, 8.30 p.m., clinical meeting.

Saturday

S.E. METROPOLITAN REGIONAL TUBERCULOSIS SOCIETY.—At Farnborough, Farnborough, January 14, 11 a.m., “The Management of the Chemotherapy of Tuberculosis,” by Dr. D. G. Madigan.

Monday


Tuesday

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY, 5, Lisle Street, Leicester Square, London, W.—January 17, 5 p.m., “Histopathology of the Skin,” by Dr. I. M. Muend.

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE, Keppel Street, Grosvenor Place, London, W.—January 17, 2 p.m., “Plague in Java,” by Professor N. H. Swengelreg (Amsterdam).

MIDDLESEX COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At West Middlesex Hospital, Isleworth, January 17, 3 p.m., general meeting. “Non-specific Mediaload Adenitis,” by Dr. P. Quibell. “Potassium Metabolism in Intestinal Disease,” by Dr. P. M. McAllen.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, Lincoln’s Inn Fields, London, W.C.—January 17, 5 p.m., “The Diagnosis and Management of Hirschprung’s Disease,” by Drs. F. and Gage Lecture by Mr. F. Douglas Stephens.

Wednesday

HARVEIAN SOCIETY OF LONDON.—At 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London, W., January 18, 8 p.m., general meeting. “Some Reflections on General Medical Practice in the last 30 Years,” Presidential Address by Dr. Desmond MacManus.

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY, 5, Lisle Street, Leicester Square, London, W.C.—January 18, 5 p.m., “X-ray Technique,” by Dr. C. W. McKenny.

INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY, Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, London, S.E.—January 18, 4.30 p.m., lecture-demonstration for postgraduates by Dr. E. Stengel.

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE AND TROPICAL MEDICINE, Keppel Street, Grosvenor Place, London, W.—January 18, 5 p.m., “How the Malaria Service in Indonesia Came into Being,” by Professor N. H. Swengelreg (Amsterdam).


Thursday

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION—At 32, Welbeck Street, London, W., January 19, 8.15 p.m., Ordinary Meeting followed by Joint Meeting with Radiological Section, Royal Society of Medicine, “Use of Radioactive Isotopes—Some Diagnostic Techniques,” by papers by Mr. N. Veall, B.Sc., Mr. C. P. Haigh, and Mr. D. R. Robt, D.Sc.

EDINBURGH CLINICAL CLUB.—At B.M.A. Rooms, 7, Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh, January 19, 8 p.m., “The Home Management of the Tuberculous Patient,” by Professor Charles Cameron.


ROYAL SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE.—At 26, Portland Place, London, W., January 19, 7.30 p.m., “The Malaria Institute of the United Kingdom,” by Professor N. H. Swengelreg (Amsterdam).

St. George’s Hospital Medical School, Hyde Park Corner, London, S.W.—January 19, 4.30 p.m.,’ “Neurology,” lecture-demonstration by Mr. E. S. Lamb.

WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, Meyerstein Lecture Theatre, Horseferry Road, London, S.W.—January 19, 5.30 p.m., clinico-pathological discussion, “Pulmonary Mycosis.”

Friday

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE.—At St. George’s Hospital, London, S.W., January 20, 5 p.m., “Some Modern Methods in Chest Surgery,” by Mr. A. H. M. Siddons.

BRITISH INSTITUTE OF RADIOLOGY.—(1) At 32, Welbeck Street, London, W., January 20, 5 p.m., “A Meeting of Medical Members.” (2) At Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, London, W., January 20, 8.15 p.m., Joint meeting with Radiological Section, Royal Society of Medicine, “The Therapeutic Uses of Radio-isotopes,” by speakers Dr. Rosal Paterson, Dr. Warrington, Dr. R. J. Walton, Mr. Sinclair, and Mr. C. J. L. Thurgr.

BRITISH TUBERCULOSIS ASSOCIATION.—At 26, Portland Place, London, W., January 20, 2.15 p.m., “Adnexal Tumours,” by Professor R. McWhirter.

MAIDA VALE HOSPITAL FOR NERVOUS DISEASES, Maida Vale, London, W.—At Medical School, January 20, 5 p.m., Neurological Demonstration by Dr. W. Russell Brain.

ROYAL MEDICAL SOCIETY, 7, Melbourne Place, Edinburgh.—January 20, 8.30 p.m., “The Handicapped Child,” by Mr. D. W. MacLean.


Saturday

BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETY.—At British Postgraduate Medical School, Ducane Road, Hammersmith, London, W., January 21, 11 a.m., annual meeting.

LONDON ASSOCIATION OF THE MEDICAL WOMEN’S FEDERATION.—At Central Middlesex County Hospital, Park Royal, N.W., January 21, 2.30 p.m., clinical meeting.

Youth Medical Society—At 17, Stonelace, York, January 21, 8.30 p.m., “Intestinal Obstruction,” by Professor Ian Aird.

APPOINTMENTS

BOWEN, JOHN WALTER M.B., B.C.H., D.P.H., C.P.H., Medical Officer of Health, Aberystwyth Urban District Council, and Medical Officer of Health Blaina and Nanyberg Urban District Council (Divisional Medical Officer for Blaina and Nanyberg)—in Place of Mr. J. A. Davies.

JOHNSTON, E. E., M.B., B.Ch., Schools Medical Officer, Borough of Edwinstowe Area, Notts.—in Place of Mr. G. W. Gurney.

LAWTON, B. D., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.P., Consultant Paediatrician to the Portman Hospital and the Islet of Wight.

RUSSELL, W., M.B., B.S., D.A., Consultant Anaesthetist, Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Great Ormond Street, London, W.C.—in Place of the late Dr. John Bickerton.


Roche, G. K. T., M.B., B.S., D.A., Consultant Anaesthetist, Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Great Ormond Street, London, W.C.—in Place of the late Dr. John Bickerton.

Wright, M. B., D.P.H., B.Hy., Medical Officer of Health, Royal Borough of Kensington and Metropolitan Borough of Chelsea.

Whittles, JAMES HILL, M.D., D.P.H., Deputy Medical Officer of Health of Rochester and Chatham, and Assistant County Medical Officer for Kent

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS

BIRTHS

Divers.—On December 18, 1949, to Brewin (née Cragg), wife of Lloyd Divers, a daughter.

Eleven.—On January 1, 1950, to L匙heid, to Joyce (née Grant), wife of Dr. A. R. Elsom, a son.

Gough.—On December 22, 1949, to Longmead, Spade Oak Reach, Bure, Norfolk, to Mr. and Mrs. Gough, a daughter.

Jennett.—On November 30, 1949, to Woolwich Memorial Hospital, to Joyce (née Johnson), wife of Dr. C. W. L. Jennet, a daughter, Rosemary Ann—a sister for David.

Laycock.—On November 18, 1949, to Hargeisa, British Somaliland, to Winifred Gladys (née Worth), wife of Handley T. Laycock, F.R.C.S., a daughter.


Woolley.—On September 25, 1949, to Mary (née Knowles), M.B., Ch.B., wife of Keith J. D. Woolley, M.B., Ch.B., a son.

DEATHS


Wheeler.—On December 18, 1949, at Bournemouth, to John Alfred Warin, M.B., aged 83.


Webb.—On December 10, 1949, at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Frederick Henry Webb, M.B., Ch.B., of Halfway House, Rotherfield, Bognor, aged 50.