

ROYAL NAVY AND ARMY MEDICAL SERVICES.

ROYAL NAVY MEDICAL SERVICE.

THE following appointments have been made at the Admiralty: EDWARD W. LUTHER, Fleet Surgeon, to the *Maestic*, December 31st; JOHN R. MUIR, M.B., Surgeon, to the *Vivid*, for dental duties, December 31st; JOHN M. H. CONWAY, Surgeon, to the *Jupiter*, December 31st; WALTER B. MAURICE, Surgeon, to Haslar Hospital, December 31st; HENRY C. ADAMS, M.B., Surgeon, to the *Resolution*, December 31st; MATHEW L. M. VAUDIN, M.B., Surgeon, to the *Epigale*, January 1st; WILLIAM JACKSON, M.B., Surgeon, to the *Wildfire* for the *Immortalité* and Naval Barracks, January 1st; HARRY SPICER, Surgeon, to Bermuda Hospital, January 1st; WILLIAM H. THOMPSON, Surgeon, to the *St. George*, January 1st; ROBERT W. C. HALL, Surgeon, to the *Grasshopper*, January 1st; WILLIAM BASTIAN, Surgeon, to the *Hyacinth*, January 2nd; JOHN LOWNY, Staff Surgeon, and WILLIAM L. MARTIN, Surgeon, to the *Irresistible*, February 4th; GEORGE M. O. RICHARDS, Surgeon, lent to assist the Army Medical Board in examination of R.M. candidates at the Medical Hall, Victoria Embankment, January 7th to 10th.

ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. KROGH, M.D., C.B., R.A.M.C., is appointed Deputy Director-General, and to have the temporary rank of Surgeon-General whilst so employed, *vice* Surgeon-General H. S. MUIR, M.D., C.B., whose period of service in that appointment has expired, January 1st. He was appointed Surgeon, March 6th, 1880; Surgeon-Major, March 6th, 1892; Lieutenant-Colonel, March 6th, 1900; and Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, November 29th, 1900. He went to South Africa in the latter part of 1899, and remained there till March, 1901, having had charge of a general hospital. In September last he was appointed to the Home District.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

TEMPORARY MAJOR C. STONHAM, C.M.G., Surgeon-Captain Middlesex Imperial Yeomanry, is granted, on relinquishing the appointment of Officer in Command and Chief Surgeon Imperial Yeomanry Field Hospital, the honorary rank of Major in the Army, with permission to wear the uniform of the Corps, May 2nd, 1901.

The under-mentioned officers have been discharged to duty from hospital in South Africa: Lieutenant-Colonel F. W. TREVOR, Captain H. A. BERRYMAN, Lieutenant J. CONWAY; Civil-Surgeons J. C. OSBORNE, J. WIGGLESWORTH, H. S. CALLUM, T. PARKER, A. GOULE, A. GRAHAM, M. CLEARY, F. L. DICKSON, D. RITCHIE, J. KEENAN, G. H. BECK-HARVIE, A. F. JACK, W. CASE, P. GAULAN, and E. WALKER; and Lieutenants M. H. BABINGTON and E. W. SIBBERY, of the Medical Staff Corps.

Lieutenant M. F. FOULD has had to suffer amputation of the right leg at the knee, Harris Smith, December 30th, 1901, but is now (January 3rd) out of danger.

The following are on passage home: Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. S. SAWYER, Lieutenant-Colonel T. P. WOODHOUSE, Major R. I. POWER; Civil Surgeons H. C. BAKER, E. C. BAILEY, J. M. CRAWFORD, J. H. MARTIN, G. E. RICHMOND, W. SUTCLIFFE. Returning invalided: Lieutenant C. S. SMITH.

Civil Surgeon W. E. JONES, attached R.A.M.C., who has been dangerously ill, is now (January 5th) out of danger.

Surgeon-Captain CREAN, Imperial Light Horse, is now (January 2nd) out of danger.

Colonel OSWALD GILLESPIE WOOD, M.D., C.B., died at Kroonstad on January 3rd from inflammation of the intestines. His commissions were as follow: Surgeon, September 30th, 1873; Surgeon-Major, March 30th, 1886; granted the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, March 30th, 1894; and made Brigade-Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, April 7th, 1897. He was in the Egyptian war in 1882, and was at the battle of Tel-el-Kebir (medal with clasp, and Khedive bronze star); in the operations on the Nile in 1889 as Senior Medical Officer with the British troops; and in the South African war in 1899-1901, where he had charge of a General Hospital; afterwards being Principal Medical Officer at Kroonstad.

Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel HENRY CRAMER GUINNESS died at Cheltenham on January 2nd, aged 63. He entered the service as Assistant Surgeon, October 11th, 1859; became Surgeon, March 1st, 1873; Surgeon-Major, March 12th, 1875; and Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel, October 11th, 1879. He retired May 31st, 1893.

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. T. L. PATCH, M.B., Madras Establishment, is permitted to retire from the service from November 23rd, 1901. He was appointed Assistant Surgeon, April 2nd, 1881, and became Lieutenant-Colonel twenty years thereafter. He was with the Burmese Expedition in 1887-90, and has the Frontier medal with clasp.

The new scheme for the reorganisation of the ambulance bearer service in India contemplates the formation of an Army Bearer Corps, 6,000 strong, to be divided into 30 companies, each under the charge of an assistant surgeon, the *cadre* of the latter being increased by 36. The initial cost of providing quarters for these assistant surgeons is estimated at 1,000,000 rupees.

IMPERIAL YEOMANRY.

THE undermentioned officers, on having relinquished their commissions, are granted honorary rank in the army as follows, with permission to wear the uniform of the corps: Temporary Captains E. T. SHORLAND, Medical Officer, 1st Battalion; E. HOPKINSON, Medical Officer, 10th Battalion; H. MANDERS, M.D., Medical Officer, 12th Battalion; F. A. HADLEY, M.B., Medical Officer, 13th Battalion; R. G. MURRAY, Medical Officer, 14th Battalion; L. G. WEATHERS, Medical Officer, 15th Battalion; and G. H. REYNOLDS, Medical Officer, unattached to be Honorary Captains. Temporary Major J. E. MARTIN, M.B., Medical Officer, 17th Battalion, to be Honorary Major.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

THE undermentioned Surgeon-Lieutenants are promoted to be Surgeon-Captains from the dates specified: C. L. FRASER, 1st Berwick-on-Tweed Artillery, January 4th; A. A. S. SKIRVING, M.B., C.M.G., 1st Midlothian Artillery, January 4th; A. R. WILSON, M.B., 1st Volunteer Battalion the Cheshire Regiment, January 4th; J. N. PATTERSON, 1st Volunteer Battalion the South Lancashire Regiment, August 28th, 1901; P. J. EDMONDS, M.B., 26th Middlesex (Cyclist) Rifles, January 4th.

Surgeon-Captain M. MACKENZIE, the Highland Artillery, is promoted to be Surgeon-Major, January 4th.

Supernumerary Surgeon-Lieutenant W. M. TAYLOR, M.B., 1st Midlothian Artillery, is appointed Surgeon-Lieutenant on the establishment, November 30th, 1901.

Surgeon-Captain P. H. WATSON, 1st Newcastle-on-Tyne Artillery, and Surgeon-Lieutenant S. FERGUSON, M.B., 7th (Clackmannan and Kinross) Volunteer Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, have resigned their commissions, January 4th.

THE SURGEON-GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY.

THE present term of Medical Director William K. Van Reypen as Surgeon-General of the United States Navy expired on December 18th, and on December 9th he was nominated by President Roosevelt for another term of duty as Surgeon-General. He was entitled to retire on December 26th, as he then completed forty years of service, and, by reason of his re-appointment, he was enabled to retire with the rank and pay of a senior rear-admiral.

MEDICO-LEGAL AND MEDICO-ETHICAL.

THE BURIAL OF INFANTS AS "STILLBORN."

A FURTHER illustration of the laxity of the administration of the law as to registration is afforded by a case which occurred recently at Northampton. It was reported in the *Sheffield Independent* on January 1st. A woman, attended by a midwife, "aged and very deaf," and by a neighbour, gave birth to a living child. Three hours later it was found to be dead. Two days later the midwife told her husband, described as "an infirm old man," to make out a certificate stating that the child was still-born, and sign the same with her name and that of the neighbour, who, however, denied all knowledge of the document. She then took the body to the cemetery, but the curator "refused to inter it without a doctor's certificate," the father having been there the previous day and stated that the child had lived two hours. She then tried to get a certificate from a medical man, but failed, and finally informed the police. An inquest was held, and the medical evidence was to the effect that *post-mortem* examination showed that death was due to asphyxia and pulmonary collapse. The jury found a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence, and expressed strong disapproval of the action of the midwife in presenting a false certificate for burial, and recommended the coroner to severely reprimand her, and to caution her against such practices in future. The jury really took a very lenient view, moved thereto, no doubt, by the age and infirmities of the midwife; but the incident should be noted by the Registrar-General, who has, we hope, ere this received a communication from the coroner.

MEDICAL NAMES IN THE TELEPHONE DIRECTORY.

A CORRESPONDENT draws our attention to the name of a medical practitioner in the National Telephone Company's *Directory*, which is followed by the words "Specialist (Throat and Ear)," and comments upon it as "a distressful circumstance" and as "a broad advertisement."

* * The telephone *Directory* is a new publication, and probably few of us have thought seriously of the best way in which to describe ourselves in this list. Many honoured members of the medical profession are described as "Consulting Physician," "Consulting Surgeon," "Physician," "Surgeon," or "Aural Surgeon," while others adopt what seems to us to be the better way of merely putting "M.D.," "F.R.C.S.," or "M.R.C.S.," as the case may be after their names.

SCOTTISH PAROCHIAL MEDICAL OFFICERS AND SCHOOL BOARD CERTIFICATES.

A. M. (writing from the Highlands of Scotland) states that the clerk to a School Board refused to take a certificate in which he (the doctor) stated that "A. is suffering from and will not be able to attend school for two or three months," and wrote, "I am requested by the Board to return to you this certificate as indefinite, and it cannot be accepted by H.M.'s Inspector as valid. Certificates in future must be on *soul and conscience*, or else the matter will require to be reported. The certificates are for public purposes sent and paid for by the parents and must be correct. Unless a proper certificate is entered for this child the parent will be prosecuted." A. M. asks for an opinion as to whether the words "soul and conscience" must be used.

* * We have examined the Education (Scotland) Act, 1872, and amending Acts, also the Education Code, and have failed to find any reference to "soul and conscience," and in our opinion the words "soul and conscience" are not necessary. We are also well aware that certificates are constantly granted to School Boards by medical men without these words being used, but that there may be no doubt in the matter we would suggest that our correspondent should write to the Secretary, Scottish Education Department, Dover House, London. In granting a lunacy certificate the words "soul and conscience" must be used, see Sect. XXXIV, Lunacy Act, 1857, 30 and 31 Vict. Cap. 71, and Schedule D, as they are prescribed in the statutory form, but as we are not aware that the Education Act lays down any statutory form, we

consider the words are not necessary in an ordinary medical certificate granted to a School Board. We regret to observe the threatening style adopted by the clerk of the School Board to the parochial medical officer. This style unfortunately is too often adopted towards medical officers in the Highlands of Scotland, and it is not to be wondered at that medical men are unwilling to accept appointments in the Highlands. We do not know whether A. M. has any appointment under the School Board, if not we question if he can be compelled to grant certificates at their will.

OFFENCES AGAINST THE REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS ACT.

A CORRESPONDENT asks whether it is legally necessary to register births in this country. He states that he knows of numerous instances in which parents have omitted to register the births of their children in order to evade the Vaccination Acts. He has reported several to the superintendent-registrar of the district, but no steps have been taken to punish the offenders, and he believes that the practice is largely followed at the present time.

** By 37-38 Vict., c. 83, it is enacted that every child born in England must be registered within six weeks of the birth. The onus of seeing to this is first thrown on the parents, but failing them, on the person having charge of the child, or even the occupier of the house in which the child was born, provided he was aware of the fact. The penalty for breach of this duty is very inefficient. If the child is not registered within the six weeks, then the registrar may summon those responsible to come to his office and give him the necessary information respecting the birth, and on their failing to comply with this summons they become liable to a penalty of 40s. But it is obvious that in populous districts unless the registrar be directly informed many births will necessarily be overlooked. This, as our correspondent points, constitutes a very real danger to the public, not only by hampering the carrying out of the Vaccination Acts, but by undermining an important guarantee of the public safety.

CORONERS' CENSURES.

PHILANTHROPIST asks whether, in the event of the patient dying, and an inquest being held, the coroner could censure or lecture him if he declined to go to a night call without being paid his fee.

** A coroner would not be justified in censuring a medical practitioner under these circumstances, but it is within his power to censure for any conduct he may personally disprove of.

MEDICAL ETIQUETTE.

R. J. S.—We think it would be better to have a list of charges, which could be shown to such inquirers, hung up in the surgery.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Numbers in Attendance.—During the past year the total number of matriculated students (including 272 women) was 2,929, being an increase of 175 on the number for last year. Of this number, 906 (including 248 women) were enrolled in the Faculty of Arts, 167 (including 4 women) in the Faculty of Science, 1,403 (including 4 women) in the Faculty of Medicine. Of the students of medicine, 623, or fully 44 per cent., belonged to Scotland; 223, or fully 22 per cent., were from England and Wales; 117 from Ireland, 77 from India, 234, or nearly 17 per cent., from British Colonies; and 29 from foreign countries.

Degrees Conferred: General Council, etc.—The following degrees were conferred during 1901: Master of Arts (M.A.), 126 (including 29 women); Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.), 28; Doctor of Science (D.Sc.), 10; Bachelor of Medicine and Master in Surgery (M.B., Ch.B.), 13; Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (M.B., Ch.B.), 180 (including 8 women); Doctor of Medicine (M.D.), 61. The General Council of the University now numbers 2,000. The special University certificate in diseases of tropical climates was conferred on 5 candidates.

Value of Fellowships, Scholarships, etc.—The total annual value of the University fellowships, scholarships, bursaries, and prizes now amounts to about £17,000, namely: In the Faculty of Arts, £10,450; in the Faculty of Science, £1,200; in the Faculty of Medicine, £5,600. In addition, a sum of upwards of £600, being the income of the Earl of Moray Endowment Fund, is annually available for the encouragement of original research.

Benefactions.—It is stated that students had largely taken advantage of Mr. Andrew Carnegie's gift in Edinburgh, as elsewhere, although the regulation requiring the University preliminary to be passed by intending beneficiaries has told against any marked increase so far in the number of first-year students. There is reason to believe that an increase in the numbers attending certain honours and practical classes may be due to the operation of the fund in enabling students to take out a larger number of courses than they could otherwise have taken. In regard to the second main purpose of the benefaction (equipment), a detailed statement of the requirements of the University is being prepared by the Senatus and University Court for submission to the Carnegie Trustees. Among other benefactions worthy of special notice are a fund of about £218 subscribed for the foundation and endowment of a prize in the Faculty of Medicine for women students, in memory of the late Miss J. Dorothy Gilfillan, M.B., Ch.B., and a contribution of £132 to the fund by Mr. Samuel Gilfillan, London, to enable the fund to yield an annual prize of £10.

Changes in the Staff.—Among the changes in University office-bearers have been the appointment of Professor A. R. Simpson as Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, in room of Professor T. R. Fraser, resigned; the appointment of Dr. J. M. Beattie, as Lecturer in Pathological Bacteriology, in room of Dr. David Welsh, resigned.

Institute and Laboratory.—The report refers to the John Usher Institute of Public Health, due to the munificence of Sir John Usher, of Norton, which is approaching completion, and is expected to be ready for occupation by May 1st. The Institute will afford much ampler accommodation for the Public Health Department of the University than it has previously possessed, and will provide a full laboratory training in the branches of study required by medical officers of health. The Hughes-Bennett Laboratory was a much-needed addition to the department of physiology, due to the generosity of Mrs. Harriet G. Cox, daughter of the late Professor Hughes-Bennett.

Minor Changes.—The examinations in Forensic Medicine and Public Health for degrees in Medicine and Surgery are being transferred from the Third to the Fourth (Final) Professional Examination. The examination papers in the various Faculties will henceforth be published separately, instead of as hitherto in the *University Calendar*.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

The *London University Gazette* for January 4th, contains further particulars of the business transacted at the meeting of the Senate on December 18th, 1901 (see BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, December 28th, 1901, p. 1285).

Faculties.

Arrangements were made for the revision in the month of January in each year of the lists of members of the Faculties of the University, and for the appointment of committees of the Senate and of the Faculties for this purpose.

Boards of Studies.

It was resolved that in future the expenses of the Boards of Studies should not be paid by the University, but that any typewriting, printing, or postage required by the Boards, and considered reasonable by the Principal, should be undertaken in the office of the University.

Admission of Internal Students.

Regulations were adopted for the admission of undergraduates of, or persons who have passed the examination required for a degree in, other universities as internal students and candidates for higher degrees; but these regulations do not apply to degrees in medicine and surgery.

Election of Examiners.

The examiners for the year commencing July 1st, 1902, will be appointed on April 30th. Vacancies exist for one examiner in obstetric medicine and one in forensic medicine. Application must be made to the Principal not later than Saturday, February 1st.

Matriculation.

The number of candidates who have entered for the January matriculation, 1902, is 1,658, which represents an increase of about 100 on the entry for January, 1901.

Academic Registrar.

The Academic Registrar gives notice that on and after Thursday, January 9th, he will attend at the University on Thursday evenings from 5 to 7 P.M. and from 8 to 10 P.M. for the convenience of teachers and others who desire to see him on business.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON.

PRIMARY EXAMINATION, PART II.—The following candidates pass in: *Anatomy.*—H. Bennett, Manchester; J. Cree, Belfast; T. L. A. Jones, Cardiff; F. J. Martin, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; E. Renouf, Royal Free Hospital. *Physiology.*—J. Cree, Belfast; E. P. J. Dawes, Birmingham; A. G. C. Findlay, University College Hospital; E. Renouf, Royal Free Hospital; F. A. K. Stuart, St. Mary's Hospital; T. E. Waitenberg, Manchester.

PUBLIC HEALTH

AND

POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

THE REFORM OF THE VACCINATION SYSTEM.

DR. W. COWIE (Little Heath, Old Charlton), Honorary Secretary of the Woolwich, Plumstead, and Charlton Medical Union, writes that, at a meeting of the Union held on December 18th, 1901, the following resolution was unanimously agreed to:

That vaccination should be dealt with as a sanitary question affecting the welfare of the community, on similar lines to those now in force for the notification of infectious disease; and that it is derogatory and injurious to compel a medical man by law to do an unprofessional act—namely, to call at the houses of his fellow practitioners' patients and offer professional service. The members of this Union therefore respectfully submit:

1. That vaccination should be placed under the control of the sanitary authority and be removed from the category of Poor-law relief.
2. That the operation and certification of successful public vaccination according to the legal standard should be open to all registered medical practitioners, and that the authorised fee should be payable to such medical practitioners by the sanitary authority in all cases where the legal standard was complied with.