

loss by means of a glass piston-rod supplied with each box for the purpose. I have designed an improvement upon the all-glass syringes hitherto in use, which, when only one or more injections have been made from it, enables it to be converted into a perfectly air-tight reservoir for the preservation of what remains in it free from atmospheric deterioration or pollution of any kind until it is required again for use. This is accomplished by replacing the

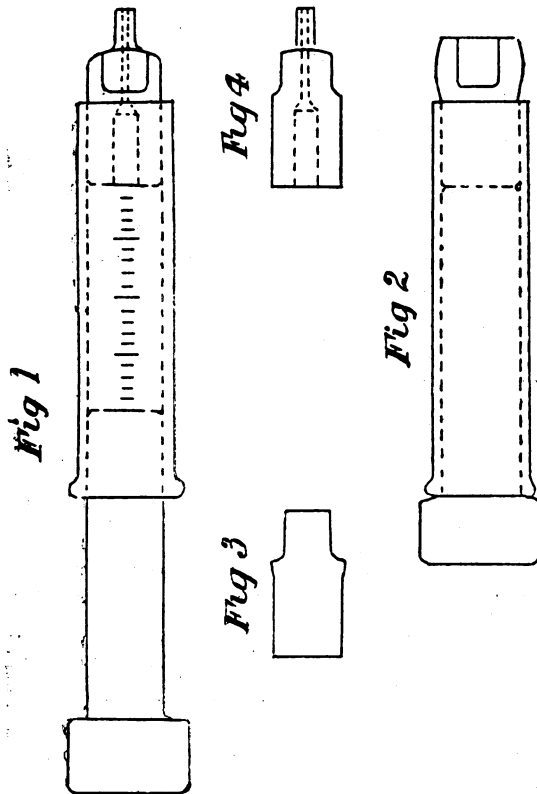


Fig. 1 represents the syringe full, with needle plug in.  
 Fig. 2 represents the syringe empty, with stopper in.  
 Fig. 3 represents the stopper separately.  
 Fig. 4 represents the needle plug separately.

nozzle plug, together with the needle, by a glass stopper made to fit the cylinder accurately. The plug and needle may be sterilized by boiling at once, so as to be ready for use again without delay when required. The use of this all-glass reservoir syringe has proved an enormous saving of time to me in the treatment of cases with intermuscular injections of mercurial cream, and I have no doubt that if adopted for the preservation of the soamin solution—recommended by Colonel Lambkin, R.A.M.C. (BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, August 15th, p. 391)—it will be found of equal, if not greater, practical use, as the fluid will be preserved in an absolutely air-tight reservoir from one injection until another is required, and thus avoid the necessity of making a fresh solution for each individual case. The engraving illustrates the syringe, with the interchangeable stopper and needle plug. When a portion of the contents of the syringe has been injected, or when it is desired to have the syringe charged and kept ready for use, the needle plug has only to be removed and the stopper substituted for it, care of course being taken to push up the fluid so that there is no air intervening between it and the stopper when driven home.

*A Urethral Ointment Introducer.*

Dr. N. WALMISLEY (London, W.C.) writes: For the last five months I have been using an instrument for applying ointment to inflamed patches of the urethra with much success. I designed the instrument; it consists of a flexible catheter about 4 in. to 5 in. long, with an acorn-shaped tip. There is a hole at the tip only. The catheter, by means of an intermediate piece, is screwed on to a collapsible tube which contains ointment, and the ointment enters the urethra by pressing on the tube. After use the whole catheter is screwed into a firm cover, which keeps it clean and prevents the ointment coming out. I found it useful in the case of patients who could only attend occasionally, the inflamed parts being located by the urethroscopy, and the patients only applied the oint-

ment to those parts as I instructed them. Mr. Beaton, 14, England's Lane, Belsize Park, N.W., has kindly made the instrument for me.

**BRITISH MEDICAL BENEVOLENT FUND.**

At the December (1908) meeting of the committee twenty-three applications were received, and sums amounting to £205 voted in relief, six cases being passed over. Appended is an abstract of the cases assisted:

1. Daughters, aged 50 and 34, of late M.R.C.S., L.S.A. For the last ten years have been compelled to nurse their invalid father, an annuitant of this Fund and of Epsom College; are now endeavouring to obtain employment. Voted £20.
2. Daughter, aged 29, of late M.R.C.S., L.S.A. Is unfitted for anything but housework, and is one of several sisters just left quite unprovided for. Voted £10.
3. Widow, aged 68, of M.D. Quite unprovided for at husband's death, and unable to any longer obtain post as a housekeeper or companion. No children. Voted £12.
4. M.D.Aberd., aged 76. No income, and nearly blind. No children; has been suddenly deprived of help from relations. Voted £18.
5. Widow, aged 58, of M.R.C.S., L.S.A. Husband has recently died, and furniture has been sold to meet pressing liabilities, which proceeds of the death vacancy if sold will not cover. Six children, but only able to give very slight help. Voted £12.
6. Widow, aged 60, of L.F.P.S.Glas. Left without provision at husband's death several years ago, and has hitherto supported herself by acting as nurse companion or housekeeper. No children. Voted £12.
7. Daughter, aged 61, of late M.D.Edin. No means. Used to maintain herself as a governess, but for the last few years has been compelled to devote all her time to an invalid sister. Slight help from friends. Relieved three times, £36. Voted £12.
8. Widow, aged 34, of M.B., C.M.Glasg. Income £18 a year. Is acting as nurse at a provincial hospital, but only receives £5 as salary for the first year. Two children, aged 12 and 11, both at an institution, but obliged to be removed before the holidays on account of an outbreak of diphtheria. Relieved three times, £20. Voted £10.
9. Widow, aged 49, of L.S.A. Since husband's death has endeavoured to support herself by giving music lessons and letting rooms, but has been obliged to use a small legacy left by an aunt a few years ago and now exhausted. Two daughters, aged 15 and 14. Relieved twice, £20. Voted £10.
10. Wife, aged 39, of M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., who is confined in a county asylum. No income; receives £1 a week as a district nurse, but has to pay her rent and other unavoidable expenses. Three children, the youngest only 3. Relieved once, £12. Voted £12.
11. Daughter, aged 49, of late M.R.C.S., L.S.A. Is a trained nurse but has been in bad health for the last few years and for some months past has been quite incapacitated. No income. Relieved once, £5. Voted £10.
12. M.R.C.S., L.S.A., aged 63. For the last few years has endeavoured to support himself by locumtenencies, but has recently been incapacitated by ill health for some months and is now only able to undertake quite light work. Two sons only earning a small weekly wage; wife is endeavouring to establish a boarding house. Relieved once, £10. Voted £10.
13. M.R.C.S., aged 65. For the last two years has been incapacitated by serious heart disease. No income; only very slight help from children; wife receives paying guests. Relieved twice, £30. Voted £18.
14. Widow, aged 64, of M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Edin. Only income £20 a year from a house, the lease of which expires in a few years' time, and to which expensive repairs have been necessary. Relieved nine times, £102. Voted £12.
15. Daughter, aged 64, of late M.D.Lond. Has supported herself for several years by work of different kinds, but finds it increasingly difficult to get. Relieved once, £5. Voted £5.
16. Daughter, aged 62, of late M.D.Edin. Has maintained herself for many years, but now unable to do so on account of defective eyesight. Receives a little help from a fund for poor ladies. Relieved four times, £46. Voted £12.
17. Widow, aged 50, of L.R.C.S.Edin. Quite unprovided for at husband's death. Maintains herself by letting lodgings, with slight help from a son and daughter, but has had her rooms unoccupied for some months during the summer. Relieved three times, £25. Voted £10.

**LYNN THOMAS AND SKYRME FUND.**

**TWENTY-FIRST LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.**

MR. WILLIAM SHEEN, M.S., F.R.C.S., 2, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff, honorary secretary of this fund, desires to acknowledge the following subscriptions:

Subscriptions to December 22nd, 1908.

	£	s.	d.
D. C. Muir, Cwmtillery, Mon. ....	...	5	5 0
Newport (Mon.) Medical Society, per V. A. Crinks ...	1	1 0	0
Ernest Hunt, Newton Abbot ...	0	10	6
W. B. Felton, St. Newlyn East, Cornwall ...	0	10	6
R. G. Murray, London ...	0	10	0
"Ewyllysgar" ...	0	5	0
James Blamey, Penryn, Cornwall ...	0	5	0