

from medical officers of health, from fever hospitals, and from other sources has been constantly accumulating of late in favour of the infectiousness of typhoid by contact.

By the time the presence of an explosive epidemic is realized the infections derived from the primary cases have begun to multiply. It is at this period—or earlier if possible—that deliberate, careful, and exhaustive investigations should be made of the numerous obscure problems connected with a typhoid epidemic. In conclusion, he made the following suggestion:

The medical officer of health and his ordinary staff are more than fully occupied in carrying out those measures which are required for arresting and preventing the spread of infection. At that time it would be impossible for them without additional staff to make those exhaustive inquiries which are needed in order to carry out a complete scientific investigation of an extensive epidemic. A staff of specially-trained assistants, consisting of assistant medical officer, bacteriologist, chemist, and several sanitary inspectors, might make such investigations under the guidance and control of the medical officer of health, and would at the same time assist him by regularly reporting to him the result of their inquiries. Such a staff might be commissioned at ordinary times to assist, under an experienced epidemiologist, in systematically investigating and stamping out the endemic typhoid where it prevails in various parts of the kingdom, somewhat in the same way that Koch began his campaign in 1902 against the endemic typhoid prevalent in the villages of Western Germany. It should be prepared at short notice to visit any locality invaded by a typhoid epidemic, if called upon, to investigate the obscure problems of the epidemic, and, so far as required, to assist the local medical officer of health.

BRITISH MEDICAL BENEVOLENT FUND.

THE monthly meeting of Committee was held at 84, Brook Street, on Tuesday, November 21st, Mr. PARKER YOUNG in the chair. The Treasurer reported a balance of £257, of which £116 was expended in grants to thirteen applicants. The Honorary Secretaries of sixteen Divisions of Branches of the British Medical Association had expressed their willingness to act as honorary local secretaries for the Fund, and were duly elected. The payment of a legacy of £100 from the executors of the late Mr. Joseph Proctor Mann, was reported. This, with other sums amounting in all to £300, were ordered to be invested for the annuity department.

The following is an abstract of the cases relieved:

New Cases.

1. Daughter, aged 65, of a surgeon who practised in Edinburgh. Supported herself for many years by teaching, but unfortunately invested savings in a boarding-house which did not pay, and is now practically destitute. Voted £12 in twelve instalments.
2. Widow, aged 70, of M.R.C.S., who practised in the service of the East India Company. Was left fairly provided for, but income is now reduced through depreciation of property to £1 per month; has lost sight of one eye and is partially paralysed. Voted £12 in twelve instalments.
3. Widow, aged 70, of M.D. Edin., who had practised in Gloucestershire. Had a small income at husband's death more than twenty years ago, and became a mental nurse, educating only son by her efforts. Finally took a boarding house, but lost her capital. Voted £12 in twelve instalments.
4. L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Ireland), whose practice in a London suburb gradually dwindled away, and who is now dependent on *locum* work, but has had no engagement for two months. Four children, the eldest only 9. Voted £5 in one sum.
5. Widow, aged 40, of M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., who practised in the West Indies, and has recently died from a new growth. Income £20 a year, and a little help from relations. Two children, aged 12 and 9. Voted £5 in one sum.

Old Cases.

6. Widow, aged 48, of M.D., M.R.C.S., who practised in Yorkshire. No income; lets lodgings. Only child, a daughter aged 18, helps with housework. Relieved five times, £60. Voted £12 in twelve instalments.
7. Widow, aged 33, of M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., who practised in India. No income; three children, aged 12 to 7, and in indifferent health. Asks for help towards getting herself and family back to India, where her brothers-in-law are willing to support her. States that she has collected half the cost of the passage, and is promised further help. Relieved twice, £10. Voted £10, subject to the rest of the passage money being obtained.
8. Widow, aged 68, of M.R.C.S., who practised in London. Dependent on small annuity, and has been laid up for some months from an accident. Relieved six times, £53. Voted £5 in one sum.
9. Widow, aged 68, of M.R.C.S., L.S.A., who practised in London.

Has a share in some property, but six months' rent has had to be spent on repairs ordered by the sanitary inspector. Relieved three times, £21. Voted £5 in one sum.

10. Widow, aged 49, of L.S.A., who practised in London. Has a temporary engagement as companion, but is obliged to pay rent for three rooms as a home for three youngest children. Relieved nine times, £117. Voted £10 in four instalments.

11. Daughter, aged 63, of M.D. Edin., who practised in Scotland. Is allowed £1 per month by a charity, and is obliged to attend to invalid mother (a pensioner of this fund). Relieved three times, £24. Voted £6 in six instalments.

12. Widow, aged 48, of L.R.C.P., L.R.C.P. Edin., who was a surgeon in the Coolie Emigration Service. Four children only just self-supporting; takes boarders, but at present has none, and has been in very bad health for the past year. Relieved three times, £27. Voted £10 in two instalments.

13. Daughter, aged 59, of M.D. Edin., who practised in Manchester. Maintained herself as a companion for many years, but is now losing her sight. Relieved once, £12. Voted £12 in twelve instalments.

NEW MEDICAL ACT FOR NEW ZEALAND.

THE following is the text of a new Medical Act passed by the New Zealand Parliament at the end of October:

MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS REGISTRATION. ANALYSIS.

Title.

1. Short Title.
2. Qualification for registration. Repeal.
3. When name of person may be removed from register.

Schedule.

Title.—An Act to amend the law relating to the Registration of Medical Practitioners.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. *Short Title.*—The short title of this Act is "The Medical Practitioners Registration Act, 1905"; and it shall form part of and be read together with "The Medical Practitioners Registration Act, 1869" (hereinafter referred to as "the principal Act").

2. *Qualification for Registration.*—(1) Every person who possesses any of the qualifications mentioned in the Schedule hereto is entitled to be registered as a medical practitioner under the principal Act.

NEW SUBCLAUSES.

(2) Nothing herein shall affect the registration of any person registered under the principal Act on the passing of this Act.

(3) Where a medical graduate of a foreign university whose diploma is not recognized by the Governor in Council presents himself for the final examination of the New Zealand University, and satisfies the examiners of his proficiency and qualifications, he shall be entitled to registration.

Repeal.—(4) Section twelve of the principal Act is hereby repealed.

NEW CLAUSE.

3. *When Name of Person may be Removed from Register.*—The name of any person who has obtained registration through fraud or misrepresentation, or whose qualification has been withdrawn or cancelled by the college or university of which he is a member or by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, may be removed from the register by the Supreme Court upon application made in that behalf by the President of the British Medical Association of New Zealand or his deputy.

SCHEDULE.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION.

The applicant must be:

- (1) A graduate in medicine and surgery of the New Zealand University; or
- (2) Registered on the register kept in accordance with the provisions of the Acts regulating the registration of medical practitioners in the United Kingdom; or
- (3) Eligible for registration on such last mentioned register; or
- (4) The holder of a diploma, granted by a university in any British possession, or any other university which, in the opinion of the Governor in Council, is equal in status to that of New Zealand, after a course of not less than five years' study of the subjects pertaining to a medical and surgical degree or licence.