

Country School.

The following is a brief description of the country school carried on for the benefit of Manchester children:

A corrugated iron school building, with dormitories and dining hall to accommodate 80 children, has been erected at Knolls Green ($\frac{3}{8}$ miles from Mobberley Station, Cheshire), in a thoroughly rural spot, on about five acres of land.

Relays of children, boys and girls alternately, have been sent with their teachers from the Manchester elementary schools during the summer months. The children carry on a modification of their ordinary school work, giving much time to object lessons on their rambles, to gardening, and to open-air pursuits of varied kinds.

The time tables have been so arranged that the greatest possible good may be got out of a short stay in the country. The children's attendances have been counted in their own schools. This was done with the approval of the Board of Education. There is an experienced matron, and every care has been taken of the children's health. This year the country school has been open from April 24th to October 7th, and over 900 children have enjoyed a fortnight's stay. At Whitsuntide about 80 children went from the schools for mentally-deficient children, and during the midsummer holidays 209 children from Mill Street Day Industrial School were in residence for three weeks, the boys (156) being housed in tents. This country school is carried on by a voluntary Committee.

School Playgrounds.

The Committee opened certain school playgrounds for the general use of children from May 2nd to September 30th from 4.30 p.m. to dusk every week-day except Saturday, and from 9 a.m. to dusk every Saturday and every week-day during the school holidays.

Defective and Epileptic Children.

Three special day schools for mentally-defective children are maintained by the Committee. A number of children are also sent to the Sandlebridge Residential Schools by arrangement with the Committee of that institution.

During the year a residential school for epileptic children has been opened at the Manchester David Lewis Epileptic Colony at Sandlebridge. The school is certified by the Board of Education for 42 children.

Crippled Children.

The instruction of crippled children has engaged the careful attention of the Committee during the year, and a residential school has been opened for thirty children. The school will provide ample accommodation for an extension of the work.

Industrial Schools.

The number of children in the residential industrial schools continues to decrease. The number so maintained a year ago was 489, compared with 479 at the present date. This is evidence of continued improvement in the general condition of street children, a result, no doubt, largely due to the excellent police supervision of those engaged in the selling of newspapers, etc.

LITERARY NOTES.

ON November 1st the *Revue de Déontologie* ("Déontologie" being interpreted means medical ethics) ceased to be the organ of the Corporate Association of the Medical Students of Paris.

A correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* recalls the fact that in Taylor's *Life of Old Parr* it is stated that

He was of old Pythagoras's opinion,
That green cheese was most wholesome with an onion,
Coarse Meslin bread; and for his daily swig,
Milk, butter-milk, and water, whey, and whig.

The writer thinks this quotation affords corroborative evidence of the sour-milk theory of longevity. The diet is sufficiently indigestible for ordinary stomachs to arouse enthusiasm in the bosom of the faddist. But before trying it one would like some better assurance than is likely to be forthcoming at this time of day that Old Parr really lived to anything like the age claimed for him by his biographers. It may further be pointed out that the diet as described is not exactly the "sour milk" recommended by Professor Metchnikoff as the *elixir vitae*, the right brand of which, we believe, is to be procured only at a particular establishment. But even if we were sure that the systems of Old Parr and M. Metchnikoff would prolong our life to years beyond those of Methuselah,

we should prefer a shorter span of existence with a more cheerful diet than green cheese and sour milk.

Dr. James Peddie Steele of Florence, a retired physician, well known as a contributor to the *Lancet*, has offered a prize of 100 guineas for the best essay on Sixteenth Century Humanism as illustrated by the Life and Work of George Buchanan, the competition to be open to alumni of the four Scottish universities. George Buchanan is perhaps best known at the present day as the tutor of James I of England, whom, in his own words, he made the most learned fool in Europe. His accuracy as a historian has been impugned, but of his scholarship his Latin version of the Psalms remains as a witness. This forms a link of interest between him and Dr. Steele who is also an accomplished writer of Latin verse. On the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria he contributed to the *Lancet* a Latin ode in alcaic metre. The four hundredth anniversary of George Buchanan's birth is to be celebrated by the University of St. Andrews in April, 1906.

PUBLIC HEALTH

AND

POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

BURIAL OF PAUPERS.

B. A. writes: The relieving officer of a country district refuses to bury the paupers dying in the hospital. By 16 and 17 Vict., cap. 97, sect. 120, paupers dying in lunatic asylums and registered hospitals are to be buried by the union.

* * The relieving officer is acting according to law. In Glen's *Poor-law Orders*, p. 422, footnote, will be found the following: The guardians of a union are not under any legal obligation to bury the bodies of persons dying in public hospitals (Reg. v. Stewart, 12 A. and E. 773). The exercise of the power given by 7 and 8 Vict., c. 101, s. 31, is only discretionary on the part of the guardians, who may decline to undertake to bury any dead body, not being in the workhouse, if they think fit so to do. Some hospitals have printed forms, which they require to be filled in before admitting an in-patient, whereby some householder guarantees to be responsible for such burial if the necessity should arise. The reference to paupers in asylums, etc., has no bearing on this point.

WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

THE area of the administrative county of the West Riding is $1\frac{1}{2}$ million acres, and the population is only slightly less (1,442,280). There are 160 sanitary authorities, and thus Dr. Kaye's report covers the sanitary work of a wide area and of a number of different authorities. For 1904 the birth-rate was 27.7, a further decline on 1903, and the death-rate was 16.5. The infantile mortality-rate was 1.47 per 1,000 births. During the year Dr. Kaye made 146 official visits to different parts of the Riding, and supervised a large amount of public health work. As many as 2,310 samples under the Food and Drugs Acts were taken, which with 284 further samples taken by the local authorities made a total of 2,594, of which 81 (3 per cent.) were adulterated. In 1893 22 per cent. of the samples taken were adulterated, so that a marked improvement has occurred. Much additional work has been undertaken in connexion with the Midwives Act and the supervision of schools, the medical and sanitary work of the Education Committee being placed under the direction of the county medical officer. The zymotic death-rate for 1904 was 2.2 as compared with 1.8 for the last five years. This rise is largely due to the prevalence of small-pox, of which there were 2,191 cases with 170 deaths. But scarlet fever (5,849 cases with 507 deaths), diphtheria (1,363 cases with 243 deaths), and enteric fever (1,225 cases with 237 deaths) also contributed. There were in addition 712 deaths from measles, 471 from whooping-cough, and 1,115 from diarrhoea. The cancer death-rate continues to rise (0.80 per 1,000). Dr. Kaye includes in his report particulars as to hospitalisation, water supply, drainage and sewerage, scavenging, etc., and interesting sections on the paving of streets and yards, lead poisoning, school hygiene, and dairies and cowsheds. An examination of district water supplies revealed the fact that 25 contained no lead in solution, 8 contained less than $\frac{1}{16}$ gr. per gallon, and 10 contained more than that amount. The fourth annual report of the work of the bacteriological laboratory is appended. Diphtheria swabs, Widal's serum diagnosis, tuberculous sputa, and a number of miscellaneous specimens have been examined, numbering in all 2,234.

DERBYSHIRE.

THE estimated population of the administrative county of Derby at the middle of 1904 was 517,276. The birth-rate was 31.48, the lowest on record; the infant mortality-rate was 1.57 per 1,000 births, and the death-rate was 14.8. Dr. Sidney Barwise, the County Medical Officer of Health, furnishes an admirable report on the sanitary work undertaken during the year. Small-pox was again somewhat prevalent (146 cases and 8 deaths), and scarlet fever more prevalent than at any time during the last five years (2,094 cases, with a mortality per cent. of 3.40). The cases of enteric fever numbered 352, and Dr. Barwise considers the prevalence of the disease is due "to the degrading privy-midden system." He adds that, "comparing houses of less than £10 annual rental which have privy middens with those that have waterclosets, it has been found that the incidence of typhoid fever is four times greater in the houses with privy middens," and he recommends the adoption of waterclosets and the paving of back yards. Diphtheria was responsible for 552 cases. Much attention is being given to the prevention of phthisis and to school hygiene, and Dr. Barwise inserts a useful summary of the progress which has taken place in the

county since 1897 in respect of sewage purification. Abstracts of the local medical officers' reports for the urban (29) and rural (16) districts are appended to the county report.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

Radcliffe Travelling Fellowship, 1906.

AN examination for a Fellowship of the annual value of £200, and tenable for three years, will be held in February, 1906, commencing on Tuesday, February 27th.

Candidates must have passed all the examinations required by the University for the degrees of B.A. and B.M. They must also have been placed in the First Class in one of the Public Examinations of the University, or have obtained some University prize or scholarship.

Names should be sent in to the Regius Professor of Medicine on or before Saturday, February 10th. Further particulars are to be found in the *University Gazette* of November 21st.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

MR. C. T. R. WILSON, M.A., of Sidney College, has been reappointed Lecturer in Experimental Physics.

The following degree was conferred on November 23rd:

B.C.—C. E. A. Armitage, Emm.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

THE following candidates have been approved at the examinations indicated:

M.B., B.S.—G. C. Adenev, H. Ainscow, F. B. Ambler, A. W. Baker, F. Barker, W. H. Barnett, J. A. Berlyn, V. H. Blake, W. B. Clark, M. Culpin, D. Davies, H. De Vine, D. E. Finlay, A. R. Finn, T. E. Francis, Florence E. Gubb, Dorothy C. Hare, E. M. Harrison, W. D. Hartley, H. G. M. Henry, C. H. M. Hughes, H. Isaacs, A. G. Jones, Charlotte A. King, S. M. Lawrence, B. R. Lloyd, E. C. Lowe, H. S. Matson, W. O. Meek, E. F. Milton, J. H. Nixon, J. M. O'Meara, W. J. H. Pinniger, T. P. Puddicombe, E. L. Ridge, C. C. Rushton, P. H. Seal, D. L. Sewell, F. A. Sharpe, E. B. Smith, M. W. S. Smith, Olive B. Smith, G. A. Soltan, A. A. Sutcliffe, C. E. Tongye, B.A., H. A. Watney, Edith W. T. Watts, W. Welchman, T. F. Wilson.

Group I only.—H. H. Bashford, J. F. Blackett, Margaret L. A. Bolleau, J. B. Dawson, E. V. Dunkley, J. Ferguson, F. W. Figgis, J. H. Horton, W. A. McEnery, A. H. Parkinson, B.Sc., T. C. Pocock, J. E. Robinson, Bessie W. Symington, J. B. V. Watts.

Group II only.—T. H. Barton, A. Beely, F. C. H. Bennett, R. J. Bentley, A. C. Bryson, T. C. Clare, E. T. H. Davies, C. N. Davis, J. E. Dunbar, H. R. Evans, G. Fletcher, G. Hamilton, T. M. Hardy, V. Hetherington, H. S. Hollis, H. S. Knight, Eleanor Lowry, A. T. Marshall, W. C. Pickerlog, A. Randle, P. M. Roberts, Sophia Seekings, S. H. Sweet, T. Turner, H. F. Warner, K. J. Waugh, G. P. Young.

B.S. (for students who graduated in Medicine on or before May, 1904).—Ruth L. Bensusan, A. J. Blackland, A. C. Haslam, M.D., M. G. Louissou, E. E. Maples, C. D. Pye-Smith.

HONOURS.

The following candidates were awarded honours:

M.B., B.S. Examination.—R. W. Allen (a), Guy's Hospital; R. F. Miller (a), St. Mary's Hospital; P. S. Mills (d), Guy's Hospital; K. Milne (a), London Hospital; A. B. O'Brien (d, e), Guy's Hospital; J. B. Rous (a), St. Mary's Hospital; D. P. Sutherland (a, b, c, *University Medal*), Victoria University; A. D. White (d), St. Bartholomew's Hospital; S. R. Wilson (d), Victoria University.

(a) Distinguished in medicine.

(b) Distinguished in pathology.

(c) Distinguished in forensic medicine and hygiene.

(d) Distinguished in surgery.

(e) Distinguished in midwifery and diseases of women.

B.S. Examination.—Mr. A. M. Fitzmaurice-Kelly (University medal), St. Mary's Hospital; H. C. C. Mann, Guy's Hospital.

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY, MANCHESTER.

Pilkington Cancer Research Endowment.

Applications for appointment under this endowment will be received by Professor G. A. Wright at the University up to Wednesday, December 13th.

CONJOINT BOARD IN IRELAND.

THE following candidates have been successful at the Examination for the Diploma in Public Health:

H. W. Bailie, Alice M. Barry, W. Cremin, R. V. Khedkar, W. F. B. Loughnan, C. J. O'L. Maguire, F. J. Moore, J. J. O'Sullivan.

ROYAL NAVY AND ARMY MEDICAL SERVICES.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

MEDICAL UNITS FOR FIELD ARMY ORGANIZATION.

THE War Office has drawn up a new distribution of medical units for field army organization, in place of the allotment of bearer companies and field hospitals given in the Field Army Tables (Provisional) of last March. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Cavalry Brigades, the 1st to the 5th Infantry Divisions, and the Corps Troops, Army Corps are provided for under the new arrangement; but for the 4th Cavalry Brigade and the 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th Infantry Divisions it is stated "No unit available."

SOUTH WALES BORDER VOLUNTEERS INFANTRY BRIGADE.
UPON the recommendation of Major-General Sir F. Howard, K.C.B., C.M.G., Acting General Officer Commanding in Chief Welsh and Midland Command, the Secretary of State for War has granted an extension of service under Volunteer Regulations to Brigade-Surgeon Colonel P. E. Hill, V.D., 1st V.B. South Wales Borderers, Senior Medical Officer South Wales Border Volunteer Infantry Brigade.

MEDICAL NEWS.

THE net profit of the American Bazaar held at Stratford last week in aid of the West Ham Hospital is stated to be about £3,500.

DR. J. W. FARNDALE, a former student of the London School of Tropical Medicine, has been appointed District Surgeon of Mwomboshi, North-East Rhodesia, by the British South Africa Company.

THE seventh annual dinner of the Medical Graduates' College and Polyclinic will be held at the Trocadero Restaurant at 7.30 on Friday next, December 8th, under the chairmanship of Mr. A. W. Mayo Robson.

MR. JOSEPH KELLETT SMITH, of West Kirby, Consulting Surgeon of the Stanley Hospital, Liverpool, who died on October 20th, left property valued at £68,200. To the Stanley Hospital he bequeathed £1,000 for the endowment of a cot in the Kellett Smith Ward.

THE next course of vacation lectures given by the Association of Privatdozenten in Berlin will commence on March 11th, 1906, and terminate on March 28th. Further particulars can be obtained on application to Herr Melzer, Ziegelstrasse 10/11, (Langenbeck-Haus) Berlin.

THE Cancer Charity of the Middlesex Hospital has received a grant from the Mercers' Company of £250. Of this sum £50 is to be awarded to one of the workers in the Cancer Research Laboratories and styled "the Mercers' Prize," and the rest used for the general purposes of the Cancer Research Fund.

THE Matron of the Queen's Jubilee Hospital asks us to state that she, together with the sister and staff nurse, have resigned from the nursing staff of the institution, and will sever their connexion with the hospital forthwith. Mr. Sydney Stephenson, M.B., C.M., F.R.C.S. Edin., has been appointed honorary ophthalmic surgeon, Mr. Douglas W. Sibbald, M.B., Ch.B. Edin., resident house-surgeon, and Mr. Archibald Craig Amy, M.B., Ch.B. Glasg., resident house-physician to the hospital.

AMONG the Russian students of both sexes working in the medical and other Faculties of the University and in the art schools of Paris, much distress is stated to have been caused by the recent occurrences in Russia. The great majority of the students live on remittances from home, and these they have not received, in some cases owing merely to the break-down of postal arrangements, and in others because those who used to send them have been ruined.

A COMMITTEE of the Incorporated Medical Practitioners' Association has been formed for the purpose of presenting Mr. George Brown, Direct Representative on the General Medical Council, with some token of their regard on his retiring from office as Senior Editor of their official journal, the *General Practitioner*. Mr. George Brown has given the best part of forty years in working for the interests of general practitioners, to improve their medical, social, and political status. He has done good work in improving club practice, and also on the nurses and midwives questions. In the General Medical Council, those men who secured his return know how well he has represented their views, and spoken on the subject of increased representation for the rank and file of the profession, where they are so inadequately represented. It is possible that there are many practitioners who are not members of the Incorporated Medical Practitioners' Association who would like to join in this tribute to the qualities and sterling worth of Mr. George Brown, who has spared neither time nor money in looking after the interests of his brother practitioners without thought of fee or reward. Any gentlemen who would like to testify their gratitude and respect for him may do so by sending their subscriptions to J. Pollock Simpson, M.D., Secretary and Treasurer of the fund, No. 8, Upper Montagu Street, Montagu Square, W., who will acknowledge all sums received. Cheques should be crossed "George Brown Testimonial Fund."