

Tyre Company (487 Olympia) shows motor car tyres, comprising sundry types of outer covers introduced by this firm—namely, the V design, all-rubber *de luxe*, the Beldam V groove, the Beldam Bulldog, and the Beldam combination steel drum on V design of cover. There are, besides, rubber inner tubes. The Stepney (475 Olympia) exhibit consists of spare motor wheels, road-grip motor tyres, Stepney tubes, Stepney shock absorbers for Ford cars, and waterproof covers for spare wheels and the like. The practice of encasing springs in gaiters has increased to such an extent as to give to the exhibit of the firm primarily responsible for the introduction of the device to this country, Browne Brothers (450 Olympia), more than passing interest. Here a complete range of Duco leaf spring gaiters is on view together with the firm's mechanical tyre pump, horns, valve stem lubricators, clocks, watches, pumps, rebound snuffers, Klaxon horns, vulcanizers, Celerio jacks, and Eto spare parts for Ford cars, among innumerable accessories. The new triple-diffuser Zenith carburettor (418 Olympia) is introduced at this show; the firm also exhibits special sets of carburettor fittings for Ford cars and most other well known makes. In the carriage work section Offord and Sons (321 Olympia) show three examples of their all-weather bodies. One is called a four-seater featherweight type, with V windscreen, luggage grid, and special tool-box in the step platform, mounted on a 15-h.p. four-cylinder Belsize chassis. The other is also a featherweight four-seater, carried out in a different colour scheme and upholstered in leather, the whole being mounted on a 12-h.p. four-cylinder Rover. The third example is a five-seater, painted elephant grey, picked out in green, upholstered in antique imitation leather to match, the chassis in this case being a 20-h.p. four-cylinder Chevrolet.

## England and Wales.

### VOLUNTARY HOSPITALS COMMISSION.

THE following statement regarding the position of the London hospitals and the decision to make immediate emergency grants has been issued by the Voluntary Hospitals Commission:

#### *Emergency Grants to London Hospitals.*

The King Edward's Hospital Fund, as the Local Voluntary Hospital Committee for London, have now reported to the Hospitals Commission in regard to the situation of the London hospitals. They estimate that the aggregate deficit on the maintenance account for the year ending December 31st, 1921, will amount to at least £360,000. This is less than the corresponding figure for 1920, but the gravity of the situation is shown by the fact that without exception all the larger general hospitals, including all the medical schools, will show heavy deficits. Moreover, a number of hospitals have now exhausted all their realizable assets, and without immediate assistance will have no alternative but to close beds. It is a condition of the Government grant of £500,000, which has to meet the needs not of London only but of the whole of Great Britain, that a corresponding amount must be raised by the hospitals themselves. As the total deficits for the year were estimated by Lord Cave's Committee at £1,000,000, the importance of the pound for pound rule is manifest. The Hospitals Commission has provisionally appropriated £180,000 for London, which is half the total deficits for the year as estimated by the King's Fund. But if the London hospitals are to earn this grant they must themselves raise a similar amount. In view, however, of the fact that a number of hospitals have already, or shortly will have, exhausted their realizable assets, the Commission has decided in certain cases to make emergency grants in anticipation of the new money which will have to be raised. These grants are in no case more than half the amount of the estimated deficits for 1921; and the Commission has not felt justified at this stage in making emergency grants to any hospitals whose realizable assets exceed their liabilities, as such hospitals not having exhausted their credit are not compelled to close beds immediately, but can continue their activities, at any rate, for the present. It will therefore be understood that the receipt of a substantial grant does not mean that a hospital is relieved of the necessity of appealing to the generosity of the public. On the contrary, as the grant is

in no case more than half the estimated deficit, it will be seen that those hospitals which receive the largest share are precisely those which are most in need of additional revenue.

The total amount of the present emergency grant is £77,900, which is to be distributed as follows:

Canning Town	...	...	...	...	£	700
East London Hospital for Children	...	...	...	...	...	3,000
Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital for Women	...	...	...	...	...	600
Great Northern Central Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	11,000
Hampstead General Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	3,400
Hospital for Epilepsy	...	...	...	...	...	850
Hospital for Sick Children	...	...	...	...	...	4,000
Infants' Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	1,000
King's College Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	9,000
London Temperance Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	2,000
Metropolitan Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	750
Middlesex Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	3,000
Mildmay Mission Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	40
National Hospital for the Paralyzed	...	...	...	...	...	800
Prince of Wales's General Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	2,200
Queen Charlotte's Lying-in Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	3,000
Queen Mary's Hospital for the East End	...	...	...	...	...	1,000
Queen's Hospital for Children	...	...	...	...	...	2,100
Royal Free Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	12,000
Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	3,000
Royal Waterloo Hospital for Women and Children	...	...	...	...	...	500
Samartian Free Hospital for Women	...	...	...	...	...	800
South London Hospital for Women	...	...	...	...	...	800
University College Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	12,000
Total	...	...	...	...	...	£77,900

### NORTH OF ENGLAND EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY CLUB.

The fourteenth annual dinner of the North of England Edinburgh University Graduates' Club was held at Newcastle-on-Tyne on November 4th. Dr. D. W. Inglis, of Hebburn, president of the club, presided over a large gathering, and Sir J. Alfred Ewing, K.C.B., F.R.S., Principal of Edinburgh University, was the guest of the evening. Dr. Inglis proposed the toast of "Alma Mater," and in response Sir Alfred Ewing said that Alma Mater had had to adopt a system of birth control, because her children threatened to become too numerous; but she remained eternally young, throwing her branches wider and wider every year. The very existence of a club such as theirs indicated what the university meant to the men who had been students there. A most satisfactory feature of the university life was the keenness and energy with which the men who had returned from the war had taken up their studies again. He was glad to see so many of the University's sons in apparently prosperous circumstances, and he asked them to remember the financial claims of Alma Mater. The University received a very welcome grant from the Government, and it was only a reasonable grant because the Government authorities were beginning now to recognize that the universities played an important part in relation to the State and deserved national support. Last year the total amount thus distributed by a committee to the universities was £1,500,000. He was sorry to say that Sir Eric Geddes, who had the faculty of his family for applying dramatic strokes, had announced that the grant was to be diminished by £200,000 next year, and that was why he had ventured to make his appeal to the sons of Edinburgh University.

### UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL.

A novelty among the many methods of propaganda which the University of Bristol is employing, in its appeal for £1,000,000 in connexion with its new developments, is the publication of a pamphlet of forty-eight pages containing photogravures illustrating the work and the many-sided activities of the University. All the photographs are interesting and they are excellently reproduced. Students are shown at work in lecture theatres in the faculties of arts, science, and divinity, in the various libraries and museums, in scientific laboratories and engineering workshops, on geological and botanical expeditions, and on visits to modern engineering plants and factories. In the section devoted to the faculty of medicine there are photographs of the class of experimental physiology, while some of the research apparatus of the professor is shown in detail; other photographs show students in the pathological museum, and research students in the bacteriological laboratories. In another series students are seen at work in the different departments of the Royal Infirmary; illustrations of the department of remedial gymnastics and of the casualty department are given, while in another is shown a class at work on materia medica in the dispensary. A publication of this

kind is much more likely to give to the lay public a comprehensive idea of the conduct of a modern university than many pages of verbal description.

#### LIVERPOOL.

The offertory at the annual medical service on behalf of the Royal Medical Benevolent Fund amounted to £90 10s. The honorary treasurer, Dr. J. Ernest Nevins, received in addition £7 6s. from medical men who were unable to be present at the service. The expenses were £9 14s. 6d., and it is gratifying to note that the amount to be transmitted to the Fund is among the largest since the institution of the annual medical service. The biennial dinner of the Liverpool Medical Institution was held on Thursday, November 10th, at the Adelphi Hotel.

## Scotland.

#### VENEREAL DISEASES.

A CONFERENCE of representatives of local authorities and others interested in the prosecution of active measures in Scotland for combating venereal disease will be opened in the City Chambers by the Lord Provost, at 11 a.m., on Friday, December 2nd. Sir Malcolm Morris, Vice-President of the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases, will give an address on the prevalence of these diseases and the work of the National Council; he will be followed by Sir Leslie Mackenzie, medical member of the Scottish Board of Health, who will open a discussion on the prevalence of venereal diseases in Scotland and the need for an educational campaign. In the afternoon Dr. J. McGregor-Robertson, Chairman of the Scottish Committee of the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases, will explain the functions and proposed operations of that Committee, and subsequently the problem will be discussed as it affects urban and rural districts respectively. Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, Mr. W. E. White, 30, Renfield Street, Glasgow.

#### COMPULSORY RETIREMENT OF MARRIED MEDICAL WOMEN.

The Glasgow Corporation passed a resolution on September 8th dispensing with the services of married women whose husbands were in regular employment. In consequence of this resolution a large number of women retired on October 31st from the service of the Corporation, including Dr. Moore, Dr. Williams, and Dr. Norrie, assistant medical officers in the public health department. Dr. Moore, who had been six years in the service of the Corporation, was associated with the tuberculosis branch of the department; Dr. Norrie and Dr. Williams, who had three and two years' service respectively, were connected with the child welfare branch. It is stated that the work performed by these ladies will be carried on, but no permanent appointments to their posts have yet been made. A similar case, which recently occurred in London, has been widely discussed in the lay press.

#### GLASGOW HOME FOR INFIRM CHILDREN.

The forty-seventh annual meeting of East Park Home for Infirm Children, Maryhill, Glasgow, was held on October 19th, with Mr. James Graham in the chair. The directors' report stated that the growth of the ordinary income was again much more than counterbalanced by the increase in ordinary expenditure, and the sum of £1,666 had had to be taken from the extraordinary account to meet the deficiency in the ordinary revenue; the medical report was read by Dr. A. B. Sloan, and Sir Alexander Gracie, in moving the adoption of the reports, spoke of the great amount of useful and unostentatious work accomplished in the institution.

#### RECTORSHIP OF ABERDEEN.

Sir Robert Horne, Chancellor of the Exchequer, was on November 5th elected Rector of Aberdeen University in succession to Lord Cowdray, whose three years' term of office has just expired. The voting in the contest was as follows: Sir Robert Horne (Coalition), 557; Sir Donald Maclean (Independent Liberal), 400; and Professor Soddy, of Oxford University, formerly of Aberdeen University (Labour), 253.

#### EDINBURGH STUDENTS' COUNCIL.

In the annual report of the Edinburgh Students' Representative Council reference is made to the part played in the industrial crisis last March. The Council was appealed to by the authorities to raise a force of students to assist in the maintenance of food supplies and the essential transport services. In less than a week over 600 students had given in their names and large numbers enrolled in the Defence Force, the special constabulary, and as pumpmen at the mines. The principal of the university gave an assurance that those who were absent on public service would not be thereby prejudiced in their university course; the Secretary for Scotland had expressed the gratitude of the Government to the students.

## Ireland.

#### LOSS TO IRISH HOSPITALS.

At the annual meeting of the Linen Guild connected with Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, Sir John Ross, in proposing the adoption of the reports of the executive committee and of the treasurer, spoke of the work done by the War Hospital Supply Dépot in Merrion Square during the war and the efforts made to raise money in connexion with it. He had at one time hoped that it would be possible to dispense with the Linen Guilds, but it was clear that they must be continued. Under the cruel taxation that was falling particularly on the middle classes they had not the means to give as they had done formerly. "In addition," the Lord Chancellor went on, "owing to the disturbed state of the country, a great number of those who formerly were our best supporters are leaving the country. I am sorry for that. I think everybody should stand his ground. But still the fact remains that they are going. We cannot ask them to stay here. Ireland is being impoverished of these good people, and England and Scotland are getting them." In proposing a vote of thanks to Sir James Craig, M.D., the President of the Royal College of Physicians referred to the State support of hospitals. Ireland's proportion of the £500,000 given by the Government to English and Scottish hospitals should have been at least £50,000, but the Chief Secretary had said that they had a Parliament of their own, and that already a Government grant was being given to Ireland.

#### PROPOSED REDUCTION OF CERTIFICATION FEES UNDER THE INSURANCE ACT IN IRELAND.

The following letter has been addressed to the Irish Medical Committee:

National Health Insurance Commission, Dublin.

November 1st, 1921.

I am directed by the National Health Insurance Commission (Ireland) to state, for the information of the Irish Medical Committee, that they have been instructed by His Majesty's Government, in common with other public departments, to take steps with a view to securing a reduction in the cost of expenditure on public services which are borne out of Exchequer Funds. The whole cost of the scheme in operation in Ireland for the provision for insured persons, free of charge, of the medical certificates required in connexion with the administration of the Sickness and Disablement Benefits under the National Health Insurance Acts is defrayed from an Exchequer Grant. In view of the fact that the sum available up to January 1st, 1920, was increased as from that date by 40 per cent. it is imperative upon the Commission to secure a reduction of the cost of this scheme at present falling upon Exchequer Funds, the expenditure under which is almost wholly due to the payments to doctors for issuing medical certificates. In these circumstances I am to request that the Irish Medical Committee, which has on previous occasions arranged, on behalf of the medical profession in Ireland, the terms of the remuneration to be paid to doctors under the scheme referred to, will be so good as to send as early as possible representatives to confer with the Commission as to what reduction is to be made.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

J. HOULIHAN.

Dr. T. Hennessy, Medical Secretary,  
Irish Medical Committee.

A "FAITH HEALER" has been arrested at Los Angeles on a charge of manslaughter in connexion with the death of a patient whom he had treated; the patient had suffered from rheumatism for some years, and the coroner's jury decided that she died as the result of manipulations by the healer which fractured her limbs.