

"W. G.'s" car transactions have been as follows:

1920. Overland car bought for	...	...	...	...	£505
1922. " sold for	...	...	...	...	£150
1922. Rover " bought for	...	...	...	...	£350

The price of an Overland car similar to the one sold is understood to have been £268 when the Rover car was bought.

\*\*\* In our opinion "W. G." is entitled to claim the amount expended, provided that he does not increase the amount of capital sunk in his equipment. On that basis his allowance would be £505-£150=£355. We assume that the question is not complicated by his having received an allowance for the Overland car as an expense of 1920.

#### FIRST AID IN COAL MINES.

"COLLIERY SURGEON" asks if there is anything published that could be of use, as far as the first aid attention to wounds is concerned, to the comparatively untrained attendant of a colliery ambulance room, who works under the colliery surgeon's weekly supervision.

#### A STRANGE "WILD-FOWL."

DR. JAMES R. WHITWELL (Melton) writes: It is probable that this is one of the Ixodid Acarinae which not infrequently attach themselves to any mammal, and are usually obtained from herbage of some kind. The description given, however, is insufficient for identification. They are to be found even in the high civilization of the Midlands!

DR. J. D. ROBSON (Dumfries) writes: I would suggest that Dr. F. G. Layton's strange "wild-fowl" was one of the Arachnids or ticks which infest sheep and sometimes dogs. Shepherds are often affected by them after sheep-shearing, and if the parasite gets itself well dug in it is no easy matter to remove it. Some time ago a child was brought me with one attached to the back of the neck, and it was so gorged with blood that it looked like a naevus until its movements gave it away.

SURGEON REAR-ADMIRAL W. EAMES, R.N., ret'd. (Bournemouth), writes: The strange "wild-fowl" would appear, from Dr. Frank G. Layton's account of the tenacious hold it had on the patient's skin, to be the ordinary sheep tick, which so frequently attaches itself to dogs moving in sheep-grazing areas, and the removal of which, owing to its extremely firm hold on the skin, causes, in some instances, much pain.

#### WARMING THE GARAGE.

DR. GEO. SMITH SOWDEN (Elgin) writes to recommend Brown Bros.' "Buckingham" radiator lamps. "I used one," he continues, "in a very cold part of the country all last winter, with excellent results. The lamp is constructed on the principle of the miner's safety lamp, and, when not used on the car, can be used as a garage light. Paraffin is the fuel to employ, and if the frost be very keen a rug thrown over lamp and radiator is quite sufficient." The cost of the lamp is 32s. 6d.

"ANOTHER ROVER" suggests the use of Davy colliery lamps—one, two, or three, according to the weather—under the bonnet, provided the garage is not draughty.

MESSRS. GAMAGE (Holborn, E.C.1) have on sale the Ever Warm radiator lamp, made on the principle of the miner's lamp, price 17s. 6d. It is recommended for warming garages.

#### LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

##### BAD ARMS AFTER VACCINATION.

We publish in this issue under the title "The Art of Vaccination" (p. 1090) a statement which a very experienced public vaccinator has been good enough to write, giving the precautions which in his opinion should be taken to prevent the occurrence of "bad arms," and we may be able to recur to the subject in a future issue. Meanwhile we may say that Dr. Edgar J. Tyrrell (London, E.C.3) has written to recommend the local application of a 10 per cent. solution of glyco-thymoline if the arm is swollen and irritable.

##### THE VIOLATORS OF VACCINATION LAW.

DR. C. D. SOMERS, Public Vaccinator (Aldeburgh-on Sea), writes: Might I point out to Dr. H. P. Reynolds (November 18th, p. 1004) that all a J.P. has to do is to witness the signature of the application and has not to satisfy himself whether the applicant is a conscientious objector or not. If the applicant insists that he is, the J.P. cannot refuse to witness his signature. I used to think it was the fault of the J.P., but I no longer think so.

##### REMOVAL OF A PAPER FASTENER FROM THE BRONCHUS.

MR. E. MUSGRAVE WOODMAN, F.R.C.S. (Birmingham), writes: I congratulate Mr. Herbert Tilley not less on the successful issue of his case than on the polished English of his article. Only those accustomed to work in the dismal and dark recesses of these tubes can fully appreciate the difficulties that may be met with. Not the least of these is the impossibility of having at hand the right instrument for each particular case—in regard both to length and to forceps ends. I sympathize with the words of Chevalier Jackson: "When I have fully diagnosed a case

I go into my workshop and make an instrument of appropriate length and design for the work it has to do." One thing I am sure of: Mr. Tilley need make no apology for the use of general anaesthesia. We in this country are blessed by the help of anaesthetists trained to an extent not often found either in Europe or America. I think that general anaesthesia will always be the method of choice in this country.

#### THE DETERMINATION OF SEX.

DR. J. WEST (Ramna, Dacca, Bengal) writes: Dr. R. W. Marsden, in your issue of September 30th, 1922 (p. 616), brings forward a new theory regarding the determining factors in the production of sex in man. During the past six years from time to time letters have appeared discussing this subject. This has caused me some surprise, and at times some confusion. I was on the point of writing to inquire whether the theory expressed sufficiently definitely by E. G. Conklin of Princeton University (*Heredity and Environment in the Development of Man*, Oxford University Press, 1915) was not generally accepted as regards man, since these frequent revivals of the "problem" appeared to ignore it. It so happened, however, that before I had carried out my intention the mail brought in the 1922 edition of this book, in which I read on page 166: "These discoveries appear to settle once for all this vexing question and to establish the fact that in man, as well as in many other animals, sex is determined . . ." Instead of completing the quotation I prefer to refer your correspondent to the original work.

#### PLURIGLANDULAR TABLETS.

"B." writes, in reply to "Stratford": I have taken tetraglandular tablets (P. D. and Co.) for about three years—present age, 61. I take one in the morning and another in the afternoon. They are markedly restorative when one feels tired, and have no ill effects. They do not tend to preserve the eyesight, however, nor help a cardiac murmur. I propose to try hexaglandular tablets for a while. When bicycling and climbing in Switzerland this summer I found that children of 16 were greatly helped by such a "tetra" tablet when tired, though the effect soon wore off.

#### SCOPOLAMINE-MORPHINE DURING LABOUR: CORRECTION.

DR. N. HIRSCHMAN calls attention to an error of dosage printed in his paper on the "standardized-dosage" method of using scopolamine-morphine during labour (*BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL*, October 14th, 1922). Under "Results" (p. 670, col. 2) the first two lines of Series I should read as follows: "The cases in this series had an initial dose of 2.3 grain omnopon and 1/150 grain scopolamine, with an hourly injection of 1/450 grain scopolamine."

#### A PHARMACIST'S OATH.

DR. ROLAND GUÉBHARD (St.-Cézaire) has recently sent to *La Chronique Médicale* a copy of the oath taken by pharmacists in France in the seventeenth century. It may be freely translated as follows:

I swear before God, the author and creator of all things, to respect and serve as well as in me is, not only the doctors of medicine who have given me instruction in pharmacy, but also my pharmacist teachers under whom I have learnt.

Not to speak evil of my former doctors, pharmacist teachers, or any other persons, whoever they may be.

To do all that I possibly can for the glory, honour, ornament, and dignity of the profession.

Not to teach its secrets and curiosities to idiots or unsuitable persons.

Not to do anything rashly without the advice of doctors.

To conduct myself properly with women when it is necessary to apply a remedy, and never to give any kind of poison to any person.

#### VACANCIES.

NOTIFICATIONS of offices vacant in universities, medical colleges, and of vacant resident and other appointments at hospitals, will be found at pages 29, 32, 33, and 34 of our advertisement columns, and advertisements as to partnerships, assistantships, and locumtenencies at pages 30 and 31.

A short summary of vacant posts notified in the advertisement columns appears in the *Supplement* at page 203.

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