

the embryonic form than the fully developed cell. Reversion to type is a term which is too loosely used; the type is never lost, Nature is very "careful of the type." What I believe is meant by reversion is a casting off of adventitious accretions when the external stimulus which called them into existence has ceased to act. I agree with Dr. Fiddian when he says it is clearly a struggle for existence on the part of the epithelial cells when faced with a new and menacing addition to their environment, and it is the product of the cells which die in the fight which causes all the trouble in cancer, as shown in the later stages of Dr. Leitch's experiments. The epithelial cell knows no boundaries. When the nature of cancer is officially recognized I believe my views will not be very far out.—I am, etc.,

Bolton, Sept. 30th.

A. W. CRAWFORD.

BLOOD TRANSFUSION.

SIR,—At the Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association at Bradford Mr. Geoffrey Keynes read a paper on blood donors. In the discussion he states (BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, October 4th, p. 615) that the citrate method is the most suitable for general use and that no further advance of importance has yet been recorded.

When in Paris in March, 1924, I saw at the Hôpital St. Michel a method of blood transfusion which I think is an advance in technique of some practical value. The apparatus consists of a glass syringe of 200 c.cm. capacity with an eccentric nozzle. The piston contains in the distal part a small hollow fenestrated box; a screw inside the rod of the piston regulates the volume of the box, which is filled with a mixture of sterile vaseline and paraffin. By moving the piston up and down an even coating of the mixture is deposited on the inside of the glass barrel. The syringe, piston, vaseline, and needles can be kept ready sterilized in a hermetically sealed drum. With this instrument blood transfusion is very much simplified, whole and not citrated blood is given, clotting is delayed for a sufficient period, and the whole operation is reduced to two punctures.

The instrument was designed by Dr. A. Becard and is made by Vincent in Paris. Details of the technique and apparatus can be found in the recently published book *Transfusion du Sang*, by Victor Pauchet and A. Becard.—I am, etc.,

London, W.1, Oct. 8th.

STANFORD CADE, F.R.C.S.

MEDICAL OFFICERS AND CONSULTING FEES.

SIR,—Dr. Pearce thinks that I am chasing a shadow. He is right. The shadow I pursue is merely that intangible and elusive thing—professional status. It is because, rightly or wrongly, I believe that the Bradford resolution was rather an oblique attack on that status, than a direct one on the few guineas we may receive as consultants, that I, for one, regard it, like Dr. Walker, as "provocative and unnecessary," and ask for its cancellation.

As "Whole Time" wrote in your issue of September 20th, we "stand or fall on our specialized knowledge." If we have none, we are frauds. If we possess any, it should be available for all, rich and poor. There are still some people who will not accept gratuitous services. If there are public authorities so short-sighted as to use the acceptance of these occasional consulting fees as an argument for the reduction of salaries—a phenomenon which I will credit when I meet with it—we can, if it is considered essential, hand over such fees to, say, the after-care committees.

Dr. Pearce and I qualified within a year of each other, and we are both old enough to remember that the biggest fights have always been on account of "shadows." Witness the prolonged struggle which was necessary to procure full military rank for the medical officers in the army and Indian services. Ask an old army medical officer what that "shadow" meant to him! Nobody—I least of all—will quarrel with Dr. Pearce for his attitude. Such things are matters of personal evaluation. What to one man is merely the pursuit of a shadow may mean to another the salvation of his soul.—I am, etc.,

October 18th.

TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER.

PETER LOWE'S "CHIRURGERIE."

SIR,—The note in your issue of October 18th about the first edition of this book is not correct. Three copies are known to the writer—one in the Radcliffe Library, Oxford; another in the library of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London; and a third in the library of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh.—I am, etc.,

October 20th.

WALTER HURST,
Librarian, Royal Faculty of Physicians
and Surgeons, Glasgow.**Obituary.**

JOHN HAMMOND MORGAN, C.V.O., M.A., F.R.C.S.,
Consulting Surgeon to Charing Cross Hospital.

We regret to record the death on October 11th, at his house in Connaught Square, of Mr. John H. Morgan, consulting surgeon to Charing Cross Hospital and to the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street.

John Hammond Morgan was born on August 19th, 1847. His father, John Morgan, F.R.C.S., was for many years one of the leading general practitioners in the West End of London. From Harrow he went to Trinity College, Oxford, and graduated M.A. in 1873. Like his father before him, he studied medicine at St. George's Hospital, and obtained the M.R.C.S. diploma in 1872 and the Fellowship in 1876. He was for some years surgical registrar at St. George's and assistant surgeon to the West London Hospital. Later he was appointed assistant surgeon to Charing Cross Hospital and to the Hospital for Sick Children, and surgeon to the Alexandra Hospital for Hip Disease. For some years he served as examiner in surgery at the University of Oxford, and from 1902 to 1910 was a member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons. In 1897 he was president of the Medical Society of London, and delivered the Lettsomian Lectures on "Surgical affections of the urinary tract in children." He drew up the catalogue of the museum at Charing Cross Hospital, and wrote many papers on surgical subjects. On three occasions he held office in the scientific sections at the Annual Meetings of the British Medical Association. In 1878, at Bath, he was secretary of the Section of Surgery; at the London meeting in 1895 he was president of the Section of Diseases of Children; and in 1908, at Sheffield, he was vice-president of the Section of Surgery.

For the following account of Mr. Morgan's career and personal character we are indebted to his friend and colleague, Sir HERBERT F. WATERHOUSE, consulting surgeon to Charing Cross Hospital.

To all who were students at Charing Cross Hospital from 1880 to 1905 the death of Mr. John H. Morgan will come as a distinct personal loss, because no one was ever so completely the students' friend, and no one could have taken a greater interest in their sports, societies, and welfare than he who was always affectionately known to them as "Johnny Morgan." Morgan was essentially a man whom students admire, as he was a brilliant athlete at Oxford, where he was president of the Oxford University Athletic Club, and won the inter-university three-mile race three years in succession. His prowess as a long-distance runner was the more remarkable as he was a man of short stature.

Hospital appointments came to him in full measure; thus he was surgeon to the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, to the Alexandra Hospital for Hip Disease, and assistant surgeon to the West London Hospital. To the writer Morgan's work at Charing Cross, to which he gave such devoted service for a quarter of a century, was well known, as for more than ten years he acted as his assistant surgeon. No man was more scrupulous in his attention to his hospital duties or gave more loyal service to any charitable institution.

Morgan was by no means a showy operator. His surgery was that of the old school, and he had but little sympathy with what he termed "new-fangled ideas." Among his maxims, which he was constantly impressing upon his students, were: "Do just what is required and no more";