

it has not "set" properly. If it tastes too sour, too much "dahi" was added to the boiled milk, or the milk was allowed to stand unduly long. Excessive heating will stop the fermentation process; too much cold will retard it.

#### INCOME TAX.

##### *Expenses of Supplementary Practice.*

"H. M. G." holds a hospital appointment, and is permitted to do private work. The latter necessitates using his residence and car for professional purposes, and he is unable to agree on the appropriate deductions with the local inspector of taxes.

\* \* The fact that the car was necessitated by the private work, and might otherwise not have been acquired, does not provide a good ground for claiming to deduct a higher ratio of the car expenses than that indicated by the professional and private mileages. That ratio would apply also to the chauffeur-gardener's wages, after excluding the gardening time as purely personal. With regard to the rent, rates, and other general household expenses, much would depend on which room is set aside for professional purposes, and the extent to which it is put to private uses. Perhaps the analogy of the clergyman's study, for which he is allowed one-eighth of the total cost, points to the proper ratio.

##### *Expenses of Locumtenent and Car.*

"REVENUE" inquires what is a proper amount to deduct for board and lodging for a locumtenent, and also what is the basis for dividing motor car costs between professional and private use.

\* \* Our correspondent has presumably already deducted some part of the general domestic staff expenses and a percentage of rent, rates, etc., as applicable to professional purposes, and it has to be remembered that it is only the balance of these expenses from which an allocation for the board and lodging of the locumtenent can be made. So much depends on circumstances that it is difficult to advise, but 4 guineas per week seems high for a normal provincial practice. The only definite and satisfactory basis of allocating car expenses is the mileage basis, and for that reason it is advisable to keep a record of private mileage.

#### LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

##### SPIROCHAETES IN HODGKIN'S DISEASE.

DR. P. F. MACGINNIS (pathologist to the Chesterfield and North Derbyshire Royal Hospital) writes: We have found a large spirochaete in the cervical glands of two consecutive cases of Hodgkin's disease, and we believe this to be an etiological factor in the disease. Should any readers happen on any freshly excised glands from a case of this disease we should be glad to have a fragment sent in 10 per cent. formalin solution. A detailed account of the facts will be published at a later date.

##### ANHYDROSIS AND ABSCESS.

DR. R. JOHNSTON McNAB (Manchester) writes: I have recently seen two cases of axillary adenitis in ladies, both of whom I have examined carefully for any septic abrasion or cut in the skin, but in both cases I have failed to find any. On questioning these patients I have elicited the fact that some weeks before the onset they had used a toilet preparation which claims to check perspiration from the part to which it is applied, and it evidently succeeds. In the first case several glands in the axilla broke down and had to be excised. In the second case only one gland appears to be infected—a hard, nodular mass about the size of a cherry just below the anterior axillary fold. I should be glad to hear if any other readers have had any similar experience.

##### TREATMENT OF ACUTE LYMPHATIC LEUKAEMIA.

DR. A. H. MUIR (Halifax) writes: Dr. Raymond Pearce has kindly thanked me in reporting his case of acute lymphocytic leukaemia (August 23rd, p. 282). When invited to see the child in my opinion both liver and spleen were enlarged. Taking the idea that the liver and spleen were not functioning, I elaborated the treatment which, as far as I know, is quite original. In pneumonia liver extract is very useful. Spleen solution sometimes gives a powerful reaction, at most pyrogenetic.

##### THE CONDUCT OF NORMAL LABOUR.

DR. W. G. F. OWEN-MORRIS (Dedham, Essex), in the course of a letter expressing approval of the effort to supply anaesthesia for childbirth in necessitous cases, writes: I consider that in all cases where a doctor is in attendance a general anaesthetic and instruments should be employed because of the risk of torn cervix, of torn perineum, of sepsis, and of damage to the child. It is not the use but the misuse of instruments which causes any of these troubles; such misuse is fundamentally due to bad and inadequate training of the young doctor. Since beginning this practice I have never conducted a confinement without the use of chloroform and instruments, and I can conscientiously say that there has been no permanent damage to mother or child in any of my normal cases. I feel that the immediate oblivion granted to the patient, and the awakening to find the child, all pain having ceased, has been full justification for these methods.

##### "PRONE" OR "SUPINE."

"MEDICUS RESUPINATUS" writes: In the *Journal* of July 26th (p. 161) there is some discussion as to the correct position of the patient whose varicose veins are about to be injected. One author, we are told, declares that the ideal position of the patient is "prone" upon a couch, while another maintains that the patient should always be recumbent. We are, of course, all of us prone to error, but I do not know that we should, supinely, allow error to be perpetuated. Now what did Macaulay write, a hundred years ago, about the poet who described the "prone soldier" as "staring ghastly at the skies"?

##### TSETSE RESEARCH IN TANGANYIKA.

HIS MAJESTY'S Eastern African Dependencies Trade and Information Office has received the following unofficial information from Tanganyika Territory for the month of June, 1930:

(1) At Kikore Entomological Station the programme of investigation into the behaviour of tsetse in relation to season, game, and vegetation was continued. The data agreed in general with those of the same period of the previous year, but the numbers of fly were extremely low, possibly owing to the phenomenal rains. (2) At Kikore Ecological Station the intensive study of tsetse in relation to its environment has been continued. Attention is being paid to a fungus which has appeared on the tsetse, and intensive study of puparia has been commenced. (3) The experimental formation of vegetation barriers to tsetse at Itundwe Planting Station received considerable attention. The sowings and plantings of last season are already giving indications as to species likely to be of use. A new nursery was formed, as the existing nursery was found to be insufficient. Experiments in working cattle in a fly area are in progress on this station in conjunction with the veterinary department. (4) The poisoning of vegetation has been at a standstill since May, owing to the absence of the officer in charge of this work on vacation leave. It is intended to resume this work in full force on his return in October. Meanwhile, the past work is being kept under observation.

##### STANDARD INDEXING.

SIR J. J. THOMSON, O.M., President of the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux, writes: An immense volume of information is continuously being recorded in every intellectual field; to render it universally available a system of indexing applicable to all purposes and in all countries is essential. The international adoption of a standard system of indexing would enable references to information on any subject, whatever their source, to be brought into their correct places in a bibliography. This would tend to the preservation and freer exchange of knowledge. The universal decimal classification of the Institut International de Bibliographie has proved to be a suitable system for international adoption, and is already widely used. A joint committee of the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux (Sir Frederic Nathan and Lieut.-Colonel L. Newcombe, National Central Library) and the British Society for International Bibliography (Dr. S. C. Bradford, Science Library, and Professor A. F. C. Pollard, president, Institut International de Bibliographie) has now been formed to advise and assist in its adoption and use in this country. Anyone interested is invited to communicate with the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux, 26, Bedford Square, London, W.C.1.

##### TESTIMONIAL TO SIR RONALD ROSS.

We printed on May 10th (p. 832) a list of donations received during February, March, and April, in response to the appeal on behalf of the Ross Award Fund. Further contributions have been made between May 1st and August 26th as follows: the Government of Cyprus (£200), the Maharajah of Mysore, the Oriental Telephone and Electric Co., Ltd., the Chamber of Mines staff of the Nigerian Council, Miss Lindsay, Miss Mary Barclay, Miss J. Stark Browne, Mr. Edmund da Costa, Mrs. E. L. Charrington, Miss L. Carter, Miss H. S. Cooper, Mrs. Elliott, Dr. J. H. Gibbon, Miss Giles, Miss A. Giles, Professor Umberto Gabbi, Mrs. S. B. Gorst, Mr. Fry, Mr. T. M. F. Janseens, Miss A. A. Parson, Miss M. Reddan, Mrs. Seelies, Mrs. Kate I. Swan, and Mrs. M. F. Thomson, the total amounting to £435 18s. 7d. The sum so far received was £14,111 18s. 6d. on August 26th. Donations to the Fund should be sent to Lloyds Bank, Ltd., 110, High Street, Putney, S.W.15.

##### MEDICAL SERVICES IN MALAYA.

###### *Correction.*

We hasten to correct a misprint which occurred in the Educational Number of the *British Medical Journal* (September 6th, p. 401). The second paragraph of the section headed "Medical Services in Malaya" opened with a statement that "The climate of Malaya is, for the Tropics, very unhealthy." This, as the context plainly shows, ought to read "... very healthy."

##### VACANCIES.

NOTIFICATIONS of offices vacant in universities, medical colleges, and of vacant resident and other appointments at hospitals, will be found at pages 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 45, 49, and 50 of our advertisement columns, and advertisements as to partnerships, assistantships, and locumtenencies at pages 46, 47, and 48.

A short summary of vacant posts notified in the advertisement columns appears in the *Supplement* at page 131.