

was infringed, the risk of prosecution would be gladly undertaken by leading men interested in the preservation of the health of members of the trade unions and friendly societies.

Sir MALCOLM MORRIS deplored the controversy which had arisen. He could not agree with the signatories to the letter in the *Times*, nor could he compromise, because it was a matter of conscience, and he did not doubt that the signatories to the letter were equally positive and unyielding. The obvious recourse was to a third party, and he suggested the President of the Local Government Board as adjudicator, assisted by assessors on both sides.

Sir BERTRAND DAWSON, while agreeing with the suggestion of a tribunal, thought it should be purely medical, with the president of one of the Royal Colleges at its head. He believed that the application of preventive treatment—that is, whatever was necessary to stop the disease before or after risk of infection—was desirable, though he agreed that no preventive method was wholly efficient. It was merely a question of discovering what method would allow the smallest incidence of disease after exposure to danger. As to the ethical point of view, he had yet to learn that to make people healthy resulted in a slackening of the moral fibre. If it were the fact that preventive treatment was advantageous when applied before infection, any man was taking a desperate risk who said that such measures should not be made available. Sir Bertrand Dawson also insisted that the early treatment which the National Council advocated merely camouflaged prevention. What was the difference between 10.45 o'clock and 11.15—between applying preventive treatment before infection and applying it immediately after, when the disease had not yet developed?

Dr. OTTO MAY agreed with Sir Bertrand Dawson. Major MCGIBBON, of the New Zealand forces, said that prophylactic expedients had been used (with the greatest reluctance on moral grounds) for the troops from that dominion; he hoped that on demobilization an effort would be made by energetic State action to clear up the whole position. Dr. LEONARD HILL thought that before talking of individual morality in this matter it was necessary to deal with the morality of the State, which permitted millions of its citizens to dwell under indecent housing conditions. Lieut.-Colonel Sir J. W. BARRETT (Australian A.M.C.), while supporting the scheme for local clinics, thought that geographical reasons would make it necessary to use prophylactic measures, which he had found effective among the men in Egypt, when combined with instruction by a competent and sympathetic medical officer. The Rev. J. SCOTT LIDGERT and Mrs. GORTO defended the policy of the National Council, and the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Mr. Turner.

THE WAR.

CASUALTIES IN THE MEDICAL SERVICES.

ARMY.

Died on Service.

CAPTAIN J. WILSON, R.A.M.C.

Captain John Wilson, R.A.M.C., died of pneumonia in Palestine on December 30th, aged 41. He was born in 1877, educated at Hillhead High School, Glasgow, and at Glasgow University, and took the Scottish triple qualification in 1903. Before the war he was in practice at Burnhope, County Durham. He took a temporary commission as lieutenant in the R.A.M.C. in May, 1917, and was promoted to captain after a year's service. He had served in Egypt and Palestine, in the 78th General Hospital. His brother, Captain Alex S. Wilson, has also been serving with a temporary commission in the R.A.M.C.

Repatriated.

Major W. J. Hirst, R.A.M.C.(T.F.).
 Captain F. H. McCaughey, R.A.M.C. (temporary).
 Captain A. T. I. Macdonald, R.A.M.C. (temporary).
 Captain S. S. Meighan, R.A.M.C.(T.F.).
 Captain F. J. Natrass, R.A.M.C.(T.F.).
 Captain D. M. Spring, R.A.M.C.(T.F.).

CORRECTION: CAPTAIN A. J. MILNE, S.A.M.C.

It was assumed in our issue of January 11th, p. 54, that Captain A. J. Milne, S.A.M.C., whose death was recorded in the official casualty list published on December 30th, was Captain Arthur John Milne, S.A.M.C. We understand that, according to the latest information received by his family, Captain Arthur John Milne is happily still alive.

DEATHS AMONG SONS OF MEDICAL MEN.

Clarke-Morris, John, Lieutenant West Riding Regiment (the Duke of Wellington's, late 33rd Foot), youngest son of the late Dr. H. Clarke-Morris, accidentally killed flying in France on January 13th, aged 19. He had recently joined the Royal Air Force.

Semple, Robert Edward Watson, M.C., Captain Royal Field Artillery, second and only surviving son of Lieut.-Colonel Sir David Semple, R.A.M.C.(ret.), of Royston, Hertfordshire, whose death was briefly announced in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* of November 23rd, 1918, died at Rouen, of wounds, on November 5th, aged 22. He was educated at Campbell College, Belfast, and at the Royal Military Academy, joining the Artillery as second lieutenant in 1915, soon after which he went to the front, and had been there over three years, at first attached to the Guards Artillery, and later to a Guards Trench Mortar Battery, which he had commanded for nearly a year past. He had taken part in the battles of the Somme, Messines, and Cambrai, also of Ypres and Arras. In December, 1917, he received the Military Cross, and was afterwards again mentioned in dispatches. He became lieutenant on July 1st, 1917, and captain on February 8th, 1918. His elder brother, Second Lieutenant W. D. Semple, King's Royal Rifle Corps, was killed in France towards the end of July, 1916.

NOTES.

THE FRENCH ARMY DURING THE WAR.

The following official statistics of the number of men the French had under arms on the dates mentioned are of interest in connexion with the casualty lists recently published:

	Officers.	Other Ranks.	Total.
Aug. 15, 1914	92,838	3,781,000	3,873,838
Feb. 1, 1915	97,753	4,900,000	4,997,753
Jan. 1, 1916	109,614	5,096,000	5,205,614
Jan. 1, 1917	115,074	5,026,000	5,141,074
Jan. 1, 1918	128,372	5,064,000	5,192,372

The numbers of January 1st, 1918, were distributed as follows: Infantry, 2,106,575; Artillery, 899,845; Air Force, 59,275; Cavalry, 166,422; Engineers, 185,110.

General Peyton C. March, chief of the staff of the American army in France, has given figures of the forces in France on the day of the armistice which are difficult to reconcile with these. His statement was founded on the ration strength, and included every man who had to be fed, combatant and non-combatant, and supply:

French	2,559,000
United States	1,950,000
British (including the Portuguese serving with them)	1,718,000
Belgians and Italians	200,000

When the armistice was signed there were about 3,500,000 Imperial British officers and men on the pay and ration strength of the British army. The Royal Air Force had a strength of about 295,000 officers and men.

THE PILKINGTON SPECIAL (ORTHOPAEDIC) HOSPITAL.

A well illustrated description of the Pilkington Special Hospital for Disabled Soldiers and Sailors at St. Helens, Lancashire, has been published in *Engineering* (January 3rd, 1919). The facts and drawings will be of considerable value to any one called upon to advise on the planning of such an institution. The accommodation is sufficient for the treatment of the following numbers of men a day: Hydrotherapy, 800; thermotherapy, 150; mechanotherapy, 600; electro and massage, 600; remedial gymnastics, 400; curative workshops, 100. There is an operating room, a very necessary part of such a special hospital; also a radio room containing a complete installation in which a powerful transformer type apparatus is used. The account is written by Mr. James R. Kerr, Ch.M., surgeon in charge of the hospital.

THE GREEK ARMY IN THE BALKAN OFFENSIVE.

It was noted last week that at the time the armistice with Turkey was completed Greek troops under the command of General Milne were ready to take part in the advance on Constantinople. General Milne, in his dispatch, expressed his admiration for the gallantry and determination of the Hellenic army and his gratitude to the corps and divisional commanders for their ready co-operation at all times. A pamphlet entitled *The Greek Army and the Recent Balkan Offensive*, published in