

THE Brazilian Medical Commission, the head of which is Dr. Nabuco de Gouvea, rendered considerable service to the Allies in Europe. On arrival at the port of Dakar, French West Africa, all the fifty members were severely attacked by influenza, and many died.

AT the request of the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases, the London School of Medicine for Women has, in conjunction with the Royal Free Hospital, the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital, and the London Lock Hospital, arranged a course for the instruction of qualified medical women in the treatment of venereal diseases. The fee for the course, which will begin on Monday, May 19th, and end on May 31st, is £5 5s. Further particulars can be obtained on application to the Warden and Secretary, London School of Medicine for Women, 8, Hunter Street, W.C.1.

IN the *London Gazette* of March 21st an Order was published signed by the Home Secretary stating that he is satisfied, as the result of an inquiry conducted by the Certificates of Naturalization (Revocation) Committee, that Ludwig Freyberger, to whom a certificate of naturalization was granted in 1897, has shown himself by act and speech to be disaffected and disloyal to His Majesty. The Home Secretary accordingly revokes the said certificate as from March 6th, 1919, and orders it to be given up and cancelled. (The name of Ludwig Freyberger appears in the current issue of the *Medical Register* with the qualifications M.R.C.S.Eng. 1893, L. 1893, M. 1894, R.C.P. London.)

AT the annual meeting of the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, Queen Square, London, it was stated that throughout the war seventy beds had been provided for soldiers suffering from nerve injuries and affections, and that this work was being followed up by special provision, in three branch hospitals, for discharged men, in connexion with the Ministry of Pensions. The Massage School, managed in conjunction with University College Hospital, had a prosperous year in 1918, and awarded seventy-eight certificates. The new hostel in connexion with the school proved most successful. The expenditure of the hospital and its Finchley branch increased from £19,108 in 1914 to £30,230 in 1918.

AN agreement signed in Paris on November 26th, 1918, has now been published by the British Foreign Office. Under it the Imperial War Graves Commission is recognized as the only British organization having the task of caring for British soldiers' graves in France. The land for the cemeteries has been purchased by the French Government and presented to the British. In a limited number of instances of isolated graves the bodies will be transferred to the cemeteries. The Commission is represented in France by a mixed commission, French and British. Provision for the care of graves in French communal cemeteries will be subject to French laws and regulations. The erection of monuments is subject to the control of the Imperial Commission.

A FRENCH Medical Congress of Syria was held recently at Beyrouth under the presidency of Professor de Brun, Dean of the Faculty. Among those who took part in the proceedings, in addition to the representatives of the local faculty, were Professors Lépine of Lyons and Alezais and Silhol of Marseilles. The Congress passed a resolution inviting France to organize an official system of gratuitous medical assistance in Syria and Palestine, helping the development of existing institutions while respecting rights already acquired. The Faculty of Beyrouth had at the beginning of the war eleven professors and twelve *chefs de clinique*, with 320 students. All the latter were orientals.

THE annual report of the Florence Nightingale Hospital for Gentlewomen at 19, Lisson Grove, N.W. (formerly the Hospital for Invalid Gentlewomen) shows that the number of patients treated during 1918 was 460; of these 329 were discharged cured. The number of operations was 403. A large proportion of the patients were connected with officers of the navy, army, and air force, and 27.5 per cent. were recommended by the Officers' Family Fund. Many of the other patients admitted were relatives of members of various other professions. The committee offers its thanks to the physicians and surgeons who generously devoted their time and skill to the service of the patients. Members of the staffs of general London hospitals, of the Samaritan Hospital for Women, Grosvenor, Soho, Chelsea, New, and South London Hospitals may recommend patients who are eligible for admission and take charge of them, provided that their medical attendance is gratuitous. It is optional for the surgeon to select his own anaesthetist.

## Letters, Notes, and Answers.

CORRESPONDENTS who wish notice to be taken of their communications should authenticate them with their names—of course not necessarily for publication.

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL are requested to communicate with the Office, 429, Strand, W.C.2, on receipt of proof.

In order to avoid delay, it is particularly requested that ALL letters on the editorial business of the JOURNAL be addressed to the Editor at the Office of the JOURNAL.

The postal address of the BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION and BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL is 429, Strand, London, W.C.2. The telegraphic addresses are:

1. EDITOR of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, *Atiology, Westrand, London*; telephone, 2631, Gerrard.
  2. FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND BUSINESS MANAGER (Advertisements, etc.), *Articulate, Westrand, London*; telephone, 2630, Gerrard.
  3. MEDICAL SECRETARY, *Medisecra, Westrand, London*; telephone, 2634, Gerrard. The address of the Irish Office of the British Medical Association is 16, South Frederick Street, Dublin.
- The address of the Central Medical War Committee for England and Wales is 429, Strand, London, W.C.2; that of the Reference Committee of the Royal Colleges in London is the Examination Hall, 8, Queen Square, Bloomsbury, W.C.1; and that of the Scottish Medical Service Emergency Committee is Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh.

### LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

"M.O." asks whether the Italian "War Zone" ribbon has been granted to officers and other ranks who served on the Italian front.

#### SERVICE IN MALTA.

"VOLUNTEER 1914" writes: The 1914-1915 Star is being given to all engaged in any theatre of war on those dates who are not already in possession of the Mons Star. It is not to be given to those who served in Malta in 1914-15, or in some hospital ships in the Mediterranean during that time. Malta was an overseas base, for the reception of sick and wounded from Gallipoli, just as Alexandria and Cairo were, and had as much or as little of the atmosphere of war as these latter places. Many medical officers were dispatched to Malta in 1914-15 in spite of their requests to be allowed to serve elsewhere, but this fact that they were early volunteers and not conscripts is not to be recognized by the War Office in any way. Is this strictly fair?

"R.A.M.C.(T.C.)" writes to the same effect, adding that Malta was a hotbed of dysentery and enteric fever during the summer of 1915.

#### CALOMEL CREAM.

In response to inquiries, we give below a model specification which may be found convenient in ordering calomel cream:

##### Filled Tubes of Calomel Cream.

Levigated calomel ... ..	4 parts by weight
Liquid paraffin (B.P.) ... ..	1 part "
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#### THE ETIOLOGY OF INFLUENZA.

##### A Correction.

In the paper under the above heading, by Gibson, Bowman, and Connor, published in the JOURNAL of March 22nd, on page 334 (col. 1, line 32), for  $1\mu$  to  $2\mu$  read  $0.1\mu$  to  $0.2\mu$ .

THE following appointments of certifying factory surgeons are vacant: Thorne (Yorks, West Riding), New Southgate (Middlesex).

### SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

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