It is expected that the Registrar-General's preliminary report of the Census giving the figures for counties, boroughs, urban and rural districts, and parliamentary areas will be published next week.

The Great Northern Hospital has received from King Edward VII a donation of £1,550 for the new nurses' home and other extensions from the final distribution of surplus Red Cross Funds.

A CONFERENCE convened by the International Red Cross Committee and the League of Red Cross Societies met in Geneva on August 16th for the purpose of considering what steps should be taken to relieve the conditions in Russia due to the Russian Revolution. One result of the conference will almost inevitably be the spread of disease, especially of cholera and typhus fever, and a consideration of this aspect of the question was made. The conference is of supreme importance. In this connection it is of interest to learn that at a meeting of the Supreme Council, held in Paris on August 14th, Lord Curzon emphasized the necessity for taking steps to protect Europe against these diseases, and urged the nations to provide funds for the purpose. This country has hitherto found adequate protection in the activities of the port sanitary authorities, which are kept well informed by the Ministry of Health of the progress of epidemics in all parts of the world. They are thus made aware of any moment from what part of the globe a particular disease is to be expected, and can take appropriate preventive measures.

Dr. Alexander McNaughton, J.P., for forty years medical officer of Ardnamurchan, has, on the occasion of his retirement, been presented by the parish council with a silver rose bowl and wallet of Treasury notes in recognition of his services. Mr. McNaughton was the recipient of a gold watch and chain.

Professor E. W. D. Fildes has been appointed Grand Officer of the Legion of Honour.

**Letters, Notes, and Answers.**

**As to iron painting difficulties.** The JOURNAL must be sent to press earlier than hitherto, it is essential that communications intended for the current issue should be received by the first post on Tuesday, and lengthy documents on Monday.

**Original articles and letters forwarded for publication are understood to be offered to the British Medical Journal alone unless the contrary is stated.**

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

**Anyone desiring republication 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.**

To order to avoid delay, it is particularly requested that ALL letters on the editorial business of the JOURNAL be addressed to the Editor of 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 telegrams are as follows:


**Queries and Answers.**

**TREATMENT OF ASTHMA.**

Dr. W. J. MIDDLETON (Bournemouth) writes, in connexion with Dr. Collin's letter on asthma in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, August 6th, 1921: A short time ago a young woman, a laundress consulted me, accompanied by her mother. Both asserted that she had not drawn a comfortable breath, night or day, for more than a year and a half. She had galvano-cotylic powder on the back of her neck, six small "dots." That night she slept well, and, by continuing the treatment, I have cured her asthma.

**BRONZE POWDERS.**

Industry.—The bronze powders used in inking and lithographic establishments contain copper and zinc with occasionally a minute trace of arsenic. Bronzing is now largely done by electrolysis, and is therefore not nearly so dusty a process as it was. The dust, being extremely light, floats in the air and is breathed by the workroom, and becomes entangled in the hair and folds of the clothing of the girls employed. It is apt, if it remains upon the skin, to cause considerable itching. When it causes active sensitiveness, it may, when swallowed, produce anaemia.

**LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.**

**RELATION OF ANKYLOSTOMIASIS TO MALARIA.**

Dr. D. BRIDGES calls attention to two mistakes in the report of his paper on this subject read at a meeting of the Malaya Branch of the Medical Society of London on July 30th (p. 149). The errors occur in the treatment of oil of chenopodium. This should be preceded by sodium bicarbonate and sodium sulphate, a dram of each, as in the beta-naphthol treatment; also, the 2 c.c.m. of oil of cheno- podium should be given with 1 oz. of castor oil—not 0.5 oz. This Dr. Bridges considers as a great mistake. It must be well mixed in a large quantity of oil, for chenopodium, if not volatilized in the drop, is as likely to produce clinical entitis, and might cause extreme collapse or even death.

**VACCINATION TREATED LOCALLY WITH CASTOR OIL.**

Dr. E. H. MYLES (Chichester) writes: Lately all cases of vaccination or revaccination showing excessive local reaction are treated as follows with the most satisfactory results. Take some cotton-wool and dab over the whole inflamed area with castor oil. Cover it with a square of boric lint, pinned in position. Put the arm in a sling, excise the patient all duties, and direct him to attend daily for the same treatment. The lint should be large enough to enfold the arm loosely. The opposite (diagonally) corners are fastened inside the arm with a pin. The upper corner is placed inside the shirter vort, but near the shoulder; the lower corner lies loose. This is not a lighting cure, but from the first very slight scission all untidiness is over, inflammation begins to subside, and continues to do so. A FLY TRAP.

We have lately seen a specimen of an ingenious fly trap, which we understand has been favourably reported on by a number of medical officers of health in the United States. It is simpler in construction than the Japanese fly trap described by Captain Gilchrist in our issue of January 5th, 1918 (p. 40), about which we had many inquiries. It appeared, however, that the Japanese revolving wooden drum fly-trap was not manufactured in this country and could not be procured except in the Far East.

The "Curr" fly and wasp trap consists essentially of a gable-shaped metal framework, the upper part being covered with wire gauze. The galvanized iron base has a dark chamber with a slit at the top to admit light. An attractive bait, such as fish heads or sweetened vinegar, is placed in a pan set under the trap. When it is caught by the wire outside, the trap is caught by the line of light, and entering the trap is caught. The apparatus is easily set up and appears strong and durable; it folds up flat for packing. The trap is simple, and we are informed that it is very effective. The sample we saw contained thousands of dead flies, said to have been caught on the previous hot day in a private garden near a municipal rubbish heap. The size at the base is fourteen inches square, and the height to the top of the gable about 18 inches. The American Government, it is said, bought 100,000 of the traps in 1919. It is sold in the United States by Mr. W. L. Burton (Dr. Bridge's Patent, London, N.W.3) at the price of 12s. 6d. post free in Great Britain.

**A CORRECTION.**

In referring to the annual report of the James Murray's Royal Asylum, Perth, last week (p. 257), Dr. D. Maxwell says that he erroneously referred to as the physician-supervisor, instead of Dr. W. D. Chambers; Dr. Ross resigned the post last year and unhappily died shortly afterwards.

**Vacancies.**

NOTIFICATIONS of offices vacant in universities, medical colleges, and of vacant resident and other appointments at hospitals, will be found as usual on pages 28, 34, and 35. Advertisements about to appear in the advertisement columns, and advertisements as to partnerships, assistantships, and locum tenentes at pages 30 and 31.

The appointments of certifying factory surgeons at Dunkeled (Perth) and Somercotes (Lincoln) are vacant.

**Scale of Charges for Advertisements in the British Medical Journal.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ad Type</th>
<th>Charge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Six lines and under</td>
<td>£ 1 0s. 0d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Each additional line</td>
<td>£ 0 10s. 0d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole column (three columns to page)</td>
<td>£ 1 0s. 0d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half column</td>
<td>£ 0 10s. 0d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half page</td>
<td>£ 0 5s. 0d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole page</td>
<td>£ 1 5s. 0d.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*An average line contains six words.*

All remittances by Post Office Orders must be made payable to the British Medical Association at the General Post Office, London, and will be accepted; cheques drawn on banks in London must be presented at the bank before they are accepted.

Advertisements should be delivered, addressed to the Manager, 429, Strand, London, not later than the first post on Tuesday morning preceding publication, and, if not enclosed in envelopes, should be accompanied by a reference.

**Form.—** It is against the rules of the Post Office to receive post letters addressed either in initials or numbers.