LONDON AND THE OVERSEAS POST-GRADUATE.

THAT London should be the Mecca of all English-speaking post-graduates has for long been the ambition of the Fellowship of Medicine, and recent events encourage us to hope that this ambition is in course of realisation. While Mr. Carson was in Canada and America this summer, he took the opportunity to obtain the views of the leaders of medical education in Canada and in some of the principal cities of the Eastern States of America, and found a universal agreement that London should take the lead in the provision of post-graduate facilities, and an enthusiasm and willingness to help.

The Fellowship of Medicine has now interviewed the High Commissioners for all the Dominions in London and the representatives of the American University Union, and on all sides the most ready sympathy and offers of assistance have been received. A detailed scheme is in course of preparation, and it is hoped that within a short time arrangements will be made whereby all would-be post-graduates visiting this country will be systematically referred to the Fellowship of Medicine in order that their course of study can be mapped out and every assistance given them to obtain their requirements. Our President, Sir Arbuthnot Lane, is at present in America, where he is using his great influence to cement a union between the Fellowship of Medicine and the post-graduate institutions of America.

The Needs of the Overseas Post-Graduate.

The majority of overseas post-graduates can give three to six months to study in this country. A certain number come from the Dominions, chiefly from Australia and New Zealand, to obtain the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and these are at present accommodated in the undergraduate hospitals. A rather larger number are content with Refresher (Intensive) Courses, or take these courses with other forms of tuition. Americans comprise the bulk of these, together with post-graduates from India. The majority require advanced work in the Special Departments, particularly urology, oto-rhinology and laryngology, pathology and bio-chemistry. There is a definite demand for actual contact with patients, with the responsibility of treating them. Operations on the dead and living body are also asked for rather than instruction in such operations.

How we are Trying to Meet Them.

1. By arranging Intensive and Special Courses at the 60 hospitals affiliated to the Fellowship of Medicine.

2. By drawing up our programme at least 12 months ahead, so that visitors from a distance may make their arrangements.

3. By making this programme as complete as possible.

4. By bringing the activities of the Fellowship to the notice of overseas students by a wide diffusion of the new Journal, by notices in the medical journals of the Dominions and America, and later by arranging agencies in the large towns.

5. By appointing correspondents to the Journal in the Dominions and America.

6. By reserving clinical assistantships in the affiliated hospitals for post-graduates, and keeping a register of vacancies.

Reviews

NEUROLOGICAL FRAGMENTS.

By HUGHLINGS JACKSON. With Biographical Memoir by JAMES TAYLOR. London: Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press. 12s. 6d.

ONE of the few real geniuses of medicine was the shy, modest Hughlings Jackson, beloved by all who were privileged to know him. He published no great book, all his writings are scattered in the medical journals. The present book includes a list of his papers, which amount to about 300, his 21 "Neurological Fragments" which appeared in *The Lancet* from 1893 to 1909, and a lecture on "Neurological Fragments" delivered before the Hunterian Society. From these the reader can glean something of Hughlings Jackson's genius and his philosophic outlook.

The notice of him by Dr. James Taylor, with which the book opens, directs us to Hughlings Jackson's main achievements. Before he came, nervous diseases were a mere chaos. Bright and others had recognised that certain muscles are represented in the cortex; Jackson, by his observation on many cases, was able to enunciate the doctrine of cerebral localisation; and physiologists, by experiment, confirmed his conclusions. From his work comes the phrase Jacksonian epilepsy. He was the first to insist on the importance of the use of the ophthalmoscope in nervous diseases, and to tell us that vision may be good although optic neuritis is present. He taught us much about aphasia. But this is by no means all; everything he wrote was suggestive, as, for example, his conception of the nervous system as having three levels. Unhappily all this, and much else, is buried in old medical periodicals. The book before us has dragged some of his writings into the daylight they deserve; we wish for another volume like it, reprinting others of Hughlings Jackson's papers. Dr. James Taylor's account and the accompanying reprints of appreciations by Sir Jonathan Hutchinson and Dr. Mercier give us a delightful picture of Hughlings Jackson himself. The work affords an excellent pen-portrait of the man himself, one of the greatest of British physicians, who, by sheer power of observation, combined with a rare imagination and insight, was able to put both physicians and physiologists under a debt they can never repay, and who, in the words of Sir James Paget, "had given lucidity to physiology and guidance to surgery."

The Oxford University Press has done real service in publishing this book.