

Editorial Notes.

Diet and Dietetics.

In the November issue we drew attention to a series of lectures which the Fellowship of Medicine had arranged on the above subject and in the present issue we are able to publish the first two of the series. It is our hope that the other lectures will appear in subsequent issues.

Than Professor McDowall's lecture we could not imagine a better introduction to the subject, which, while revealing the extreme complexity of the question, exposes in a most interesting manner the fundamental principles involved. It is specially interesting, and at the same time of considerable significance, that a physiologist and one therefore not in contact with clinical work, should draw particular attention to the danger of this question of diet and dietetics getting into the hands of the chemist. By removing it from the field of practical medicine the chemical composition of the diet alone becomes unduly stressed and hard and fast rules become laid down. Unfortunately this is just what the public wants because it is only that which they can understand. They, like the chemist and even the bio-chemist, suffer from the lack of the medical outlook and cannot appreciate that men and women are not all alike and that they are not mere test tubes without influence on the reactions which take place within them. It is because matters are the very reverse of this that "one man's meat is another man's poison". And, as Professor McDowall remarks, unless medical men themselves take up the serious study of the question, diet and dietetics will soon occupy the same deplorable position that drugs and medicinal remedies are in to-day.

As we said in our Editorial some little time ago the all-important matter is not what happens to the guinea-pig, the rat or the rabbit, but that which is of real moment in human medicine is what happens in man. There are many reasons why we should not expect the results to be necessarily the same. One is the simple forms of life of the animals used and another is the control which can be exercised on the environmental conditions during the conduct of the experiments. In the human subject we are dealing with the most complex form of life and the most diverse and complicated environment. To take only one of the elements which go to make up this latter complex, we may mention the type of occupation and whether it entails any mental strain. As Professor McDowall points out, the man with heavy responsibilities and who takes his work unduly seriously, on account of his particular nervous make-up, will, and, as we know only too well, does react differently in the matter of diet to the phlegmatic "hewer of wood and drawer of water."

It is thus quite clear that the ultimate decision of what is of value, and what is of no value, either in the maintaining of health or in the cure of disease, rests with the practising physician and surgeon.. This does not of course mean that we cannot get help from the chemist, be he a so-called analytical chemist or bio-chemist, but it clearly indicates our responsibility in the matter, a responsibility which we cannot neglect if we are to be a credit to our profession and retain the regard in which, fortunately, we are still held by the great mass of the population.

Special Number on Surgery of the Chest.

It is our intention to devote the January issue to a series of articles on *Surgery of the Chest*. The progress in this field of surgery has been so marked within the last few years that it marks an epoch in the history of our science as did the surgery of the head and of the abdomen in last century.

We have been fortunate in obtaining the co-operation of some of the pioneers for, and we can say it without boasting, just as Macewen and Horsley spell brain surgery and the names of Keith, Lawson-Tait, Treves and Mayo-Robson are synonymous with the conquest of the abdomen, it is the Englishman who has been in great part responsible for much of the advance in thoracic surgery.

The following is a list of the authors and the titles of the subjects dealt with:

Dr. F. G. Chandler, F.R.C.P.	...	"The Limits of Medicine in Chest Disease."
Mr. H. Morrision Davies, F.R.C.S.	...	"Surgical Treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis."
Mr. J. E. H. Roberts, F.R.C.S.	...	"The Treatment of Empyema."
Mr. A. Tudor Edwards, F.R.C.S.	...	"The Surgical Aspects of Bronchiectasis."
Mr. C. Price Thomas, F.R.C.S.	...	"The Treatment of Pulmonary Abscess."
Mr. H. P. Nelson, F.R.C.S.	...	"Surgery of Intra-thoracic New Growths."
Dr. C. Langton Hewer	"Anæsthesia in Thoracic Surgery."

The Wellcome Museum of Medical Science.

183, Euston Road, N.W.1.

Our readers will have already received a circular referring to this important addition to the London museums of pathological material, a visit to which we most cordially recommend. In order to make known the truly great wealth of pathological material suitable for study which is contained in the Wellcome Museum, Dr. S. H. Daukes, the Director has arranged for a series of demonstrations which will be held on the afternoon at **3 p.m. of every Thursday** during the coming year. The demonstrations embrace such subjects as *Syphilis, Malaria, Helminthology, Tumours of Bone, Tuberculosis, Diseases of the Skin, Kidney, Stomach and Heart*, which will be given by the Director with the assistance of the various physicians and surgeons who helped in arranging the display of the specimens.

Holiday M.R.C.P. Course.

During the academic recess as a rule there are comparatively few opportunities of obtaining post-graduate instruction and hence we are glad to be able to call the attention of our readers to an M.R.C.P. course on **Diseases of the Chest** at the **Brompton Hospital on Wednesdays and Fridays from December 12th to January 11th** (excluding Christmas week). Details regarding subjects, hours and fees will be found on the special notices and in the Post-Graduate News.

General Post-Graduate News.

It should be noted that Courses arranged by the Fellowship of Medicine are open only to Members and Associates unless otherwise stated. A copy of each detailed syllabus is sent to every Member and Associate.

To ensure admission or to avoid cancellation of the Courses application must be made by the date given on each syllabus.

ADVANCED COURSES.

M.R.C.P. (Chest Diseases): December 12 to January 11 (excluding Christmas week). Brompton Hospital. Wednesdays and Fridays, 5.0 to 6.30 p.m. Fee £3. 13s. 6d.

OTHER COURSES.

Venereal Disease: November 12 to December 8. London Lock Hospital. Afternoons. Fee £2. 2s.

Rheumatism (Evening Course): November 20 to December 6. British Red Cross Clinic. Tuesday and Thursday at 8.30 p.m. Fee £1. 1s.

Infants' Diseases: November 26 to December 8. Infants' Hospital. Afternoons. Fee £3. 3s.

Dermatology: November 26 to December 8. Blackfriars Skin Hospital. Afternoons. Fee £1. 1s.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Saturday Afternoon Demonstrations: A lecture-demonstration (illustrated by cases) will be given on the *Second* Saturday in December (the 8th) at 3.0 p.m., at the National Temperance Hospital (O.P. Dept.), Hampstead Road, N.W.1, by Dr. B. T. Parsons-Smith on Heart Cases. The next demonstration will take place on January 12th, 1935, on Neurology, by Dr. Macdonald Critchley, at the National Hospital, Queen Square. Open to Members and Associates of the Fellowship of Medicine. Fee 5/- per demonstration.

Tuesday Afternoon Demonstrations—General Medicine: Lecture-demonstrations will be given every Tuesday afternoon at 2.30 p.m., at the Medical Society of London, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, by Dr. A. E. Clark-Kennedy. The subjects during November will be as follows:—

- December 4: Glycosuria.
- „ 11: Ketosis.
- „ 18: Low Blood Pressure.

During 1935, the lectures will be given on Fridays at 4.30 p.m., and the full January list will be published in the January Journal.

Open only to Members and Associates. Fee 5/- per demonstration, payable in advance, or at the lecture-room.

Diet and Dietetics : A Series of Lectures are being delivered in the Lecture Room of the Medical Society of London, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W.1, on Wednesdays at 8.30 p.m. sharp, as follows :—

December 5 : Dr. E. C. Warner, " Diet of the Nephritic."
,, 12 : Dr. Stanley Wyard, " Diet in Gastric Diseases."

The fee is 7/6 per lecture payable at the Lecture Room, or to the Fellowship of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, W.1.

STANDING ARRANGEMENTS.

Anæsthetics : Practical tuition for a fortnight or a month can be arranged. Limited to two Post-Graduates at a time.

Venereal Disease: (*For Women Post-Graduates only.*) *Royal Free Hospital.* Special Course extending over twelve weeks (not less than 100 hours attendance) entitling the Post-Graduate to a certificate which the Ministry of Health requires for any practitioner who desires to be in charge of a recognized V.D. Centre. Fee £21.

Ante-Natal Clinics: (*For Women Post-Graduates only.*) *East Islington Mothers and Babies Welfare Centre.* Tuesdays 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Two Post-Graduates only per clinic. Fee 5s. a time. Arrangements *must* be made in advance with the Fellowship of Medicine.

Clinical Assistantships : *Lambeth Hospital :* Two clinical assistants (men only) per calendar month will be appointed. Daily attendance 10—1 and 2—5. Fee £5 5s. per month.

Hospital for Consumption, Brompton : Tenable for 3 months; eligible for re-appointment. Candidates (men or women) will be attached to an In-Patient Physician and the corresponding Out-Patient Physician, to a Surgeon and/or to a Member of the Staff in charge of any Special Dept. They will be responsible for the performance of their duties to the Members of the Hon. Staff to whom they are attached and may be required to undertake any special work which is considered desirable. Fee £5 5s. per 3 months or portion thereof.

Panel of Teachers : Details of the clinics available every day are given in the Supplement. Fee 5s. per clinic.

A Guide Book, giving details of how to reach the various London Hospitals by tube, tram, or 'bus, can be obtained from the Fellowship. Price 6d. (Members and Associates, 3d.).