

Editorial Notes.

Informing the Public.

If the man in the street is to be an efficient citizen he must have some information on matters medical. It is essential, for instance, that he has a knowledge of the general principles of the prophylaxis of disease, as by vaccination, serum injections and quarantine, so that he can co-operate in the prevention of its spread. It is equally necessary for his own peace of mind, if for no other reason, that he be informed regarding the possibility of cure of individual diseases and also of the value of medicines so that he may be able to resist the wiles of the quack and commercial drug houses which are displayed in the most blatant and most dishonest fashion in the daily press and on our hoardings. The danger connected with certain drugs, which are taken to obtain comfort in the strenuous present-day life, and which are easily obtainable in any drug store, is another matter about which the truth should be broadcast.

Not less important for the layman is an appreciation of the fact that medicine is the most catholic of all professions and that it is a calling which knows no frontiers of a geographical, religious or philosophical nature. He should also be taught to recognise that medicine of to-day takes advantage of all that science and the inventiveness of the human mind has to offer, the only deciding points being truth and the prospect of improving the efficiency of the human machine and the alleviation of suffering. Because of these features those who practise medicine belong to the greatest and most wide-spread brotherhood on the habitable globe, and all knowledge is pooled for the common good. There is never any question of a discovery or any special skill being held in secret for private gain, although such an altruistic attitude is apt to render us being accused of hypocrisy. However, we know that our altruism is a reality and there is no doubt that if the public realized this, such a situation as occurred recently when our legislators, or at least some of them, seriously entertained the granting of special privileges to the osteopaths, could never have arisen. All that is sound and useful in the various —paths is already or can be readily incorporated in orthodox medicine.

In view of these considerations some system by which reliable information can be given to the public should be devised. That there is a real demand for this information is evidenced by the frequent articles in the pages of our daily papers and the numerous weekly and monthly journals which are devoted to health topics. No one can view with equanimity the pandering to this morbid taste for detailed descriptions of the symptoms of diseases because it can only lead to much unhappiness and the creation of a perfect army of hypochondriacs and neurasthenics. It is not information of this type which is required but rather general principles and simple straightforward instructions that all can understand and carry into practice.

The right kind of information can be supplied by any medical man and, as a matter of fact, is being supplied every day because this is one of the most important duties of the family doctor. But one is only permitted to give advice

when it is requested (although often it is most necessary in the case of those who do not seek it), and to tender it in other circumstances is considered unprofessional and may lead to most unpleasant consequences. For this strict code of conduct there are, of course, very good reasons, since it prevents advertising by the unscrupulous and is thus a safeguard for the public. To overcome this objection it might be suggested that the advice could be given anonymously, a custom recently inaugurated by the B.B.C. in their health talks, but unfortunately articles without a signature or talks by unknown individuals lack all authority. And our advice must have authority if it is to be taken seriously.

To our mind there is only one body of men and women who are qualified to enlighten the public on matters of health and against whom there never can be levelled the accusation of seeking personal gain. We refer to the Public's own servants, the Officers of the Ministry of Health and of the Public Health Departments of the country. The right and necessary type of information could be sent out as memoranda to all householders and published in the daily papers, and we feel certain that the most reputable press organisations would willingly co-operate in this education of the public. The Post Office and Electricity and Gas Departments vie with each other in the supply of information, but it seems to us that facts regarding the retention of health are more important to the householder and the head of a family than information concerning the various uses of the telephone or a discussion of the respective merits of gas and electricity for heating and cooking.

Evening M.R.C.P. Course.

The Fellowship of Medicine regretted that it was not possible last year to hold the usual November M.R.C.P. evening clinical course and appreciated that many of its members were thereby disappointed. It is thus with pleasure that we can announce that the next course will be held as formerly at 8 p.m. at the National Temperance Hospital on Tuesdays and Thursdays, but only for six evenings (February 19th to March 7th), instead of the usual eight evenings. The number of post-graduates attending the course will be limited to 24, and the fee will be six guineas instead of as hitherto ten guineas.

The Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting is the one occasion during the year on which the members of the Fellowship can bring forward and have discussed, and perhaps carried out, any suggestions which they may have regarding the general conduct and development of the Association. For this reason it is hoped that as many members as possible will be present at the Annual Meeting, which will be held at the house of the Royal Society of Medicine on Thursday afternoon, February 21st, at 5.30 p.m.

The Week-End Course.

The steady growth of the Fellowship of Medicine is a sure sign that members of the medical profession appreciate that their life's work is a progressive subject and that a periodic return to serious study is essential if they are to give of their best to their patients. In no phase of the Fellowship's activities is this healthy outlook more gratifying than in that of the week-end course which is specially designed for the family doctor. During this period, which most of the world are devoting to rest or the playing of games in the country or by the sea, the doctor, on the other hand, for two whole days settles down at some hospital in the heart of the city to the intensive study of a particular aspect of medicine. Week-end courses are arranged for general medicine, general surgery, general medicine and surgery, obstetrics and gynaecology, diseases of the heart and lungs, physical medicine, diseases of children and the various specialities. The extent to which there is a demand for such instruction is revealed by the fact that during the month of February arrangements have been made to hold three week-end courses, and during the month of March four separate week-end courses. Details of the various courses will be found below.

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.

- Surgical Tutorial Classes (Evening Course) :** January 15 to March 7. National Temperance Hospital. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8.0 p.m. Fee £4. 4s. or 7s. 6d. per evening.
- Proctology :** February 4 to 9. St. Mark's Hospital. All day. Fee £3. 3s.
- Chest Diseases :** February 11 to 16. Brompton Hospital. All day. Fee £3. 3s.
- Gynaecology :** February 11 to 23. Chelsea Hospital for Women. All day. Fee £5. 5s.
- M.R.C.P. (Evening Course) :** February 19 to March 7. National Temperance Hospital. Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8.0 p.m. Clinical and Pathological. Fee £6. 6s. (*Maximum of 24.*)
- Orthopaedics :** March 11 to 23. Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital. All day. Fee £3. 3s.
- F.R.C.S. (Final) (Evening Course) :** March 12 to April 30. March 14 to May 2 (*excluding Easter Holidays*). National Temperance Hospital. Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8.0 p.m. Two separate Courses. Clinical and Pathological. Fee £7. 7s. each course. (*Maximum of 25 in each course.*)
- Clinical Medicine and Surgery (Treatment) :** March 14 to 20 (*including Saturday and Sunday*). National Temperance Hospital. All day. Fee £4. 4s.
- Chest Diseases (Week-end Course) :** March 23 and 24. Brompton Hospital. All day. Saturday and Sunday. Fee £1. 11s. 6d.

OTHER COURSES.

- Dermatology** : January 28 to February 23. St. John's Hospital. Every Afternoon. Fee £1. 1s.
(Practical Pathology arranged. Fee £4. 4s.)
- Medicine and Surgery (Week-end Course)** : February 2 and 3. Southend General Hospital.
All day. Saturday and Sunday. Fee £1. 1s.
- Neurology** : February 4 to 9. West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases. All day. Fee £2. 2s.
- Physical Medicine (Week-end Course)** : February 9 and 10. St. John Clinic and Institute of
Physical Medicine. All day. Saturday and Sunday. Fee £1. 1s.
- Medicine, Surgery and the Specialities** : February 25 to March 9. Prince of Wales's General
Hospital Group. All day. Fee £5. 5s.
- Children's Diseases (Week-end Course)** : March 2 and 3. Princess Elizabeth of York Hospital.
All day. Saturday and Sunday. Fee £1. 11s. 6d.
- Clinical Surgery (Week-end Course)** : March 9 and 10. Royal Albert Dock Hospital. All day.
Saturday and Sunday. Fee £2. 2s.
- Medicine and Surgery (Week-end Course)** : March 30 and 31. Southend General Hospital. All
day. Saturday and Sunday. Fee £1. 1s.

ADDITIONAL COURSE.

- Thoracic Surgery** : March 4 to March 30. Brompton Hospital. Three days per week.
Fee £8. 8s. (Limited to 12).

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- Saturday Afternoon Demonstrations** : A demonstration of Surgical cases will be given on the
Second Saturday in February (the 9th) at 3.0 p.m., at the National Temperance
Hospital, Hampstead Road, N.W.1, by Mr. T. Holmes Sellors. The next demonstra-
tion will take place on March 9th on Diseases of Children, by Dr. K. H. Tallerman,
at the London Hospital. Open to Members and Associates of the Fellowship of
Medicine. Fee 5/- per demonstration, payable **In Advance**.
- Friday Afternoon Demonstrations—General Medicine** : Lecture-demonstrations will be given
every Friday afternoon at 4.15 p.m., at the Medical Society of London, 11, Chandos
Street, Cavendish Square, by Dr. A. E. Clark-Kennedy. The subjects during
February will be as follows:—

- February 1 : Constipation.
,, 8 : Diarrhoea.
,, 15 : Jaundice.
,, 22 : Anæmia (I).

The full March list will be published in the March Journal ; the subject for
March 1st is " Anæmia " (II).

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

Pathological Demonstrations : Demonstrations will be given at the Wellcome Museum of Medical Science, 183, Euston Road, N.W.1, on Thursdays at 3.0 p.m., as follows :—

- February 7 : Syphilis. Dr. T. Anwyl-Davies.
 ,, 14 : Helminthology as it affects the Clinician. Dr. S. H. Daukes.
 ,, 21 : Tumours of the Stomach. Mr. David Levi.
 ,, 28 : Tuberculosis. Dr. W. Smith.
 March 7 : Tumours of the Bone. Mr. Percival P. Cole.
 ,, 14 : Skin Diseases. Dr. John Franklin.

Specimens, photographs, charts, diagrams, etc., will be shown to illustrate each subject.

The fee for each Demonstration is 5/-, payable **In Advance**, to the Fellowship of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, W.1.

STANDING ARRANGEMENTS.

Anaesthetics : 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 130 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 5/- 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.

Wellcome Museum of Medical Science : 183, Euston Road, N.W.1. Open daily 10.0 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. (Saturdays 10.0 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.). The whole range of medicine is set out in this museum, illustrated by drawings, charts and specimens. A copy of the guide-book and an introduction card may be obtained from the Fellowship of Medicine.

Panel of Teachers : Details of the daily clinics may be obtained from the Fellowship of Medicine. Fee 5/- 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.).

Miscellaneous.

This Section deals with New Drugs, Preparations, Surgical Instruments, etc. The description of each article is supplied by the Producer. Particulars regarding insertions, which are free of cost, may be obtained from the Business Manager, Fellowship of Medicine and Post-Graduate Journal, 519, Grand Buildings, W.C.2.

We are informed by Mr. Frederick Sherriff, of 23, Bucklersbury, E.C.4, that the rate of interest being charged by the banks under his Scheme has now been reduced to 4 per cent.

Purchase of Practices out of Income.

This should mean a considerable saving to Practitioners who are buying their practices under this arrangement. The rate of interest is governed by the Bank of England rate, but has hitherto been subject to a minimum of 5 per cent., on the same lines as ordinary bank overdrafts. Under the terms of Mr. Sherriff's present arrangement with the banks, the new rate of 4 per cent. will apply unless and until the Bank of England rate increases beyond 3 per cent., an extremely unlikely contingency under present conditions.

As interest on these loans is an allowable charge against Income Tax, the actual cost to the borrower works out to something like 3 per cent. nett at the present rate of tax. The only other annual cost, apart from repayments and life and sickness assurance premiums, appears to be the guarantee premium, which normally ranges from 1 per cent. to 1½ per cent., according to the period of loan and terms of repayment.

There are some initial charges for accountants' investigation, solicitors' fees, stamp duties, and arrangement of loan. These are on the same moderate scale, and a £20 note would usually more than cover all.

Bearing in mind the complaints of practitioners who have unfortunately borrowed from private lenders, this straightforward business arrangement has much to recommend it. As the transaction is on an ordinary business footing, it is necessary to provide some portion of the purchase money, usually about 25 per cent. We understand that larger loans can be

arranged in approved cases, but this is not to be recommended, as the guarantee rate increases and the total cost of repayments together with interest, life, sickness and guarantee premiums are likely to become too heavy a burden in such cases.

Mr. Sherriff has been a regular advertiser in our columns and is always willing to give special attention to enquiries from Members of the Fellowship or of Associated Societies. As he is in a position to arrange loans of this nature through several insurance companies, members might well consider placing the whole matter in his hands and acting upon his advice.

The majority of cases of Obesity being associated with an underlying defect of the glandular secretions it is rational, therefore, to supplement the usually inadequate regime of diet and exercise with an appropriate treatment for the correction of the malfunctioning of the endocrine glands.

Gland extracts furnish the only means to attain this object and as the extract of one particular gland will not suffice an association of gland extracts is necessary to stimulate action and re-establish natural functioning.

Iodobesin is a well-balanced combination of total pluriglandular extracts perfected by the addition of organic iodine (Iodalbumin) and constitutes a safe and useful adjunct in the treatment of Obesity. Containing both male and female genetic extracts, it is equally applicable to both sexes and gives good permanent results in nearly all cases, whether of genital, thyroid, pituitary or undefined origin. The

reduction of weight is gradual and unaccompanied by any depressing symptoms; on the contrary the treatment is followed by a marked tonic effect and promotes a sense of well-being in the patient.

Iodobesin is supplied in specially coated tablets which conserve the properties of the gland extracts and are readily absorbed. In general the dosage should be increased progressively; for example, the first course of 10 days might be 2 opocrins daily, increased to 3 or 4 opocrins daily for the next 10 days, then cessation of treatment for 10 days. Treatment might then be recommenced with the latter dosage, continued for 20 days with another period of rest, and so on, until the patient's condition is sensibly improved and weight approaches the normal, when the dosage can be gradually reduced.

The Tonic value of Easton's Syrup has been recognized by physicians for generations since the time when this combination was used by John Alexander Easton, who lived from 1807 to 1865.

**Allen &
Hanburys.**

"Bynin" Amara is an improved and standardized product resembling Easton's Syrup in composition but with certain modifications of which one of the most important is the substitution of "Bynin" Liquid Malt for the usual syrup. Long experience has shown that "Bynin" Amara is one of the most efficient tonics.

"Bynin" Amara is of special value in influenza and in the convalescence after this disease. As is well known, the after treatment of influenza needs strictest attention if serious complications are to be avoided. It has been the experience of physicians that a course of "Bynin" Amara is the best medicinal measure in such circumstances.

The alkaloids of nux vomica make "Bynin" Amara particularly valuable in combating the marked general weakness and the accompanying mental depression which are common and depressing after-effects of influenza.

The Blue Funnel Line is featuring a unique Coastal Cruise this Summer which will appeal to the busy medical practitioner as offering a complete change of air and surroundings while not necessitating a long absence from the claims of an onerous practice. Passengers leave London and spend six days aboard one of the comfortable Blue Funnel Liners at an all in cost of £7. 7s. The sailing dates for these cruises are, March 26th, April 27th, May 21st, June 19th, July 11th, August 14th, September 13th and October 8th.

**Blue
Funnel
Coastal
Cruises.**

From London the ships proceed to Rotterdam where a stay of two days is made. From Rotterdam the route is by the North and West Coasts of Scotland to Glasgow. Another interesting voyage is to Marseilles; here the charge is the moderate figure of £22. A summer voyage involving 22 days at sea may be made to Port Said at a cost of £35 for the return trip.

For those in a position to take a longer holiday a typical instance of Blue Funnel service is the voyage to Cape Town. The ship leaves for South Africa on the 27th July and provides for a six days' stay in Cape Town at a total cost for the whole trip of £65. The return voyage is made in another vessel and London is reached on the 10th September.

Here is an extract from a letter received from an appreciative passenger who made this round voyage:

"After Las Palmas this influenza-ridden nery old invalid gradually became revitalised, and his grumpiness left him with his aches and pains. The weather has remained good to the end, the tropics not too hot, the Cape waters not too cold, and the sea calm . . .

"This will reach you two days before me—what a different me from the crotchety invalid you saw off at Liverpool. Next time we must come together, and when we have watched the tablecloth lift from Table Mountain and have stood together like tiny specks on its summit, we will go and explore the Africa beyond this glorious gateway, for I shall never rest until we have come back."

AFFILIATED SOCIETY.

Meetings of the St. John's Hospital Dermatological Society (incorporating The London Dermatological Society) will be held at St. John's Hospital, 49, Leicester Square, at 4.15 p.m. on:—

Wednesday, February 27th—Clinical Cases.

„ March 27th—Clinical Cases.

„ April 24th—Clinical Cases and Paper.

„ May 22nd—Clinical Cases and Annual General Meeting.

„ June 26th—The Prosser White Annual Oration.



BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY
CLINIC FOR RHEUMATISM

Peto Place, Marylebone Road, N.W.1.

The Clinic is open for the reception of patients who must be recommended by their own doctors. Evening treatment available. Private Patients' department open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Treatment by appointment only.

Courses of Lectures and Demonstrations are given by the Honorary Medical Staff under the auspices of the Fellowship of Medicine. Clinical Assistantships available.

For full information apply to the Secretary, at above address.

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