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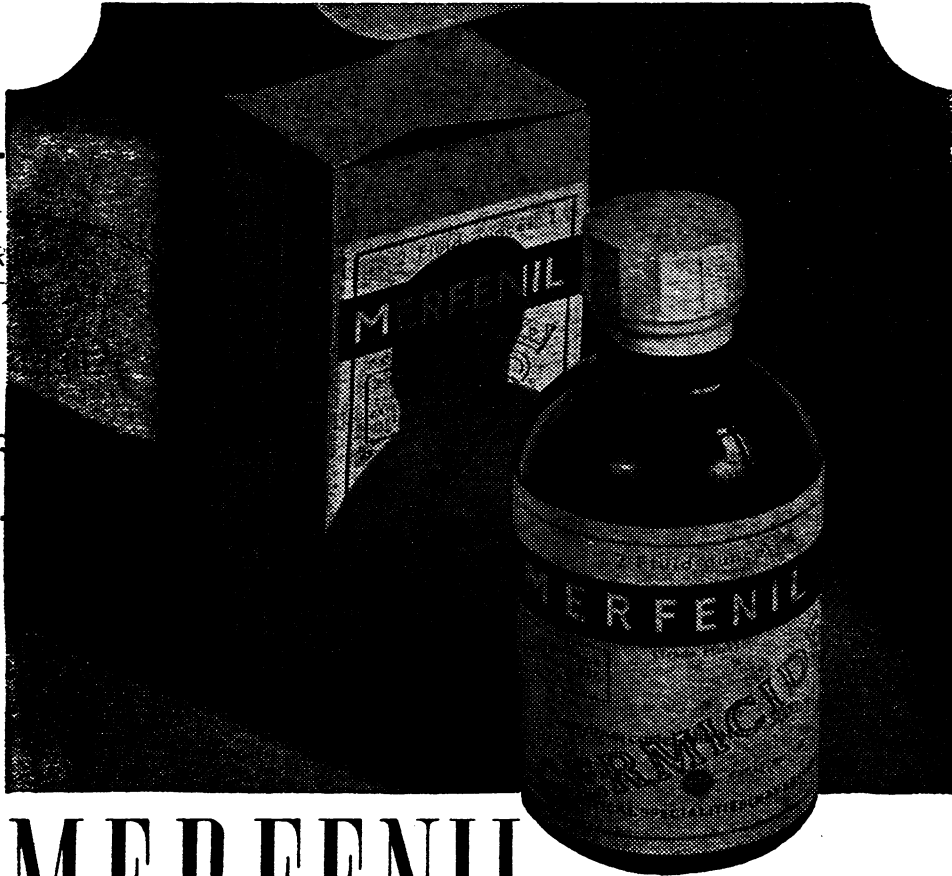
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SPECIAL NUMBERS OF THE JOURNAL.

Special numbers have been published from time to time, each dealing comprehensively with a particular branch of medicine or surgery. These special numbers are as follows, and copies, price 2s. each, post free, may be obtained from the Fellowship of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London, W.1. A list of contents of any individual number will be sent on application.

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| OBSTETRICS | (August, 1933) | CEREBRAL TUMOURS | (May, 1939) |
| OPHTHALMOLOGY | (August, 1934) | FOCAL SEPSIS | (February, 1940) |
| NEUROLOGY | (April, 1935) | *WAR WOUNDS OF THE CHEST | (March, 1940) |
| UROLOGY | (November, 1935) | *WAR WOUNDS OF THE ABDOMEN | (April, 1940) |
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| PROCTOLOGY | (August, 1936) | *WAR WOUNDS OF THE EYE AND ORBIT | (June, 1940) |
| NEPHRITIS | (February, 1937) | *WAR WOUNDS OF THE HEAD AND FACE | (July, 1940) |
| RHEUMATISM | (September, 1937) | VITAMINS B AND C | (January/February, 1941) |
| ORTHOPÆDICS | (October, 1937) | VITAMINS D AND "NEWER" | (March, 1941) |
| TROPICAL DISEASES | (November, 1938) | VITAMIN A AND SUMMARY | (April, 1941) |

* "War Wounds and Injuries," published by Edward Arnold & Co., London, price 14/-, is a reproduction of these five special numbers in book form.

The essentials of first-aid are: rapid collection, adequate splinting and avoidance of unnecessary tourniquets.

Classification of cases is made conveniently into two groups according to the need for operation.

It is recommended that reception and resuscitation rooms should be combined.

The causes of injury may be: primary missiles from the bomb, blast, secondary missiles from falling masonry, and burns. Clinical cases of blast are infrequent.

The indications for treatment are three: to save life, to prevent sepsis and to avoid deformity.

Treatment of burns should be directed to three indications, viz.: shock associated with burn-toxæmia, sepsis, and deformity resulting from delayed healing, their relative importance and treatment being decided by the situation of the lesion. Coagulation treatment is indicated in trunk burns, to mitigate toxæmia, but not in the extremities, where prevention of deformity is important.

In head injuries treatment of the brain is conservative and that of the parietes operative. The larger wounds are usually fatal; smaller injuries, such as lacerations and compound fractures, are excised and do well.

The prognosis in abdominal injuries is serious. The larger wounds seldom survive operation; the smaller wounds may recover after laparotomy.

The prognosis is better in chest than in abdominal injuries. As a general statement, the indications for operation are the converse of those for abdominal wounds, i.e., the larger injuries usually need thoracotomy, whereas the smaller wounds may often be treated conservatively.

The main indication for treatment in wounds of the limbs is the prevention of sepsis in which early and adequate excision is the essential, urgency of operation being in proportion to the amount of muscle damage.

Post-operative immobilisation in plaster is the best treatment for larger wounds.

Foreign bodies in the limbs are of importance only in so far as they are responsible for introducing sepsis and of themselves do not interfere with healing provided adequate excision of devitalised tissue has been performed.

Routine radiography of limb injuries is not regarded as essential.

Prophylactic sulphonamide therapy is now standard, and its local application is probably the most effective route.

References.

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 TRUETA, J. (1939) *Proc. R. S. M. Nov.*, Vol. 33, No. 1, p. 13.
 WHITBY, L. E. H., et al (1941), *Lancet I.*, 99.
 "X" (1939) *Lancet I.*, 1070.
 ZUCKERMAN, S. (1940) *Brit. Med. J. II*, 131.
 ZUCKERMAN, S. (1941) *Proc. R. S. M. Jan.* Vol. 34, No. 3, p. 171.

The Histamine and Insulin Treatment of Schizophrenia and other Mental Diseases

by HORACE HILL, M.R.C.P., Medical Superintendent, Laverstock House Mental Home, Salisbury. Pp. viii + 136. Price 6s. Postage 4d.

"In view of the undeniably remarkable results indicated by the case reports, it is possible that insulin and histamine have some synergistic action worthy of further trial and investigation. It is hoped that this book will stimulate others to try a method of treatment which avoids the difficulties and dangers of convulsive therapy."—THE PRACTITIONER.

"The combination of histamine and insulin in the treatment of mental diseases has proved a happy one in the author's hands. No dangers are produced, and the method of treatment is pleasant, natural and quite in accordance with physiological principles. Another great advantage is that it seems to have more effect in chronic cases and is applicable to cases other than schizophrenia."—MEDICAL WORLD.

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REVIEWS.

MEDICAL DISEASES OF WAR.

By Sir ARTHUR HURST. Second Edition. Edward Arnold & Co., London. 1941. Price 18s.

The second edition of this book has been thoroughly revised, experiences gained during the eventful year of 1940 have been incorporated, and use has been made of English and Continental literature. In view of the importance of correct management in meningococcal fever a new chapter devoted to this subject has been added. The development of hostilities in the East makes it necessary to give special attention to certain diseases which are prevalent in those lands, hence valuable chapters appear on amœbic dysentery and malaria. Owing to the prevalence of digestive disorders in the Forces, we are glad to notice that a new chapter appears on this subject. A postscript to his important contribution on Anxiety Neuroses in War was written by Dr. T. A. Ross before his death. This book should be read by all who deal with those afflicted with diseases caused or accentuated by war; it is an important publication and a valuable addition to the literature on the subject.

BROMPTON HOSPITAL REPORTS.

Vol. VIII. 1939. Gale & Polden, Aldershot. Price 5s. 6d., post free, from The Secretary, Brompton Hospital, London, S.W.3.

This, the latest of the series of Brompton Hospital Reports, is certainly one of the most valuable which has yet appeared. With the exception of two articles (one on massive collapse by G. S. Erwin, and another describing an example of hyatid cyst of the lung removed by lobectomy by A. Lisle

Punch), the various communications have already been published and are reprints from various journals. However, the majority of the reprints are worthy of this increased publicity and at the same time are in keeping with the reputation of such a well-known school of chest medicine and surgery.

We would draw the attention of our readers specially to a most interesting and important analysis by Sir Percival Horton-Smith Hartley and Mr. Geoffrey F. Llewellyn on the longevity of oarsmen, the discussion of primary tuberculosis of the lung in children by Dr. Margaret C. Macpherson, an article on tumours of the lung by Mr. Tudor Edwards, and this author's Harveian Lecture on the modern principles of treatment in bronchiectasis. Other subjects discussed in this volume are massive collapse, the modern treatment of pneumonia, the chronic pneumonias, disseminated focal pneumonia, tumours of the lung, pulmonary tuberculosis (its assessment, its relation to life insurance and its treatment by surgical measures), and anæsthesia in thoracic surgery. Such a list reveals the wealth of matter of first clinical importance provided by this publication.

As is the custom, the volume concludes with a statistical account of the various pathological conditions met with during the year (in this volume 1938). Although there is no doubt that this section adds considerable value to the Reports, we feel that the tables could with advantage be given in greater detail. For example, it is only in the case of pulmonary tuberculosis that the age incidence is noted and nowhere is the result of treatment correlated with the age of the patient, points which are of so much importance in guiding diagnosis and prognosis.

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An Important Development.

The importance of the contribution made by German chemists to Science in general and to Chemo- and Organo-Therapy in particular, more especially during the last half century, is universally recognised.

Foremost among the commercial houses which played an important part in this development was the House of Schering, from whose laboratories in Berlin issued a series of clinically-proven preparations valuable to medical workers.

The announcement, therefore, that all the German Schering interests in this country have now been acquired by a British group is of considerable importance.

The new British organisation comprises three companies, viz., British Schering, Ltd., British Schering Research Laboratories, Ltd., and British Schering Manufacturing Labora-

tories, Ltd., each complementary to the other.

Research will henceforth be developed by British Schering Research Laboratories, Ltd., of which Dr. D. H. Hey, D.Sc., Ph.D., F.I.C., of the Department of Organic Chemistry, Imperial College of Science and Technology, South Kensington, has been appointed Director.

Existing Schering products will now be made by British Schering Manufacturing Laboratories, Ltd.—the necessary patents having been acquired, and preparations hitherto sold in this country will, after present stocks are exhausted, be of British manufacture.

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