Final Fellowship Classes.

To the Honorary Editor of the Journal of the Post-Graduate Medical Association.

DEAR SIR,—The evening courses of the Fellowship of Medicine organized for the Final Fellowship candidates have entirely altered the chances of an aspirant who as a house surgeon is unable to attend the full classes at the teaching hospitals. It is, I think, necessary to attend the latter in preparation for the first attempt, in order to learn the curriculum of the examination, but should success be not met with, I believe thereafter that it is essential to be in a surgical post as house surgeon or similar appointment. Otherwise a hiatus occurs between the examination and the return to study again, during which time clinical judgment and the practical applications of surgery become dulled, further accentuated by depression and lack of any interest.

By supplying the best teaching and excellent material, the Fellowship of Medicine adds the essentials of examination

success, i.e., the rapidity of thought but guarded speech.

Clinical surgery and pathology are adequately dealt with, but I should suggest that examination papers might be set, corrected and returned with the ideal answer, as do the Correspondence Schools. Operative Surgery Classes, if arranged at an Anatomy School, should prove very attractive, particularly if general surgical operations were taught as in Vienna. In the latter cases many visitors who now go to Vienna for such teaching would by preference stay in London, which should be the centre of post-graduate teaching.

Whilst the Surgical Classes have been for the Fellowship candidates, on the whole such classes, if known to others, must prove very attractive. They enabled me at all events to be busily engaged in a full-time surgical appointment and yet keep in touch with examination type of teaching and to eventually hurdle the Final.

Yours etc.,

THOMAS KING.

King Edward Memorial Hospital, W. 13.

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