

provision is made for the exemption from jury service of "licensed medical practitioners" actually engaged in the pursuit of their profession and it was claimed by a veterinary surgeon who had been fined for failing to respond to a summons to serve on a jury that these words protected him. Such a claim appears to be inconsistent with Section 34 of the Medical Act, 1858, which applies to Ireland and which runs as follows: "Any words importing a person recognised by law as a medical practitioner or member of the medical profession, when used in any Act of Parliament, shall be construed to mean a person registered under this Act." It was argued on behalf of the recalcitrant juror that the section was not intended to refer to other than Medical Acts in the narrower sense if only for the reason that it was drawn up before the Juries Act, and ultimately this view of the matter was adopted by the court, which held that the veterinary surgeon came within the scope of the schedule of the 1876 Act and had therefore been improperly fined.

Health of Belfast.

From the report presented to the city corporation on July 1st it appears that the health of Belfast is satisfactory. For the four weeks ended June 13th the death-rate of Belfast was 20.2—7.8 for chest affections and 1.1 for zymotic diseases. Between May 17th and June 13th 83 cases of enteric fever, 43 of simple continued fever (whatever disease this is), 37 each of scarlet fever and erysipelas, 16 of diphtheria, two of puerperal fever, and one of membranous croup have been notified. 881 births and 557 deaths occurred in this period, of which 29 were from zymotic disease, 84 from phthisis, and 133 from diseases of the respiratory organs, making a total of 217 from the two latter causes. There were five deaths from typhoid fever. A tender (£50,083) has been accepted for the infectious diseases hospital, the work to be completed within two years. The asylum committee has been granted the use of the wards of the small-pox hospital at Purdysburn during the will and pleasure of the public health committee as sleeping accommodation for male patients, possession to be given to the officers of the public health committee on receipt of 24 hours' notice and everything left in the same order and condition in which the asylum committee found it. It is to be hoped that the outbreak of small-pox in Dublin will not extend to Belfast.

The New Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast.

The public of Belfast and Ulster had an opportunity last week of seeing the new Royal Victoria Hospital erected as a memorial of the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria and which His Majesty King Edward is to open on July 27th when he visits Belfast. The chairman of the construction committee (the Right Hon. W. J. Pirrie, D.L.) and Mrs. Pirrie issued invitations to the subscribers to the building and endowment fund to inspect the new hospital on July 2nd, while on the next two days the general public were admitted at a small cost (the proceeds to be applied to the endowment fund). The result was that an immense number of people visited this latest example of hospital construction and they were all astonished and delighted with the admirable way in which it has been planned, built, and furnished. Mr. and Mrs. Pirrie were there all the three days; indeed, they have spared no time, trouble, or money in order that this hospital should be complete in every respect. As a result it is a hospital which American visitors pronounce to be far ahead of any even in the United States. On Friday, July 10th, through the kindness of Professor T. Sinclair (President of the Ulster Branch of the British Medical Association), members of the medical profession in Belfast and Ulster will have an opportunity of seeing the new hospital, as he has issued an invitation for luncheon on that day in the new buildings, after which they will be able to inspect the hospital. The plenum system of ventilation and heating was well tested last week as the place was crowded with visitors, the weather was warm and one of the days was wet and muggy, yet it was a perfect success.

The Cowan-Heron Hospital, Dromore.

At the third annual meeting of the subscribers to this institution, held on July 2nd, it was reported that during the past year 51 cases were admitted for intern treatment (10 more than for the previous 12 months). The majority of the cases were medical. There were four deaths. The income was £310 9s. 5½d. and the expenditure was £249 19s. 1d., leaving a credit balance of £60 10s. 4½d.

Coleraine Dispensary Medical Officers.

The Local Government Board has written to the Coleraine

guardians pointing out that in future one-half of the amount of fees paid to locum-tenents employed as substitutes for the medical officers of the dispensary districts of the union would be recouped out of the local taxation (Ireland) account and also stating that the important unions of Belfast, Derry, Armagh, and Cork had now agreed to allow their medical officers the full vacation of one month annually and to remunerate the substitutes for the entire period. The whole matter is to be considered by the board at a special meeting when it is hoped it will act as these other unions have.

July 7th.

PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Reform of the Quarantine System.

M. PROUST, Inspector-General of the Sanitary Service, endeavoured on June 23rd to justify before the Academy of Medicine the existing system of quarantine.¹ In M. Proust's opinion the sanitary regulations which have been called out of date are those which were agreed upon by the Venice Conference of 1897. To render these regulations up to date and to make them conform with the knowledge acquired since that conference sat, particularly as regards disinfection of the cargo before landing, another international conference should be summoned this year at Paris. Certain improvements are going to be introduced but M. Proust considers that there is some objection to all the suggestions of M. Tessier. The sanitary passport would be an excellent thing but in all probability the passengers, in order to escape a troublesome surveillance, would make false statements. Even a patient who had had a prophylactic dose of serum would be required to be kept under observation during the period of incubation. M. Proust allowed that some concessions might be made if strictly safeguarded. In any case the country which runs the risk of infection must always make an examination of "suspects." Certificates signed by the medical officer of the ship are not sufficient, for the medical men are in the pay of the respective shipping companies and so are not independent, for if they tell the truth they are afraid of being recalled from their posts by the company which they serve. As for a committee to decide disputes the thing is out of the question. A committee has no responsibility. M. Proust proposes to inspect the ship on her departure from the infected port and there to embark an official sanitary officer who should be independent of the shipping company. This officer would exercise sanitary surveillance during the whole voyage and on arrival only those considered to be genuine "suspects" would have to be detained. At present the sanitary service is not in such a flourishing condition that the authorities can afford to give up a system of observation which up to the present has justified its existence. The English system which has been suggested as a model for France is much more severe than that existing on the Mediterranean coasts. But in India it has not prevented the plague invading Bombay. However hardly the system may press in certain cases M. Proust considers that we must not too hastily modify the practice which, whatever its faults, has hitherto preserved Europe from epidemics.

Diphtheria in Paris Schools.

One of the medical inspectors of schools in the city of Paris, which district is suffering from an epidemic of diphtheria, has discovered that infection among the school children is principally spread by pencils. These pencils, which are municipal property, are in certain schools distributed to the scholars every morning and collected at night. In this way one child is constantly getting a pencil which has been previously used by another child. When it is remembered that children constantly put their pencils in their mouths whilst writing it is easy to see how diphtheria spreads. The inspector has sent in a report to the authorities asking that each child should have a pencil of his or her own for the future.

Cancer and the Use of the X Rays.

M. Doumerc has already reported a certain number of cases of cancer in which a cure followed the application of the x rays and M. Robin considers that the facts so reported are worthy of attention. At the meeting of the Academy of Medicine held on June 25th M. Cornil described a case

¹ THE LANCET, June 20th, 1903, p. 1771.

which had been under the care of M. Vigoroux and in which the x rays were used in combination with quinine. The case was treated at the Salpêtrière and was that of a woman with cancer of the breast, declared inoperable. Quinine alone gave no result, but when the x rays were used in addition the ulcer began to cicatrise rapidly. Then it opened again and discharged a serous fluid, while a gangrenous mass appeared at the bottom of the ulcer. This was removed piecemeal and the cavity then commenced to fill up with healthy granulation tissue. Eventually the wound cicatrised entirely. The breast became soft and supple while the axillary glands could no longer be felt. M. Vigoroux's case would have been more noticeable if the growth had been examined histologically, but M. Cornil said that there is no doubt that the x rays do modify anatomical elements in a very marked way either in the direction of promoting nutrition or of arresting new growths. The action of the rays is not merely superficial, but they act through a definite thickness of tissue and do not harm the healthy tissues through which they pass. It is also possible to regulate the depth to which they shall act. Here then there seems to be a therapeutic method of the highest interest.

Obituary.

Following close upon the deaths of Dr. Bouilly and Dr. Dreyfus-Brissac, French medicine has to mourn the loss of Dr. Gerard Marchant, physician to the hospitals, who was struck down by cerebral hæmorrhage on his way home from seeing his patients. Born at Toulouse in 1850 he was the grandson of a pharmacist of Saint-Beat, a little town in the Pyrenees, the son of a well-known mental physician, and the nephew of one of the physicians to the Charenton Asylum. He became an interne at the Paris hospitals, intending to devote himself to surgery, and entered for the competitive examination for the assistant-demonstratorship in anatomy. Just before the examination, however, he was attacked by diphtheria which left him temporarily paralysed and unable to pursue the competition. In the following year, however, he was made assistant demonstrator and afterwards prosector. His thesis for the degree of Doctor was entitled "Rupture of the Middle Meningeal Artery; Cerebral Hæmorrhage consecutive to Injuries of the Skull." This obtained the silver medal in 1881, and he had been led to choose this subject from the circumstances attending the death of his father who was shot in the head with a revolver by a lunatic. Dr. Marchant became surgeon to the hospitals in 1886 and was principal surgeon at the Boucicault Hospital and afterwards at the Beaujon Hospital. He has left behind him numerous works on surgery. He was a most able surgeon and his death is much regretted by his many friends. Dr. Marchant was an officer of the Legion of Honour.

The Academy of Medicine.

On June 23rd the Academy of Medicine proceeded to elect a titular member in the section of surgical pathology in the place of Professor Panas. M. Kirmisson was elected with 71 votes, against five given to M. Segond, two to M. Quenu, and two to M. Schwartz. Two voting papers were unsigned. M. Narish of Smyrna and M. Hirschberg of Berlin were elected as foreign members.

July 7th.

Medical News.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON.—At the Primary Examination the following candidates passed in the subjects indicated:—

PART I.

Chemistry.—J. M. Burke, Cork and Middlesex Hospital; C. J. Evans, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; and J. N. Turner, Guy's Hospital.
Materia Medica and Pharmacy.—L. W. Bradshaw, Leeds; E. G. Brisco-Owen, Cardiff; and R. P. Wylde, Manchester.

PART II.

Anatomy.—H. R. Coombes, Westminster Hospital; C. E. Pring, Royal Free Hospital; C. A. E. Ring, Guy's Hospital; G. W. Simpson, Bristol; and T. R. Williams, Cardiff and Glasgow.
Physiology.—A. J. K. Bravton, Liverpool; C. G. Grey, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; R. D. Neagle, St. Mary's Hospital; C. A. E. Ring, Guy's Hospital; and T. R. Williams, Cardiff and Glasgow.

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM.—The following is a list of successful candidates in the Faculty of Medicine:—

I. *Degree of Doctor of Medicine.*—(a) Official: John Jameson Evans and William Alexander Potts. (b) Associate: Thomas Law Webb.

- (c) Past Students of the Birmingham Medical School: James Ronald Polson, William Sisam, and Arthur Allen Deykin Townsend.
II. *Degree of Master of Surgery.*—(a) Official: Charles Albert Leedham-Green.
III. *Degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery.*—(a) Official: Frank Redmayne Greenwood and James Coole Kneale. (b) Associate: Arthur Stanley Barnes, John Furneaux Jordan, Sidney Herbert Perry, and William Henry Wynn. (c) Past Students of Birmingham Medical School: Henry Baylis, Cordley Bradford, Harold Corser Brown, Ernest Frederick Wharton Bywater, and John Read Pooler.
IV. *Fourth Examination for the Degrees of M.B., Ch.B.*—Class II.: William George Aviss, William Cook, Leonard George Joseph Mackey (scholarship), George Edward Victor Morris, and Fred Newton Walsh.
V. *Third Examination for the Degrees of M.B., Ch.B.*—Class II.: Robert Wallace Aitken, Reginald Hudson Astbury, Edward Lancelot Bunting Francis Reginald d'Alton Glissan, Helen Gertrude Greener, Liouel Chattock Hayes, William Claude Horton, William Cuthbert Houghton, Henry Percy Pickerill, Thomas Holmes Ravenhill, and Norman John Lancelot Rollason.
VI. *Second Examination for the Degrees of M.B., Ch.B.*—Class II.: Arthur Addison Sanders (scholarship) and Francis Brett Young.
VII. *First Examination for the Degrees of M.B., Ch.B.*—Class I.: John Dale (scholarship). Class II.: Harvey Atkins Evans, James Penton, George Kennaway Mallory, and Rupert Wesley Thompson.
VIII. *Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery.*—(a) Past Students of the Birmingham Dental School: Arthur Hughes Parrott and Alfred William Wellings.
IX. *Degree of B.Sc. in Public Health.*—Henry Prince Motteram.
X. *Diploma in Public Health.*—Parts I. and II.: Albert Henry Bygott. Part I.: John Ronald Currie.

TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN.—At examinations held at Trinity term the following candidates were successful:—

PREVIOUS MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

Botany and Zoology.—William Pearson, Richard G. S. Gregg, James F. Clarke, George Halpin, George F. Graham, Richard J. Attridge, Robert de C. Wheeler, Thomas T. H. Robinson, Edmond H. Sheehan, Robert B. Jackson, Wilfred J. Dunn, Henry Goodbody, Julian B. Jones, Robert Magill, Charles K. Denham, Gerald Meeready, Frederick Stevenson, John H. Askins, Claude Powell, James B. Stewart, and Hill W. de V. White.
Physics and Chemistry.—William Pearson, Allman J. Powell, Richard G. T. Gregg, Edward C. Stoney, James C. C. Hogan, George F. Graham, Charles T. Atkinson, Robert E. Wright, William S. Thacker, Rev. Thomas Brook, Wilfred J. Dunn, Wilfred L. Hogan, Frederick Stevenson, Charles B. Jones, Desmond Drew, Bethel A. H. Solomons, Edward J. H. Garston, George B. M'Hutchison, David Miller, and Robert de C. Wheeler.
Anatomy and Institutes of Medicine.—John D. Sands, Samuel G. S. Houghton, Ralph S. Oldham, Alfred G. Alexander, Cecil Conygham, Edward Gibbon, Basil Brooke, Thomas O. Graham, Cyril H. M'Comas, Percy B. Egan, Edward D. Attwell, James M. Harold, William R. Galwey, John Gray, John Murdoch, Joseph P. R. Poch, Ernest C. Crawford, George Dougan, James E. M'Farlane, Henry B. Leech, and Thomas B. W. MacQuaide.

FINAL EXAMINATION.

Section B.—James G. Wallis, Charles J. Coppinger, George B. M'Cauley, Herbert St. M. Carter, Herbert Stone, Keith R. C. Hallows, Gerrard A. Crowley, Henry E. M'Creedy, Thomas J. T. Wilmot, John C. Hall, Thomas C. A. Sweetnam, Cecil J. Wyatt, Frederick W. Bury, Arthur W. Goldsmith, and Harold T. Marrable. The following prize and scholarships have been awarded: *Prize.*—Medical Travelling Prize: Richard A. Stoney, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. *Scholarships.*—Fitzpatrick Scholarship: Seaton Pringle. Anatomy and Institutes of Medicine: George Mac G. Millar (Trinity College scholarship) and Henry H. A. Emerson (Stewart scholarship). John Mallet Purser Medal: John D. Sands.

DEATHS OF EMINENT FOREIGN MEDICAL MEN.—The deaths of the following eminent foreign medical men are announced:—Dr. Carl Gussenbauer, professor of surgery in Vienna.—Dr. Rudolf Juergens, Custos of the Berlin University Pathological Institute, at the age of 60 years. His published papers which are best known are those dealing with amyloid degeneration and with the connexion between the migration of protozoa in the tissues and the formation of tumours.

DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.—By the will of Mr. Alfred Henry Miller £500 are bequeathed to the North Devon Infirmary, £300 to the Barnstaple and North Devon Dispensary, and £200 to the Lock Hospital.—Under the will of Colonel Thomas Thorneycroft the Wolverhampton and Staffordshire General Hospital will receive £500.—Lady Brodie, widow of Sir Thomas Brodie of Forfar, has under her will and subject to the discretion of her trustees left many thousand pounds to be divided amongst charitable institutions. The Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, the Falkirk Cottage Hospital, the Royal Edinburgh Hospital for Sick Children, and the Longmore Hospital of the Royal Association for Incurables, Edinburgh, will probably benefit largely.—The late Miss M. A. Kirby of Bristol has bequeathed £1000 to the Bristol Grammar School, £2000 each to the Bristol General Hospital and the Bristol Royal Infirmary, £1000 to the Royal Sailors' Rest, £500 each to Müller's Orphanage and to Mr. Barnardo's Home, free of duty, and "in memoriam" of her uncle, the late Mr. Charles Highett, M.R.C.P. Edin., &c., formerly mayor of Bristol.