

in Scotland it is illegal to relieve the dependents, whether ill or healthy, of an able-bodied man. As a result, if a wife be tuberculous and the husband can only partially contribute towards her maintenance in hospital, she cannot be relieved. Again, as pointed out by the medical officer of health of the city, while the consumptive pauper may obtain accommodation and treatment in a Poor-law institution, there is no such provision for the patient just above him in the social scale, so that the improvident are better off than the provident. It is true that something much better than the law provides is frequently done, but all will admit that it is not a very healthy state of affairs when the law must be broken, or evaded, or ignored in the interest of humanity and common-sense. In Glasgow compulsory notification was adopted in 1910, and at present there are five sources of information—"private" notification from medical practitioners, "parochial" by the Poor-law medical officers; "public" notifications from hospitals, dispensaries, and other public medical institutions; "death-cards" (following the visit of a sanitary inspector to a house in which a death has occurred); and from the Poor-law hospitals. On receipt of notification, whatever its source, the patient's house is visited by a sanitary inspector, who fills up a schedule as to the home conditions, ascertains if the visits of the phthisis nurse would be acceptable, arranges for the washing and disinfection of clothes, and presents the patient with a leaflet of instructions. Four nurses are employed in the domiciliary visitation of patients' homes. In addition, five tuberculosis dispensaries have been established by the health authority throughout the city. These are intended to act as a "clearing house," and also to link up the various agencies into administrative association. Dr. Dewar makes the following suggestions:—

1. The whole duty and responsibility for the control of phthisis should be vested in the local authority (as apart from the relief of dependents rendered destitute by the incapacity of the wage-earner).
2. There should be such extension of the accommodation for cases of phthisis as will permit of (a) a period of educational isolation for early or hopeful cases; (b) isolation of all advanced cases prepared to accept it.
3. There should be such modification of the methods of disinfection as will imply the thorough cleaning of premises by the tenant or owner as advised by the sanitary authority.
4. Cases which have been notified should be kept under observation so long as they remain a menace to the public health.
5. Patients who are excreting tubercle bacilli should, under the powers conferred by the Public Health Act, be detained in hospital, if their houses or habits make domestic isolation impossible.
6. There should be close and regular supervision of all notified cases which usually reside in common lodging houses.
7. Suitable premises should be provided for the conduct of the work of the dispensaries, and that work extended by increase of medical and nursing staff.

Nov. 23th.

IRELAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

Bicentenary of the School of Physic in Ireland.

A MOVEMENT is on foot to celebrate in suitable fashion the bicentenary of the School of Physic in Ireland, better known as the Medical School of Trinity College. Although there was a professor of physic and a *socius medicus* from the early times of the College, it was not until the second decade of the eighteenth century that anything like an organised school existed. Within a few years professorships and lectureships in anatomy, chemistry, botany, and physic were founded, the last-named from funds left by Sir Patrick Dun. It is proposed to hold the celebrations next June, and a provisional committee has been formed consisting of Professors James Little, Sir Charles Ball, W. H. Thompson, James Craig, A. Francis Dixon, Dr. A. C. O'Sullivan, and Dr. T. P. C. Kirkpatrick. A committee of graduates will shortly be formed, and those who are willing to become members are invited to send in their names. Meanwhile, the provisional committee is anxious to receive suggestions as to the conduct of the celebrations, and invites the loan of documents or other objects of interest which may illustrate the history of the school.

The Milk-supply Commission.

The Irish Milk-supply Commission, the appointment of which was announced recently, has commenced its sittings in Dublin Castle. Among the first witnesses examined were Sir Charles Cameron, medical officer of health of Dublin,

Mr. A. Watson, chief veterinary inspector for Dublin, and a representative of the Local Government Board.

Town Planning Association.

A public meeting was held on Nov. 27th, under the presidency of Her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen, to inaugurate a Housing and Town Planning Association of Ireland. The object of the association, as explained by a provisional committee, is to supply a permanent educative force on behalf of reform and regeneration, and to create in Ireland a body of sound public opinion which would eventuate in the uprise of beautiful and healthy towns, the amelioration of the hard lot of the workers, and indirectly in the decline of pauperism and crime.

The Government and Irish Schools.

At the monthly meeting of the Londonderry No. 1 School Attendance Committee on Nov. 22nd, the Ven. Archdeacon Colquhoun presiding, the Rev. Patrick O'Doherty proposed a resolution urging upon the Commissioners of National Education the necessity of providing a new school in the townland of Altahoney. The Rev. John Beckett, in seconding the resolution, said the Irish National Schools were a disgrace. He was strongly of opinion that Government should make the children its first care, for they were the only hope of the State. It is interesting to find the clergy of the various ecclesiastical bodies in Ireland taking steps to ventilate a matter to which medical men have so frequently called attention in Ireland.

Typhoid Fever Epidemic at Omagh Asylum.

At a meeting of Omagh rural council held on Nov. 25th the medical officer of health forwarded 77 notifications of cases of typhoid fever at Tyrone and Fermanagh Asylum. He again directed the council's attention to the necessity of the asylum authorities providing a tank for the proper treatment of the sewage before it reached the river which flowed through Omagh. The chairman replied that the cause of the outbreak had not yet been discovered, and suggested that the asylum authorities be asked if they had received a report on this matter from the expert they had employed, a course which was agreed to. It is to be hoped the Local Government Board will compel the authorities to take some action to prevent sewage from an institution full of typhoid fever patients to pass untreated into a river which subsequently passes through a county town until the cause of the outbreak is discovered.

Enteric Fever at Hillsborough, Co. Down.

At a meeting of the Hillsborough rural council held on Nov. 21st it was reported that the outbreak of enteric fever there was probably due to the pollution of the surface well used by the occupiers of eight houses, in four of which the disease had occurred. Suggestions were made by the Local Government Board Inspector (Dr. B. O'Brien), who pointed out that it was the duty of the sanitary authority to provide a pure water-supply, and that the wells should be properly protected and that pumps should be erected instead of the dip wells. A committee was appointed to investigate the matter.

Pomeroy Dispensary.

At a meeting of the Cookstown board of guardians, held on Nov. 25th, Mr. W. J. F. Mayne, M.B. Edin., was elected medical officer of the Pomeroy dispensary district at £80 per annum to begin with—that is, £10 less than formerly. Subsequently, at a meeting of the rural council, Dr. Mayne was appointed medical officer of health for the Pomeroy district at a salary of £20 per annum.

Nov. 28th.

CANADA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Canadian Death Toll in Four Years.

"WHAT we Pay for Hustle" is the title of an editorial article in the *Monetary Times*, Toronto, of recent date. In four years in Canada there have been killed by steam railways 2049 persons; by electric railways, 301; by industrial accidents, 5296; by fires, 1072; total, 8718. Those who have been injured by steam railways number 7344; by electric railways, 8296; by industrial accidents, 10,444;

by fires (estimated), 1908; total, 27,992. This looks as though Canada needs better laws for the protection of life.

St. John Ambulance for Quebec.

The general secretary of the St. John Ambulance Association has arrived in Montreal from Ottawa in connexion with the establishment of a provincial branch for this association in Quebec, with headquarters in Quebec. The Canadian branch, which was only recently organised, is at the present time giving instruction to more than 3000 people. The Canadian Pacific Railway, recognising the value of the movement, has established posts for instruction from coast to coast. After the branch is established in the province of Quebec five lectures on first aid will be given weekly by a Montreal physician. Lectures will also be given exclusively for women.

Small-pox in Quebec.

In spite of all the measures adopted by the Provincial Board of Health of Quebec small-pox is spreading in that province. The outbreak is active in the Lake St. John district, the North Shore of the St. Lawrence, Beauce County, L'Islet, Ottawa district, and St. Maurice County. In the latter county 20 cases were recorded during the first week in November, and the strictest quarantine measures have been adopted. Dr. Elzear Pelletier, secretary of the Quebec Board of Health, says that the greatest obstacle encountered by the board is the apathy of local municipal authorities, who are rather loath to enforce vaccination. He considers that opposition to general vaccination was the real cause of the actual outbreak. Country physicians are also too prone to diagnose mild cases of small-pox as chicken-pox.

McGill University as a Model for the English Royal Commission.

It is gratifying to Canadians that the structure and constitutional development of McGill University, as regards the relations of the University to practical trades and industries, is being carefully studied by a British Royal Commission. Before the Commission now sitting Principal Peterson gave some history of McGill in the last 15 years, which he summed up in the word "unification." He also cited the great reversion of feeling in connexion with the teaching of medicine in that institution. Whereas formerly to a large extent medical teaching was in the hands of practitioners, the medical men asserting that the proper teaching of medicine was the teaching of medical men by medical men, and the unification conception was depreciated, now the medical men of the school are satisfied that the university view of medical study is absolutely indispensable for the success of a well-conducted medical school. Referring to the sciences, Principal Peterson declared that the aim in Canada was to begin with the highest department of technical and scientific work. Every year from 80 to 90 men pass from McGill equipped with the science degree straight into well-remunerated positions of usefulness. The number of students from England is increasing year by year; and there are now some 50 or 60 English boys taking their education in the science branches alongside of Canadians. McGill has not yet rivalled Toronto University in granting a degree in domestic science.

Infant Mortality in Montreal.

Out of every 100 children born in the city of Montreal in the year 1909, when the last blue-book was issued on this subject, 29 died in the first year; and out of the total mortality of the people 54.92 per cent. was caused by the deaths of children under 5 years of age. In the month of July in the present year out of 1419 deaths 1033 were those of children under 5 years of age, giving 72.92 per cent. of that month's mortality. Out of 6297 deaths occurring in Montreal from Jan. 1st to July 31st, 1911, 3482 were those of children under 5 years of age. According to Professor N. H. Alcock, the newly appointed professor of physiology at McGill, succeeding the late Dr. Wesley Mills, one of the pressing needs of McGill University is an institute of physiology, which Professor Alcock considers could be provided for £5000 and maintained for £800 a year. He considers that the infantile death-rate in Montreal, through scientific precautions, could be materially lessened, as in Paris, where it has been reduced one-half.

Cancer in Ontario.

According to the report for 1909 of the Registrar-General

of Ontario, which has just been issued, there were in that province 1597 cases of cancer resulting in death. The advance in cancer in the province is shown by the fact that in the year 1902 there were 1048 deaths from cancer; in 1903, 1156; 1904, 1253; 1905, 1224; 1906, 1411; 1907, 1329; 1908, 1348. In the county of York, in which Toronto, the chief city of Ontario and the second of Canada is situated, there were 308 deaths from cancer, of which 259 occurred in Toronto, but many go to the hospitals of the city to be operated on.

Deaths from Venereal Diseases in Ontario.

It is significant of the times that the Ontario Board of Health in its report takes cognisance to some extent of the deaths resulting from venereal diseases in that province. Under the head of syphilis and gonorrhoea the deaths are set at 25. Of these, 15 were found in children, 13 being in those under 1 year of age, and the remaining two under 2 years of age. Twenty-two of these cases occurred in the cities, 19 being in Toronto. The report considers this question one of vital importance, and advises systematic instruction in the schools about these diseases. Opinion is divided on this matter, but the opinion is growing that all venereal diseases should be under the direct surveillance of the medical health officer.

Deaths from Tuberculosis in Ontario.

In the year 1909 there were 2380 deaths from tuberculosis in Ontario. In 1870 the number was 886. Year by year these deaths increased until the year 1900, when they stood at 3484. Since that time there has been a decline. There were 131 less in 1909 than in 1908. The ratio per 1000 of the population is 1.06, whilst the percentage of deaths from tuberculosis, compared with the number (32,628) of deaths, is 7. The new building at Ste. Agathe is now in full operation and caring for 45 patients. The paid-up donation fund amounts to \$85,949, but there is still a debt of \$77,000 on the building. There was a deficit in the expenses for the year of \$1,994.

Registration at the University of Toronto.

Over 3500 students have registered in all departments of the University of Toronto for the ensuing year. The arts number 1765; medicine, 512; education, 266; applied science, 780; household science, 143; forestry, 47. With "regular occasionals," dental and veterinary students, and teachers in the summer session, the year's total is brought up to 4144.

Academy of Medicine, Toronto.

The formal opening of the new building of the Academy of Medicine, Toronto, took place on Oct. 26th. The President, Dr. N. A. Powell, with Mrs. Powell, received a large number of members and their friends. Mr. Allan Hazen, a New York expert on water-supplies, delivered an address on the filtration plant about completed for Toronto. Dr. Powell's Presidential address went very fully into the hospital situation in Toronto. The Academy of Medicine will ask the Government to supply antityphoid vaccine to those going into lumber camps for the winter. Speaking on this resolution, Professor McPhedran considered it was more important for the Government to supply pure water.

Toronto's Filtration Plant.

The completion of Toronto's water filtration plant, which was begun two and a half years ago, is announced. The cost will be \$1,250,000. It covers 17½ acres. It has 12 filters, each measuring 312 by 117 feet. The capacity of the filters is 50,000,000 gallons in 24 hours. The capacity of the pure-water reservoir is 8,000,000 gallons. The process is that of slow sand filtration. Each filter is lighted by 12 interior electric lights; its walls are 3 feet thick at the base and 20 inches thick at the top. Some time hence Filtration Plant Park will be one of the prettiest spots in the neighbourhood of Toronto Island.

Violent Deaths on the Increase in Toronto.

Toronto's list of violent deaths increases every year. The total number for the past official year reached 177, the number of drownings, as usual, heading the list with 29, one less than for the previous year. Carbolic acid poisoning comes next, claiming 18 victims. This would show that the law governing the sale of carbolic acid is not properly enforced. There were 17 deaths from street-car accidents; 13 steam-car accidents; 11 burned to death; and 7 automobile deaths. The victims of gas poisoning numbered 13,

as against 8 of the previous year. Five people shot themselves this year; last year, none. Three people hanged themselves.

Annual Meeting of the Laurentian Sanatorium.

The annual general meeting of the Laurentian Society was held recently in Montreal. Mr. D. Lorne McGibbon, the President, occupied the chair.

Nov. 7th.

Obituary.

WILLIAM WILFRID WEBB, M.D., C.M. ABERD.,
M.R.C.S. ENG., F.S.A.,

LATE MAJOR, INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

Dr. Wilfrid Webb was a son of Dr. F. C. Webb, physician to the Great Northern Hospital and editor of the *Medical Times and Gazette*. He was born in 1857, and was educated at King's College School, at Charing Cross Hospital, and at the University of Aberdeen. He became L.S.A. in 1878, M.R.C.S. in 1880, and in April, 1881, he graduated M.B., C.M., at Aberdeen, with highest academical honours, being the only man in his year to gain this distinction. He graduated M.D. in 1894. He held the following appointments in London before entering the Indian Medical Service: assistant demonstrator of anatomy and demonstrator of physiology at Charing Cross Hospital School, house physician at the Great Northern Hospital, and medical registrar at Charing Cross Hospital. In the spring of 1882 he suffered severely from rheumatic fever, and by the advice of his friends he gave up his intention to practise as a physician in London. In 1882 he obtained the second place in the open competition for commissions in the Indian Medical Service. At Netley he was awarded the gold medal for military medicine and the Fayer prize in pathology. Proceeding to India, he served in the following regiments: 14th Sikhs, 2nd Regiment of Central India Horse, 29th Punjab Infantry and Meywar Bhil Corps. In the July of 1886 he was seconded for service in the political department under the Indian Foreign Service, being sent as residency surgeon to the court of H.H. the Maharajah of Udaipur, and thence he was in due course transferred to Bikanir. At Bikanir, as at Udaipur, he not only had charge of the Government medical work, but he was also superintendent of all the hospitals, dispensaries, and jails in these States and head of the vaccination department. In 1888 he acted as guardian to H.H. Ganga Singh, and he also held charge of the Bikanir Political Agency. His career in India was brought to a close by another attack of rheumatic fever, and in 1894 he was placed on permanent half-pay. In 1893 he became secretary of the Army Medical School and curator of the Museum at Netley. There he remained until the abolition of the Army Medical School, when his connexion with the service was finally severed. While at Netley he carried on a considerable private practice, and took an active interest in local affairs. In 1899 in consequence of the issue of the Royal Warrant, he was ordered to assume the title of captain, and in 1900 he was promoted to the temporary rank of major. During his life he did much useful literary work; he was for about 15 years a constant contributor to THE LANCET, and for many years he contributed the article on the Public Services to our Students' Number. He also published a book on the Indian Medical Service in 1890, and a work on "The Currencies of the Hindu States of Rajputana," illustrated by himself. He took great interest in biographical, genealogical, and heraldic work, and contributed many articles to "The Dictionary of National Biography." On the abolition of the Army Medical School he went to reside at Berkhamsted. Subsequently he moved to Exeter, where he died on Nov. 18th.

Dr. Wilfrid Webb will be greatly regretted by all who knew him. The above brief enumeration of the facts of his life shows that he was a highly gifted man, whose promising career was terribly prejudiced by ill-health.

WILLIAM MILLINGTON, M.D. EDIN., M.R.C.P. LOND.,
CONSULTING PHYSICIAN, WOLVERHAMPTON AND STAFFORDSHIRE
GENERAL HOSPITAL.

ANOTHER link with the past has been severed by the death, on Nov. 5th, of Dr. William Millington, of the Cleavelands, Wolverhampton, at the advanced age of 90 years.

Born at Oldbury in 1821, he began his professional studies at Guy's Hospital, London, where he came under the teaching

of Aston Key, Bransby Cooper, Cock, Hilton, and Poland. He afterwards proceeded to Dublin and to Edinburgh, where he was clinical assistant to Dr. Robert Christison and Dr. Allison. He tied with the late Sir John Burdon Sanderson for one of the University distinctions. In 1851 he obtained the graduation gold medal for the thesis on the Pathology of Pus in the Blood. Many of the observations upon which this essay was based were the outcome of his studies under Sir James Y. Simpson, who wrote of his pupil, "He is sure to acquire the very first rank in his profession in whatever part of the world he may settle, for I have seldom seen professional zeal and earnestness more thoroughly combined with extensive professional abilities and information." Until the last year of his life he continued to take the same keen interest in pathological and clinical details which had characterised him as a younger man.

Having already enjoyed extensive opportunities for clinical study, he spent the summer of 1843 in Paris, where he attended the hospital practice and teaching of Roux, Lisfranc, and Velpeau. He became a Member of the Royal College of Physicians in London in 1859. In 1852 he was elected honorary physician to the South Staffordshire and Wolverhampton Hospital, with which institution he was thus connected for 60 years. For many years he was indefatigable in his work there, where an enormous number of patients attended under him, and where his reputation added greatly to that of the hospital. At the same time he had a large and extended practice, both private and consulting. He will chiefly be remembered by many of his patients as a pioneer in the open-air treatment of consumption, of which he was always a strenuous advocate. On his retirement from the staff of the hospital in 1885 he was elected consulting physician. He was largely instrumental in founding the Wolverhampton Eye Infirmary and was a member of the managing committee.

Dr. Millington was one of the original members of the Staffordshire county council and did valuable work, especially on the health committee of that body. He was a liberal supporter of many charitable and religious institutions.

The deceased leaves a widow, who is a sister of Sir Robert Ball, the professor of astronomy at Cambridge, and of Sir Charles Ball, the Regius professor of surgery at the University of Dublin, both of whom attended his funeral.

WILLIAM HENRY WEBB, M.D. DURH., L.R.C.P. LOND.,
M.R.C.S. ENG., L.S.A.,
SURGEON-LIEUTENANT-COLONEL 2ND BATTALION DEVON REGIMENT (T.F.),
V.D.; MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH OF KINGSBRIDGE (DEVON)
URBAN AND RURAL DISTRICTS.

Dr. W. H. Webb died at Thurlestone, Devon, on Nov. 14th, in his fifty-ninth year. The deceased, who received his medical education at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, qualified M.R.C.S. Eng. and L.S.A. in 1876, ten years later he obtained the L.R.C.P. Lond., and graduated M.D. of Durham in 1893. Dr. Webb joined the late Dr. Cornish in partnership at Kingsbridge about 30 years ago, and on the retirement of the latter a few years later succeeded to the practice. He was highly respected and esteemed in Kingsbridge and the district, and had a very extensive practice. He was medical officer of health of the Kingsbridge urban and rural districts, honorary surgeon to the Kingsbridge Cottage Hospital, medical officer and public vaccinator for the third, fifth, and tenth districts of the Kingsbridge Union, and was also certifying factory surgeon for the district. He took a great interest in the Volunteer movement, and was Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel of the 2nd Battalion Devon Regiment (T.F.), V.D. He was a keen worker also in all local matters connected with Kingsbridge, and served on several of the public bodies connected with the town.

DEATHS OF EMINENT FOREIGN MEDICAL MEN.—The deaths of the following eminent foreign medical men are announced:—Dr. Bernhard Fraenkel, formerly honorary professor of laryngology in the University of Berlin, aged 75. His early professional life was spent in general practice in Berlin, and as a military surgeon during the wars of 1864, 1866, and 1870. Later he held various hospital appointments in Berlin and lectured on children's diseases. He then established a private dispensary for throat and nose cases, and obtained so much reputation for his scientific work in that field that the university took over the dispensary and made it a university clinic, Dr. Fraenkel being appointed