

GENERAL NOTES

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE,

1 Wimpole Street, London, W. 1.

Section of Laryngology—President, Mr H. J. Banks-Davis, F.R.C.P.—*Hon. Secretaries*, Mr J. F. O'Malley, F.R.C.S., and Mr E. D. D. Davis, F.R.C.S.

The next Meeting of the Section will be held on Friday, 1st February, at 4.45 P.M. Members who are desirous of showing patients and specimens should give notice of the same to the *Senior Hon. Secretary*, Mr J. F. O'Malley, 6 Upper Wimpole Street, London, W. 1., at least twelve days before the Meeting.

Section of Otology—President, Mr Sydney Scott, M.S. *Hon. Secretaries*, Mr Archer Ryland, F.R.C.S.Ed., and Mr T. H. Just, F.R.C.S.

The next Meeting of the Section will be held on Saturday, 2nd February, at 10 A.M. Members proposing to read papers must send a copy of the same at least twenty-one days in advance, and those desirous of showing patients or specimens must intimate the same to the *Senior Hon. Secretary*, Mr Archer Ryland, 50 Harley Street, London, W. 1., at least twelve days before the Meeting.

During the Session 1923-24, the *Sections of Laryngology and Otology* will meet upon the following dates:—

Section of Laryngology, on Friday 1st February, 7th March, 4th April, and 2nd May (*Annual Meeting*).

Section of Otology, on Saturday morning following each of the above dates, with the exception of the date in April.

A Conjoint Summer Meeting of the two Sections will be held in London on Friday and Saturday, 27th and 28th June 1924.

During the Session 1923-24, a Discussion upon Vertigo will be held by members of the Sections of Medicine, Neurology, Ophthalmology, and Otology.

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BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION ; BRADFORD, 1924.

The Ninety-second Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be held at Bradford in the latter part of July, under the Presidency of Mr J. Basil Hall, M.Ch. Cantab.

A combined Section of Laryngology and Otology, meeting upon two days, will be presided over by Walter Jobson Horne, M.D. (London).

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FINSEN LIGHT AND TUBERCULOSIS OF THE LARYNX.

On 3rd December Dr Strandberg, who is in charge of the Throat, Nose, and Ear Department of the Finsen Institute in Copenhagen, delivered, before the Royal Society of Medicine, London, a most interesting Lecture with an Epidiascopic illustration of his methods and their results.

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The Address was greatly appreciated by an audience of experts and was honoured by the presence of the Danish Minister, Count Preben Ahlefeldt Laurvig.

The best evidence of the impression left by Dr Strandberg's Lecture is the news which reaches us that the Finsen method is about to be installed in the King Edward VII. Sanatorium, Midhurst, in Alderman Treloar's Home at Alton, and in the Brompton Consumption Hospital, London.

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ANNUAL "JOURNAL" DINNER.

It will be within the recollection of some of our readers that, at the Dinner given to Dr Dan M'Kenzie, the late Editor of the *Journal*, on 2nd March of last year, the opinion was expressed that an Annual Journal Dinner should be held on the evening of the day appointed for the General Business Meeting of the Company. The date of the next Annual Business Meeting falls on *Friday, 7th March*, and it is proposed that the Dinner should take place on that evening.

The arrangements are in the hands of Mr Archer Ryland, Hon. Secretary of the Editorial Committee, 50 Harley Street, London, W. 1., to whom application for seats at the Dinner should be addressed. It will take place at Pagani's Restaurant, Great Portland Street, W.1., at 7.45 o'clock. Tickets 7s. 6d., payable at the table.

Sir William Milligan, Chairman of the Board of Directors, will preside.

It is hoped that the shareholders, subscribers, contributors and their guests will welcome a function that should assist in drawing together those who are working in the best interests of the *Journal*.

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THE VISITING ASSOCIATION OF THROAT AND EAR SURGEONS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Under the above title, there has been formed a Society of Throat and Ear Surgeons in Great Britain. The Association has been founded for the purpose of providing opportunity to its members of visiting, at intervals, the various Oto-Laryngological Clinics in this country and abroad. Somewhat similar Associations of Surgeons and Physicians have existed in Great Britain and in the United States for several years, and there is no doubt that the educational advantages to be derived from occasional visits to the various teaching centres are very real. We welcome, therefore, the foundation of such an Association in the specialty.

The object which the members have in view is to see the Clinic which is visited, conducting, as far as possible, its ordinary work. It is necessary, therefore, that the membership of the Association should be limited, so that there may be not only no over-crowding and consequent interference with the work of the Department, but that the visiting Surgeons should have no difficulty in seeing the Clinic in operation.

Under the Rules of the Association, there are two classes of Membership: the Ordinary Members, eligible for election between the ages of 30 and 55, limited to 20 in number, and subject to re-election annually;

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and the Honorary Members, limited to 10, and elected either from the Ordinary Members who reach the age limit, or from the group of men who may be regarded as possessing an international reputation in the specialty. In either case, Honorary Members must be over 55 years of age, and they are, like the Ordinary Members, subject annually to re-election. Eleven have been elected to Ordinary Membership as original members, and three Honorary Members have also been chosen. In the selection of new members, full consideration will be given to the scientific record of the candidates and some weight to the need of proper representation of the various teaching schools in the country.

Sir William Milligan has been elected as the first President, Mr Musgrave Woodman and Mr T. B. Layton as Honorary Secretaries, and Mr W. G. Howarth as Honorary Treasurer.

The Association proposes to visit one Home Clinic and one Foreign Clinic each year, and the members will be required to attend a minimum of 50 per cent. of the excursions over a period of two years. Edinburgh has been selected as the place of the first Meeting of the Association, and the date has been fixed for Friday and Saturday, 25th and 26th January 1924.

Applications for membership will be received by the Honorary Secretaries and will be submitted for consideration at the forthcoming Meeting of the Association in Edinburgh.

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“JOURNAL OF THE GLASGOW LEAGUE FOR THE HARD OF HEARING.”

We desire to draw the attention of otologists to this new publication, the first number of which appeared in November 1923. The Journal is the mouthpiece of the League which was founded in Glasgow in 1922, for the purpose of aiding the hard of hearing. The President of the League is Dr J. Kerr Love, whose valuable work and life-long interest in connection with the treatment and welfare of the deaf child, are so well known.

The need of an organisation of this kind, in a large and populous city like Glasgow, had long been felt by many of her citizens, directly and indirectly concerned in the future of the deaf. In the spring of 1922, a meeting was held, an Executive Committee was formed, and, very soon, the League for the Hard of Hearing was duly constituted. Through the generosity of the Education Authority of Glasgow, rooms in Stow College were placed at the disposal of the Club, and a very sympathetic interest in the movement was shown by the Authority in their desire to further both the educational and the social welfare of those who had been previously under their care.

The three main objects of the Glasgow League are, to furnish opportunities for the practice of lip-reading, to provide for the social enjoyment of its members, and to find employment for those who are out of work. During the winter months, lectures, games, social evenings and entertainments of various kinds are provided in the rooms of the League, while in summer, excursions into the country constitute the chief mode of recreation and education of its members.

In future numbers of the Journal, which the League proposes to issue twice a year, the work of this and other Leagues will be recorded.

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DIPLOMA IN LARYNGOLOGY AND OTÓLOGY.

The Conjoint Board of the Royal College of Physicians of London and the Royal College of Surgeons of England have elected Mr Arthur H. Cheatle, Mr H. J. Marriage, Sir St Clair Thomson and Mr Herbert Tilley as examiners for the above Diploma.

The first examination for the conferring of this qualification was held in London in December, when Dr James B. Horgan of Cork, and Dr W. Wilson (M.D., Queen's University, Belfast) of the Throat and Ear Clinic, King's College Hospital, London, received the Diploma.

The Regulations for the Diploma along with the Syllabus were published in the *Journal* in September 1923.

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"THE MECHANISM OF THE LARYNX."

A Lecture under the above title will be delivered by Dr V. E. Negus, in the Hall of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, Lincoln's Inn Fields, on the afternoon of Friday, 15th February, at 5 o'clock.

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THE LUMLEIAN LECTURES, 1924.

The Lumleian Lectures upon "Foreign Bodies in the Air Passages" will be delivered at the Royal College of Physicians, London, on the 3rd, 8th, and 10th April, by Dr Thomas M'Crae of Philadelphia. The lectures will be of special interest to laryngologists. Dr M'Crae, who has been so closely associated with the Bronchoscopic work of Dr Chevalier Jackson, will deal with the subject from the point of view of the physician.

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"LAURA, THE UNDAUNTED."

Dr Price-Brown, of Toronto, Canada, has completed an historical novel, entitled *Laura, the Undaunted*. The story is based upon the life of Laura Secord, and will be published early in the spring of this year.

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MARIE ERNEST GELLÉ.

We have to record the death, at the ripe old age of 89 years, of the distinguished French otologist, Dr Gellé, whose contributions to science have received such sympathetic notice from the pen of Marcel Lermoyez. Born at Beauvais, in 1834, Gellé was engaged in general practice for many years, and he had reached middle life before the publication of his first important work upon otology. In it, he dealt with the medico-legal significance of inspection of the middle ear in the new-born. As the result of observation, he had formed the opinion that the gelatinous material present in the tympanic cavity of the foetus was of the nature of a submucous oedema, and that after the first few respiratory efforts, the cavity became clear: consequently, this was an important point in estimating still-birth.

To the student of otology, his name is more familiarly associated with the Gellé test. In a paper read, in 1881, at the International Congress of Medicine in London, he described his method of investigating the mobility of the footplate of the stapes. Joseph Toynbee, by many careful dissections, had proved, in 1860, that progressive deafness, hitherto regarded as of

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nerve origin, was generally the result of lesions of the middle ear which gave rise to ankylosis of the stapes. Twenty years later, Gellé introduced the test which permitted the clinician to demonstrate the mobility or fixation of that ossicle.

In 1884, he showed to the Society of Biology the test of the Bi-aural Reflex. He pointed out that normally, when a vibrating tuning-fork is held in front of one ear, if the other ear is temporarily compressed with the finger, there is a weakened perception of the tuning-fork note during the period of compression, due to reflex contraction of the tensor tympani. Having found in a series of cases with cervical pachymeningitis which he studied in Charcot's Clinic, that the reflex disappeared, Gellé concluded that the centre of this reflex was situated in the cervical portion of the spinal cord.

He was an indefatigable worker. To Gellé it was not enough to carry through the day's work. Through the day's work and something more, he achieved much for otological science, and gained for himself a place in the history of French otology in the nineteenth century.

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Dr Herbert S. Birkett, Montreal, and Dr Chevalier Jackson, Philadelphia, have been elected Honorary Members of the Scottish Society of Otology and Laryngology.

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Dr J. M. Darling (Edinburgh) has been elected President of the Scottish Society of Otology and Laryngology for the ensuing year.

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At the recent General Election in December, Mr Somerville Hastings, F.R.C.S., Surgeon in charge of the Ear and Throat Department at the Middlesex Hospital, was elected to Parliament as Labour Member for Reading.

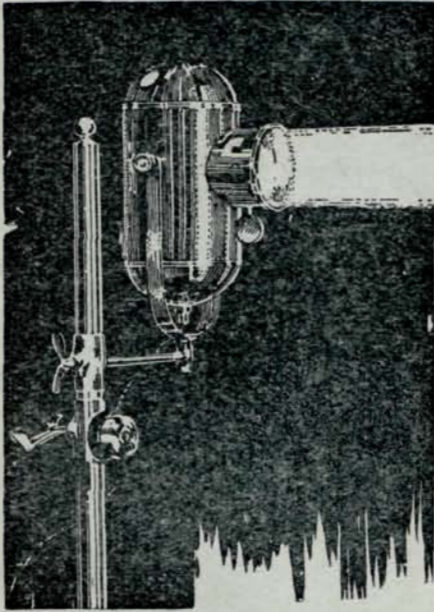
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BOOKS RECEIVED FOR REVIEW.

- Atti della Clinica Oto-Rhino-Laringoiatica della R. Università di Roma.* Diretta dai Prof. Gherardo Ferreri. Anno xx. 1922. Roma, 1923.
- Handbuch der Neurologie des Ohres.* By G. Alexander and C. Marburg, Bd. i., Heft 1. Urban & Schwarzenberg: Berlin und Wien, 1923.
- Handbuch der Biologischen Arbeitsmethoden.* Abt. V. By Prof. Dr Emil Aberhalden. Urban & Schwarzenberg: Berlin und Wien, 1923.
- The Medical Year Book,* 1924. Edited by Charles R. Hewitt. William Heinemann (Medical Books) Ltd. Price 12s. 6d.
- X-Rays: their Origin, Dosage, and Practical Application.* By W. E. Schall. Price 5s. John Wright & Sons, Ltd. Bristol, 1923.
- Hygiene of the Voice.* By Irving Wilson Vorhees, M.S. (Princeton), M.D. (Columbia). New York. The Macmillan Company. 1923. Pp. 212.
- Handbuch der Speziellen Chirurgie des Ohres und der Oberen Luftwege.* Edited by Dr L. Katz and Professor Blumenfeld. Vol. ii. Part 8. Curt Kabitzsch. Leipzig, 1923.

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