

Letters to the Editors

associated with the *Archivio Italiano di Otologia*, but after the death of Massei he edited the *Archivii Italiani di Laryngologia* until his death. His writings began in 1883 on subjects of general surgery and have continued regularly since then. The subjects to which he has devoted most attention being deafness in infancy and adolescence, otosclerosis, intracranial complications of otitis, tuberculosis and neoplasms of the larynx, the mechanics and physiology of voice production, and at the Congress at Copenhagen in July 1928 he read a paper on "Septicæmia of Pharyngeal Origin."

He was a member of all the Societies of the specialty of Europe and America and of the Italian Surgical Societies, and was recently made a corresponding member of the Section of Otology of the Royal Society of Medicine of London.

He served in the Turco-Italian War and was decorated for services during the Great War.

His great work, which lives after him, is the school at Rome from which a series of fully trained oto-laryngologists are going out into Italy and carrying with them the teaching, the technique and the enthusiasm of "Il Maestro" Gherardo Ferreri.

F. C. ORMEROD.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

TO THE EDITORS,

The Journal of Laryngology and Otology.

DEAR SIRS,—In your January issue there is a letter from Dr Pearce Sturm in which he advocates the exclusive use of the La Force Adenotome for the removal of adenoids. He states that this is the only instrument capable of removing the adenoid mass in one piece. I would like to draw his attention to a cage curette described by St Clair Thomson in *The British Medical Journal*, 15th July 1905. This instrument will remove an adenoid mass entire, with ease and certainty, and has many advantages over the clumsy instrument devised by La Force.

Some years ago, struck by the dogmatic advocacy of the La Force Adenotome by Dr Pearce Sturm, I gave the instrument a thorough trial at the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital, and was so disappointed with the results that I relegated it to the museum.

The size and shape of the nasopharynx varies within wide limits in different individuals. The La Force Adenotome is rigidly the same. Very often the box is too small to contain the adenoid mass or

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too large to introduce into a nasopharynx, and it is difficult to keep the cutting blade in close apposition to the posterior pharyngeal wall as it has to follow the rigid curve of the box.

In my hands at any rate, and in the hands of several colleagues, this instrument cannot compare with the cage curette for precision and efficiency.—I am, Your obedient servant, J. ARNOLD JONES.

TO THE EDITORS,

The Journal of Laryngology and Otology.

DEAR SIRs,—In the discussion at the Section of Otology of the Royal Society of Medicine, which appears in the February issue of the *Journal*, a speaker is reported as stating that the audiometer was “portable and simple to use, and he believed its cost was not excessive.”

In January of this year, I obtained a quotation from two firms in this country for the type of audiometer to which this speaker referred: the lower of these was £135.

The tuning-fork still has its uses.—I am, Sirs, Yours faithfully,

H. ROSS SOUPER.

GENERAL NOTES

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE.

1 Wimpole Street, London, W. 1.

Section of Otology.—*President*, Mr Somerville Hastings, M.S. *Hon. Secretaries*, Mr Nicol Rankin, M.C., M.B., 56 Harley Street, London, W.1, and Mr F. C. Ormerod, M.D., F.R.C.S., 22 Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.1.

The next Meeting of the Section will be held on Friday, 3rd May, at 10.30 A.M. Members desirous of showing patients or specimens should communicate with the Senior Hon. Secretary at least twelve days before the meeting.

Section of Laryngology.—*President*, Mr H. Bell-Tawse, F.R.C.S. *Hon. Secretaries*, Mr Lionel Colledge, F.R.C.S., 2 Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.1, and Mr M. E. Vlasto, F.R.C.S., 26 Wimpole Street, London, W.1.

The next Meeting of the Section will be held on Friday, 3rd May, at 5 P.M. Members desirous of showing patients or specimens should communicate with the Senior Hon. Secretary at least twelve days before the meeting.