

General Notes

phrase in Scots Doric, made the hours in his company slip away like so many minutes, and invariably left me with the conviction that, were he to write just as he spoke, the whole world would be the gainer, instead of only one solitary listener.

“It seems unbelievable that all this life and deep understanding should in the twinkling of an eye be gone from us.

“One evening he and I with a few others seated round a table were chatting lightly and discursively about nothing in particular, when—I cannot now recall in what connection; it may have been but a joke—someone casually let fall the remark, the commonplace remark, that while for things in general, our plain everyday philosophy might suffice, still there was, you might say, something—and I shall not forget Maclay’s quick turn to me, and his deep, low tones: ‘Aye! there is something more!’

“So, after all,—perhaps——

“In the meantime, to his friends still here, the world has become poorer and colder. Something—has been lost to us.”

GENERAL NOTES

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE,

1 Wimpole Street, London, W. 1.

Sections of Laryngology and Otology.—The Session 1926-27 will open on Friday, 5th November. The Section of Laryngology will meet on Friday, 5th November, at 5 P.M., and the Section of Otology on Saturday, 6th November, at 10.30 A.M.

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THE SEMON LECTURE, 1926.

Dr A. Brown Kelly, M.D., D.Sc. (Glasg.), has been invited by the Semon Lecture Board to deliver the Semon Lecture of the University of London. The address, the title of which will be announced later, will be given on the afternoon of Thursday, 2nd December.

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DIPLOMA IN LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY OF THE CONJOINT BOARD, LONDON.

The Royal College of Physicians, London, and the Royal College of Surgeons of England have recently granted the Diploma of D.L.O. to eleven candidates.

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SCOTTISH SOCIETY OF OTOTOLOGY AND LARYNGOLOGY.

The Society offers a prize of £20 for the best piece of Clinical or Laboratory Research Work in Oto-Laryngology. The prize is open to

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clinical tutors, house surgeons, and clinical assistants attached to the Clinics of the Ordinary and Corresponding Members of the Scottish Society of Otology and Laryngology. The papers embodying the research work must be sent to the Secretary of the Society, Dr W. T. Gardiner, 18 Chester Street, Edinburgh, before the 1st November 1926.

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JACKSONIAN PRIZE, ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

The subject selected for the Jacksonian Prize Essay, 1927, is, The Pathology, Diagnosis, and Treatment of Bronchiectasis and Abscess of the Lung.

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THE EFFECT OF TONSILLECTOMY ON RHEUMATIC INFECTION IN CHILDREN.

By the publication of the Report of the Special Sub-committee of the British Medical Association on Rheumatic Heart Disease in Children, the attention of the profession has recently been focussed upon the effect of tonsillectomy in children suffering from rheumatic infection. Dr Reginald Miller, in whose hands was placed the investigation of this aspect of the subject, has drawn certain deductions from the observations which he has been able to make.

He has found that the results obtained by the "follow-up" method of inquiry have been very contradictory. He has formed the opinion that the method of investigation which is more applicable to the problem is the close study of the rheumatic infection as it occurs in children whose tonsils have been completely removed. If in this group of children the infection shows signs of having been modified, while in children retaining their diseased tonsils a similar result cannot be noted, then conclusions may be legitimately drawn as to the effect of the operation. The report is based on the analysis of the symptoms in 45 tonsillectomised children over a period of one to five years. These have been compared with the symptoms in the same children prior to operation and controlled by analysis of the symptoms in 133 children retaining their tonsils.

The evidence is strongly in favour of the value of tonsillectomy. Sore throats, arthritis and carditis in all its forms are greatly diminished after the operation. Muscular pains remain frequent, tending to disappear gradually. Chorea, on the other hand, appears to be totally uncontrolled. Dr Miller is careful, however, to emphasise the fact that the number of cases is small and that they were for the most part early, though not necessarily, mild cases.

The value of the routine removal of tonsils in rheumatic children depends on many factors, and the report is not to be regarded as furnishing more than the results obtained in cases operated upon under specified conditions. In the removal of tonsils, only one factor predisposing to the disease is dealt with, and figures which show the value of the procedure will necessarily be diluted by many unsuccessful results.

The Report, which is published as a supplement in the *British Medical Journal* of 3rd July 1926, should be studied by the members of the speciality.

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THE "CANCER REVIEW."

Under the auspices of the British Empire Cancer Campaign a new Journal, with the above title, has appeared with the designed object of increasing the co-operation between the clinician and the scientific investigator.

The ideal aimed at in the Review is to provide an abstract of every important publication bearing upon the problems of cancer research in its widest sense. The Editor makes an appeal to those who publish papers and books dealing with this subject, from whatever point of view, to send a copy of the same to him at 19 Berkeley Street, London, W. 1.

The purpose of the *Cancer Review* should receive the cordial support of every laryngologist. The material which passes through his hands each year is considerable. The Section of Laryngology of the Royal Society of Medicine might even consider the advisability of appointing a small committee for the purpose of collecting and grouping the cases of malignant disease shown during each session, and reporting upon their nature and treatment to the Editorial Committee of the new Journal. By some such means as this the cancer problem might be assisted.

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BOOKS RECEIVED FOR REVIEW.

Diseases of the Nose and Throat, comprising Affections of the Trachea and Oesophagus. A Textbook for Students and Practitioners. By Sir St Clair Thomson, M.D., F.R.C.P. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.). Third Edition, with 12 Colour and 12 Black and White Plates and 379 figures in the Text. London, Cassell & Co., Ltd. 1926. Price 45s. net.

Diseases of the Ear. By the late Professor Adam Politzer. English Edition, revised and largely rewritten by M. J. Ballin. Sixth Edition; 776 pages; 302 figures in text. London, Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1926. Price 31s. 6d. net.

Contributions to the Art and Science of Otology. Lectures and Papers, 1892-1925. By Richard Lake, F.R.C.S., the G. E. Duveen Lecturer on Otology, University of London. London, Macmillan & Co. 1926. Price 15s. net.

The Nursing of Diseases of the Nose, Ear and Throat. By Michael Vlasto, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S., Assistant Surgeon to the Ear, Nose and Throat Department, West London Hospital. London, Faber & Gwyer, Ltd. 1926. Price 6s. net.

Hunter Tod's Diseases of the Ear. Revised and largely rewritten by George C. Cathcart, M.A., M.D., Consulting Surgeon to the Throat Hospital, Golden Square, London. 2nd Edition. Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press. 1926. Price 10s. 6d.

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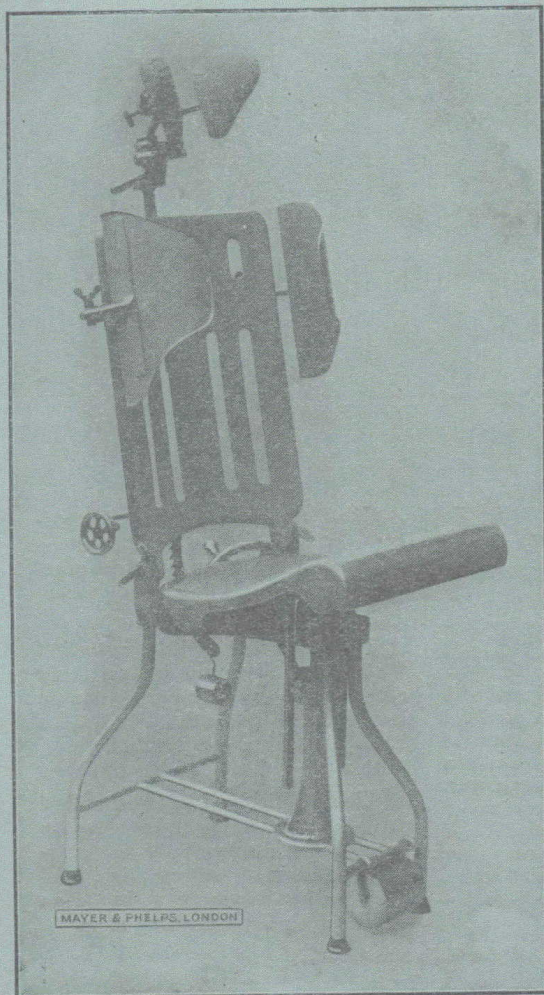
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Surgeon to Throat and Ear Department, General Hospital, Birmingham.

Exhibited at the meeting of the Section of Laryngology, Royal Society of Medicine, 6th November 1925.



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