

General Notes

treated by X-rays for ulceration of the skin of the neck." The words "by X-rays" should be omitted. They cannot have been written by me, as it is evident from my paper that it is important that the patient should not have been treated by X-rays during these years. These words will not be found in my manuscript, and it is possible that the mistake has arisen during the correction of my bad English. As I pointed out to you in September, I did not receive galley proofs.

I ask you if you will be so kind as to correct this important mistake, and to publish in your *Journal* the necessary correction. The sentence should read, "Between 1915 and 1921, she was frequently treated for ulceration of the skin of the neck."—I am, yours
A. VAN ROSSEM.

ROTTERDAM,

March 1924.

[We desire to express our regret that this misprint should have occurred in Dr Van Rossem's paper.—EDS.]

GENERAL NOTES

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE,

1 Wimpole Street, London, W. 1.

Section of Laryngology—President, Mr H. J. Banks-Davis, M.B., 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 Annual Meeting of the Section will be held on Friday, 2nd May, at 4.45 P.M. All communications should be addressed to the *Senior Hon. Secretary*, Mr J. F. O'Malley, F.R.C.S., 6 Upper Wimpole Street, London, W. 1.

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 Annual Meeting of the Section will be held on Saturday, 3rd May, at 10 A.M. Communications should be addressed to the *Senior Hon. Secretary*, Mr Archer Ryland, F.R.C.S.Ed., 50 Harley Street, London, W. 1.

The Conjoint Summer Meeting of the two Sections will be held in London on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 26th, 27th, and 28th June.

The Session will open on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock. Members of both Sections will dine together at the Langham Hotel on the evening of Friday, 27th. This Dinner will take the place of the Section Dinners usually held at the Annual Meetings.

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On account of the great number of visitors to London during the summer, Members of the two Sections who propose to attend the Summer Meeting are advised to secure hotel accommodation without any undue delay.

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The Annual Meeting of the American Laryngological, Rhinological, and Otological Society will be held at St Louis on 29th, 30th, and 31st May. *President*—Dr H. W. Loeb, St Louis. *Hon. Secretary*—Dr W. H. Haskin, New York City.

* * *

The Annual Meeting of the American Laryngological Association will be held at Swampscott, Mass., on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th June. *President*—Dr J. Payson Clark, Boston. *Hon. Secretary*—Dr George M. Coates, Philadelphia.

* * *

The Annual Meeting of the American Otological Association will be held at Swampscott, Mass., on 4th, 5th, and 6th June. *President*—Dr J. M. Rae, New York. *Hon. Secretary*—Dr Thomas J. Harris, New York.

* * *

The Annual Meeting of the American Medical Association will be held at Chicago from 9th to 13th June. The Section of Laryngology, Rhinology, and Otology will meet under the Presidency of Dr Wendell C. Phillips of New York, with Dr Samuel Iglauer of Cincinnati as Honorary Secretary.

* * *

The American Academy of Ophthalmology and Oto-Laryngology will meet in Montreal, Canada, on the 16th, 17th, and 18th September. *President*—Dr W. B. Lancaster, Boston, Mass. *Hon. Secretary*—Dr Luther C. Peter, Philadelphia.

* * *

SOCIÉTÉ FRANÇAISE D'OTO-RHINO-LARYNGOLOGIE, 1924.

As the result of the recent referendum issued with the object of determining the most convenient time for holding the Meeting of the above Society, we are informed by the Secretary that the month of October has been selected by the votes of the members as a suitable date. The next Meeting of the Society, therefore, will be held in October 1924; the precise date will be notified later.

* * *

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, BRADFORD, 1924.

The Ninety-second Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be held in Bradford from the 22nd to 25th July, under the Presidency of Mr J. Basil Hall, M.Ch.Cantab.

A Combined Section of Laryngology and Otology will meet on the 23rd and 24th July. *President*—W. Jobson Horne, M.D. *Vice-Presidents*—W. Appleyard, F.R.C.S.; C. A. Scott Ridout, M.S., F.R.C.S.; W. S. Syme, M.D., F.R.F.P.S.Glasg. *Hon. Secretaries*—T. H. Just, F.R.C.S., 16 Upper Wimpole Street, London, W. 1; Donald Watson, F.R.C.S., 103 Manningham Lane, Bradford.

General Notes

Among the subjects which will be dealt with in the Section are:—
1, Chronic Tonsillitis, the indications for, and the results of, treatment;
2, The Nasal Neuroses; and 3, The Importance of Early Treatment of
Acute Otitis.

* * *

FIRST INTERNATIONAL OTO-RHINO-LARYNGOLOGICAL CONGRESS, COPENHAGEN, 1925.

In the April number of the *Journal* we intimated that the members of the Danish Oto-Laryngological Society had been reluctantly obliged to postpone the issue of invitations to the above Congress. We have been asked by the Secretary of the Society to publish the following excerpt:—

At a Meeting held on 6th February 1924, the Danish Oto-Laryngological Society adopted the following resolution:—

“On 1st November 1922, the Society resolved to convoke an International Congress of Oto-Laryngologists to be held in Copenhagen in 1925 or 1926. In view of the fact that this resolution was made in the supposition that the Congress should be strictly international, and that invitations would be issued to all nations, and in view, further, of the fact, that according to the firm conviction of the Society, the conditions suitable for an International Congress do not at present exist, it has now been decided to postpone the invitations to the said Congress until a time more suitable than the present for the realisation of the Society's plans.”

* * *

THE LATE SIR WILLIAM MACEWEN, C.B., F.R.C.S.

By the death of Sir William Macewen on the 22nd March, the University of Glasgow has been deprived of her distinguished Professor of Surgery, and Otology has to mourn the loss of one of the pioneers in cerebral surgery. The occasion is a fitting one on which to draw attention to his early work in this field, which formed the basis of the operative procedures which so many otologists are now carrying out from day to day.

While yet a comparatively young man, Macewen had become impressed with two lines of research which were of the highest importance in the further advancement of surgery: the improvement in operative methods which had become possible by Lister's work, then in process of development in Glasgow, and the experimental investigations upon the brain which Fritsch and Hitzig had demonstrated in 1870, the full significance of which became recognised in this country in 1873, when Sir David Ferrier published his observations on the functions of the cerebral convolutions. Stimulated by the work of Lister and Ferrier, and recognising the clinical importance of the researches of these men, Macewen made practical use of the lessons thus learnt, and, between 1876 and 1883, he achieved some remarkable successes in the domain of cerebral surgery. In an address delivered in Glasgow, in 1888, he recorded amongst his cases of brain tumours the notes of the case of a young girl admitted *in extremis*, in 1881, with a temporal lobe abscess. This he evacuated, but without success. Sir Charles Ballance, in his historical account of the development of the surgery of otitic brain abscess, refers to this case as being probably the first in which a brain abscess due to ear disease had been opened during life,

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without the guidance of a fistulous tract. Macewen's first successful case of otitic cerebral abscess was published in 1887, shortly after the publication of the two successful cases recorded by Arthur E. Barker and F. M. Caird.

In 1893, Macewen produced his classical monograph on the *Pyogenic Diseases of the Brain and Spinal Cord* and his *Atlas of Head Sections*, both volumes representing the work of his own hands and constituting a lasting monument to his industry and to his meticulous care in recording clinical observations. In their wealth of anatomical and pathological detail, they supply a storehouse of information for all who are interested in this department of surgical endeavour. His statistics published at the end of the volume were remarkable. Of twenty-five cases of abscess of the cerebrum and cerebellum, nineteen were operated upon and eighteen recovered. Of five cases of extradural abscess, all were successfully dealt with. Thirteen out of seventeen cases of sigmoid sinus thrombosis had a successful termination, the four fatal cases having lung infection and systemic toxæmia prior to interference.

* * *

"THE EARLY PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF THE WESTERN INFIRMARY, GLASGOW."

Many men in our specialty who knew the late Dr James Walker Downie, and a host of others who studied medicine in Glasgow in the latter half of last century, will be interested to learn that a posthumous volume from his pen, full of instructive information concerning the professional life of a number of the leading teachers in the Glasgow School of Medicine of that period, has just been published for private circulation. Through the kindness of Mrs Walker Downie, to whom the preparation of her husband's manuscript for the Press must have been a labour of love, a copy of the book has come into our hands. We welcome the opportunity thus given to us of drawing our readers' attention to a volume which, both from a literary point of view and from its historic interest in the progress of a great Medical School, is worthy of perusal. During his lifetime, the author had shown his capacity as a writer of medical history when, in 1908, he published the history of *The Glasgow Medico-Chirurgical Society*.

In his last contribution, which again furnishes evidence of the same accomplishment, Dr Walker Downie has elected to describe the sayings and doings of six of his teachers, men who assisted in maintaining the reputation of their University and Hospital, while interwoven with the personal story, there are many incidents connected with the development of the Glasgow School. Sir William T. Gairdner, K.C.B., Dr James Finlayson, and Sir T. M'Call Anderson, the physicians; Dr Alexander Patterson, Sir George H. B. Macleod, and Dr George Buchanan, the surgeons, are brought before the reader as the original visiting staff of the Western Infirmary, when, in 1874, its doors were opened for the reception of patients.

Few students fail to preserve throughout their life interesting recollections of their former teachers, of their strong and their weak points, their mannerisms and their eccentricities, along with some medical or surgical dictum, uttered in such a way as to leave a permanent impression upon the mind which receives it. Dr Walker Downie, to judge by what he has

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written, appears to have been specially endowed with a retentive memory and with a facility of expression which has enabled him not only to memorise a series of anecdotes relating to his teachers, but to transcribe them in an attractive and sympathetic manner, entirely free from any ill-natured touch. If the volume should fall into the hands of those who were acquainted with the men whom Dr Downie describes, many pleasant memories of student days will doubtless be re-awakened. *The Early Physicians and Surgeons of the Western Infirmary, Glasgow*, exemplifies, once more, the doctor in literature.

* * *

PRESENTATION TO DR ADOLPH BRONNER, BRADFORD.

On 13th September 1923, in the Town Hall, the Lord Mayor of Bradford made a presentation to Dr Adolph Bronner of two suit cases and a gold cigarette case as a tribute from his fellow townspeople to the excellent work which he had performed during his thirty-five years as surgeon to the Royal Eye and Ear Hospital.

His father, the late Dr Edward Bronner, had been instrumental, in 1857, in building the Hospital. The Institution gained the Royal mark of favour in 1907.

The Lord Mayor very truly remarked in making the presentation that "Dr Adolph Bronner is laying down his work to enjoy a well-earned rest. He has been energetic and untiring in the profession which he has adorned, and he has been a sympathetic and warm-hearted friend to poor and afflicted persons who have sought his advice."

* * *

We have been asked by Mr Michael Vlasto, F.R.C.S., 28 Wimpole Street, London, W. 1, to bring to the notice of our readers his desire to obtain post-mortem specimens or sections of the submaxillary and sublingual salivary glands, of both sides, from cases of old-standing, unilateral, chronic middle ear suppuration, which may, or may not, have undergone the radical mastoid operation, and which have died from intracranial complications or from other causes.

The receipt of these specimens would greatly facilitate his research into the question of the atrophy of the glands, as the result of interference with their nerve supply through the chorda tympani. Communications should be addressed direct to Mr Michael Vlasto.

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BOOKS RECEIVED FOR REVIEW.

Intranasal Surgery. By Fred J. Pratt, M.D., F.A.C.S., and John A. Pratt, M.D., F.A.C.S., Assistant Professors, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Medical School, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. Illustrated with 195 half-tone Engravings. Pp. 334. Price 5 dollars net. Philadelphia: F. A. Davis Company, Publishers, 1924.

The Medical Annual, 1924. A Year-Book of Treatment and Practitioners' Index. Bristol: John Wright & Sons, Ltd. Price 20s. net.

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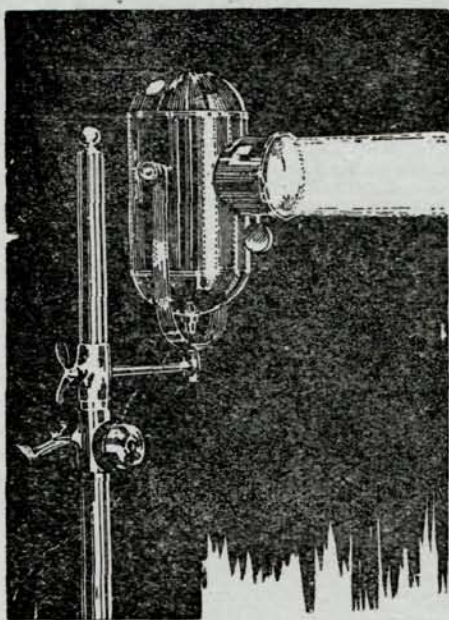
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