

General Notes

average of 14 per cent. Others were improved ; no benefit accrued in 186, and in 22 the local condition became worse.

A case was never submitted to the galvano-cautery until sufficient time had elapsed to note the improvement which occurred in nearly every case from general sanatorium treatment alone. It is employed mainly when the general conditions are favourable and when the spontaneous healing under silence or whispering appears to be stationary or advancing slowly. It is most promising when the pulmonary disease is limited and quiescent if not improving, or when it is diffuse but chronic and indolent. Of the cases under consideration during ten years, 74 were thought suitable for this line of treatment. Entire disappearance of the local lesion and its replacement by scar tissue or a restitution to normal was obtained in 46, that is in 62 per cent. Of these, 28 are still alive, and in 6 of them the cure has persisted for ten years. Although relapses may occur, a lasting arrest may be secured.

The total number of cases at Midhurst cured by a combination of the three methods just mentioned during the period of ten years was 119, *i.e.*, 24 per cent. The galvano-cautery claimed the highest proportion, while whispering yielded the lowest.

The Report illustrates in a striking manner the importance of the long-continued clinical observation of a large series of patients afflicted with one and the same form of malady, and the author is to be congratulated upon the publication of a valuable piece of research work.

A. LOGAN TURNER.

GENERAL NOTES

SECTION OF OTOTOLOGY—ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE.

With the termination of the Session, 1923-24, it is not without interest to consider the effect of the arrangement instituted in the autumn of 1923, whereby the Section of Otology met on the day following the Meeting of the Section of Laryngology, instead of, as previously, at a different period of the month.

With this object in view we have obtained the figures showing the attendance of Members during the Session 1922-23, and those during the Session which has just terminated. For the purpose of comparison it is necessary to select the corresponding Meetings in the two Sessions, as in the annexed Table:—

Section of Otology.

Session 1922-23.				Session 1923-24.			
November	35	November	63	December	41	February	44
January	37	December	41	February	44	March	49
February	40	February	44	March	49	May	24
March	46	March	49	May	24		
May	27	May	24				
	185				221		

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Although the actual increase of 36 in the attendance under the new arrangement is not very marked, the change has on the whole worked well and has proved satisfactory. It has undoubtedly been convenient for the members of the Section non-resident in London, and its success would appear to justify its continuance.

* * *

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.

The following provisional programme has been arranged:—

Wednesday, 23rd July—Discussion: Chronic Tonsillitis—Indications for and Results of Treatment; to be opened by Dr A. Brown Kelly. Mr C. A. Scott Ridout, Dr J. J. Perkins, Dr Leonard Findlay, Dr J. S. Fraser, and Mr E. D. D. Davis will take part in the Discussion.

In the afternoon a Paper will be read on Nasal Neuroses by Dr Neil Maclay, to be followed by a Demonstration in the Royal Eye and Ear Hospital.

Thursday, 24th July—General Discussion on the “Importance of the Early Treatment of Acute Otitis,” to be opened by Mr J. F. O’Malley.

Paper on “Cerebellar Abscess,” by Dr J. S. Fraser.

“Some Osseous Growths of the Nasal and Adjacent Bones,” by Mr W. H. Kelson.

“Definite Diagnosis in affections of the Ear, Nose, and Throat,” by Dr W. S. Syme.

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

Through the courtesy of Professor Burger arrangements have been made to hold the second Meeting of the Association in Amsterdam from the 27th to the 29th September. It is hoped that it will be possible also to visit both Utrecht and Leyden.

* * *

THE SEMON LECTURE, 1924.

Dr Jean Guisez, Paris, has been invited by the Semon Lecture Board to give the Semon Lecture, University of London. The address, which will deal with Malignant Disease of the Oesophagus, will be delivered in the Hall of the Royal Society of Medicine, on Thursday, 6th November, at 3 o’clock.

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THE MITCHELL LECTURE, 1924.

Sir St Clair Thomson, M.D., will deliver the Mitchell Lecture on Tuberculosis of the Larynx, on the 6th November, at 5 o'clock, in the Hall of the Royal College of Physicians of London, Pall Mall East.

* * *

During the month of March two Discussions took place upon certain aspects of Nasal Accessory Sinus Disease. On the 7th March, the Section of Laryngology of the Royal Society of Medicine discussed "Suppurative Diseases of the Upper Nasal Sinuses," and on the 29th of the month, the Scottish Society of Otolaryngology and the Scottish Ophthalmological Club dealt conjointly with "The Relation of Visual Disturbances to Inflammatory Affections of the Posterior Group of Sinuses."

We have taken the opportunity which these two Discussions have provided to devote the greater part of the current number of *The Journal* to the publication of the papers which were read and of the discussions which followed. At the close of the Meeting in Edinburgh a Committee, consisting of four ophthalmologists and four laryngologists, was appointed with instructions to formulate and carry out a scheme of conjoint investigation and to report the results to the two Societies, in 1926, at another conjoint meeting.

It is hoped that by this means more precise knowledge will be obtained regarding the relations which may be found to exist between affections of the sinuses and lesions of the optic nerve. It is obvious from the discussion which took place and from an examination of the literature dealing with the subject that much closer co-operation than has been hitherto practised is necessary between the various Departments concerned, if a satisfactory solution of the problem is to be arrived at.

* * *

THE LATE PROFESSOR S. G. SHATTOCK, F.R.S.

To the members of the Sections of Laryngology and Otolaryngology of the Royal Society of Medicine, the news of the death of Professor Shattock, on the 11th May, will be received with sincere regret. As a pathologist of outstanding ability and as a master of morbid anatomy, his opinion was invariably sought by them upon all points of pathological difficulty, and his reports were accepted as the last word in diagnosis. His attendance at the meetings, from time to time, was always cordially welcomed, and he took infinite pains in seeking to throw light on obscure points which were brought before his notice. Receiving, as he did, the bulk of the material obtained in the Throat and Ear Departments of the London Hospitals, his experience in the examination of morbid conditions in the upper air and food passages was very considerable, and his opinion, in consequence, became of great value. His services in the elucidation of difficult pathological problems will be greatly missed by a large number of the profession.

Born in 1852, and obtaining the qualifying diploma of the Royal College of Surgeons of England in 1874, Professor Shattock, from the first, turned his attention to the study of pathology. He held, in succession, the

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appointment of Curator of the Anatomical and Pathological Museum of University College and of St Thomas's Hospital, and, finally, the Pathological Curatorship of the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, which post he held at the time of his death.

Sir Charles Ballance, in writing of his friend, thus summarises his viewpoint on life: "Unlike other men, Shattock possessed but one ambition, namely, work and discovery in the department of science to which his life was devoted. He was a scientific worker of untiring and endless industry. He despised notoriety and did not understand those who sought it. He was shy, reserved, elusive, but transparently sincere. He had a keen sense of humour, which added to his usefulness and distinction as a teacher."

* * *

"GEORGE MACDONALD AND HIS WIFE."

The centenary of the birth of George Macdonald, whose literary life covered a period of nearly forty-two years, has been signalled by the publication of his Biography, written by his eldest son Dr Greville Macdonald. In his home at Haslemere, the author of this volume, during the years which have elapsed since his retirement from the active work of the Specialty, has, in a number of tales, given proof that he inherits some of the imaginative inspiration and literary ability of his forbear. In "The Child's Inheritance," "The Magic Crook," "Jack and Jill," and in "Billy Barnicoat," there is to be found ample evidence of his descriptive power as a story-teller.

In the centenary volume, to which G. K. Chesterton contributes a foreword, Greville Macdonald has given us an interesting and sympathetic story of the life of his parents. On both sides of the house, George Macdonald was of Celtic stock. He possessed the familiar characteristics of the Gael, his devotion to soil, his love of liberty, his intolerance of injustice, his eloquence and the love of learning; while romance, devotion and piety find their niche in his intellectual equipment. These attributes had their influence in moulding the character of the work of the Scottish novelist and poet of the nineteenth century, whose difficulties and early struggles, and whose gradual rise to a recognised position of distinction in the contemporary literature of the period have been so ably portrayed by his son in his most recent book.

We learn, too, from its pages that the English-speaking peoples are probably indebted to Greville Macdonald and his sisters for the publication of *Alice in Wonderland*. The enthusiasm which the reading of the manuscript aroused in their youthful minds appears to have been largely responsible in influencing "Lewis Carroll" to give his story to the world.

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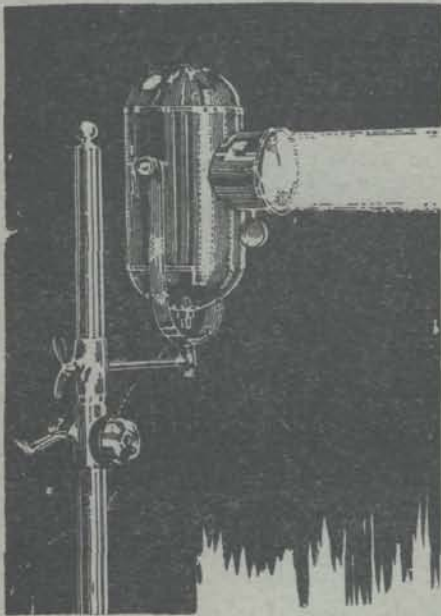
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