Correspondence.

"Audi alteram partem."

"THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1897."—THE HUNTER CASE.

Sirs,—Since the appearance of the above-named paper in The Lancet of Sep. 29th I had the advantage of receiving the opinions of many barristers, solicitors, and medical men well qualified to form judgments on the points raised. There is a general consensus of opinion that the workman should be bound to send a medical certificate of injury and whether the claimant is suffering from any disease likely to affect the duration of his disability. It is also agreed that the workman should not be made to pay wages under the Workmen's Compensation Act during the regulations for the necessary payments by the Government. It has been pointed out to me that the payment of half the claimant's wages is also agreed that the workman should not be made to pay wages under the Workmen's Compensation Act during the duration of his disability. It is also agreed that the workman should not be made to pay wages under the Workmen's Compensation Act during the regulations for the necessary payments by the Government.

I am, Sirs, yours faithfully,
JAMES R. UPTON.

RARE (?) COMPLICATIONS OF TYPHOID FEVER.

To the Editors of The Lancet.

Sirs,—In several recent annotations you have called attention to the "rare" complications of typhoid fever which have been recorded in England and elsewhere. The two most recent instances are "suppurative orchitis" and "multiple ulcers of the vulva." With all due deference to the expressions of authorities as to the respective rarity of the various complications of this disease I venture to think that even the rarest are constantly met with by physicians, although they may not be reported. The result is that a few authorities publish a series of cases and reckon the rarity of the few cases which from time to time are reported by others.

In support of my statement I may mention that within the last two or three years I myself have attended patients with typhoid fever complicated with "suppurative orchitis" (one case) and "hemorrhage under the skin" (two cases, while I have lately known of a third). At the present time I have a young man in the fourth week with hemiplegia (right-sided) and hydro pneumatocele of the chest from cerebral affection. There is also a young lady who developed ulcers on the mucous surfaces of the labia majora and on the labia minora in the second week. Here in a short period and in a comparatively small number of cases (in 30 cases) are seen some of the supposed rare complications.

I could mention other interesting conditions met with in the same period, such as typhoid fever in a woman seven months pregnant without abortion, &c. I may have been unfortunate in the selection of the cases for which I have no fancy there are many others equally fortunate. Most people, especially those who see most, do not care about rushing into print with every unusual isolated case, hence the "rarity" of the unusual. It has occurred to me that if The Lancet and British Medical Journal each had a page for weekly observations—each note not to exceed two or three lines, with each note not to exceed two or three lines, with its own general practice in a district was to sit in judgment and authoritatively decide upon the views advanced by men practising in opposition to himself when they had given evidence as medical witnesses. It is considered generally that the appointment of consultants as medical assessors would command the approval of the professions. It would also be advantageous from a every unusual isolated case, hence the "rarity" of the unusual. It has occurred to me that if The Lancet and British Medical Journal each had a page for weekly observations—each note not to exceed two or three lines, with, if you like, the name of the observer—that we should not have a valuable basis on which to establish our statistics.
Wallasey, Oct. 10th, 1899.

For no one would hesitate to send a note where a "paper" might be considered so dubious.

I am, Sirs, yours faithfully,

W. Blair Bell, M.B. Lond., &c.

A MODIFICATION OF THE ARONSON AND PHILLIPS STAINING METHOD AND ITS APPLICATION IN THE CASE OF MALARIAL BLOOD.

To the Editors of The Lancet.

SIRS,—In The Lancet of Sept. 30th, p. 889, Mr. Edward G. Horder has written a short clinical note upon the staining of malarial blood. In connexion with this subject he puts his readers in the way of the preparation of the cover, the heating, and the staining. Under the first of these headings he introduces what he appears to think a novelty,—that is, the application of Manson's smearing method to cover-slips. May I be allowed to point out that this same application was described in a paper by Dr. R. Howard and myself in the Journal of Tropical Medicine for February, 1899? Under his second and third headings he makes statements with which we cannot agree. In the preparation of the cover, staining which he describes may be enough for pigmentated parasities—whichtby-the-bye, can be seen without staining—but they are not, satisfactory for the purposes of research.

In our paper we gave an account of the various methods we have employed, and as a matter of fact we have tried both his method of fixing and that of staining and we discarded them as useless because of their coarseness. We have laid it down, as others have done before us, that it is impossible to be too sure in staining blood films which may contain a few young parasites, and we are quite convinced that with the rough-and-ready methods which Mr. Horder describes for fixing and staining it would be impossible to find one or two young quranta parasites. If I might be allowed to say so, his methods are methods of first adopt ascendups to re-inserted. In reply the reason assigned was that a communication had been sent to my correspondent "Col. R.A.M.C." points out with surprise that it might be reinstated. In reply the reason assigned was that a communication had been sent to my correspondent "Col. R.A.M.C." points out with surprise that it might be reinstated.

As I have been resident in New South Wales, I wonder why the same reason does not apply to the case of the annihilation of the Barracks. However, as the Barracks are to be used for only one regiment, it is probable that the Barracks are to be used for only one regiment.

I am, Sirs, yours faithfully,

Gay's Hospital, Oct. 7th, 1899.

WALTER C. C. PAKES.

THE MEDICAL REGISTER.

To the Editors of The Lancet.

SIRS,—In The Lancet of July 1st, recently to hand, your correspondent "Col. R.A.M.C." points out with surprise that the name of Sir Samuel Rowe, who has been dead for a number of years, still appears on the Medical Register. Some time ago, on looking over the Register for 1896, I discovered that my name had been omitted and thereupon I wrote to the General Medical Council asking why and that it might be reinstated. In reply the reason assigned was that a communication had been sent to my correspondent "Col. R.A.M.C." points out with surprise that it might be reinstated.

As I have been resident in New South Wales, I wonder why the same reason does not apply to the case of the annihilation of the Barracks. However, as the Barracks are to be used for only one regiment, it is probable that the Barracks are to be used for only one regiment.

I am, Sirs, yours faithfully,

Gay's Hospital, Oct. 7th, 1899.

WALTER C. C. PAKES.

A GENEROUS GIFT: IN MEMORIAM.—Lord Rock-wood has handed over the Cottage Hospital, Broad Oak, Essex, as a gift to the parish in memory of the late Lady Rockwood, whose personal funds have been subscribed (over £400) for the purpose of maintaining the institution. In addition to this gift upwards of £400 have been subscribed among her ladyship's personal friends to be appropriated as an endowment fund.

THE MALARIA EXPEDITION TO WEST AFRICA.

In spite of several attempts by the members of the expedition to find the breeding-places of anopholes at Wilberforce, the station of the 3rd West India Regiment, the search has been in vain. But there has been no increase in the number of mosquitoes at the barracks. The failure is probably accounted for by the following circumstances. The nature of the surface is such that water runs away very quickly down the hill and can only collect in a few small holes in the surface of the rocks. These are continually scouring out during heavy rain and quickly dry up during sunshine. This is the same explanation of the nine or ten times that the heavy rain has to scour out these puddles, could they serve as breeding-places for mosquitoes. Such conditions naturally occur but rarely and, as already mentioned, have chance apparently only once during the seven weeks' stay of the expedition at Sierra Leone. The experience of the expedition at Wilberforce has been exceedingly instructive and affords very strong evidence of the truth of the mosquito theory. Here but one genus of mosquito—anopholes—and but one species of that genus, known in the barracks of the regiment. Of over a hundred of these mosquitoes caught at various times during the period of seven weeks, 26 per cent. proved to be infected, some showing a few sygoteles only, others many and containing numerous "germinal rods" or "zygoblasts" in the females of saliva. The three species described by Dr. Gerrard in The Lancet of June 3rd, 1899, p. 1490.

I am, Sirs, yours faithfully,

WALTER C. C. PAKES.