

name of the parish, the houses being unnumbered, I fail to see how the notice can be delivered to the right person. Form H ought to have a column with the name of the parent or guardian of the child to whom the notice could be sent.

I am, Sirs, yours faithfully,

T. WOODS,
Public Vaccinator.

Gillingham, Dorset.

P.S.—It may be useful to many of your readers to know that the vaccine lymph from a capillary tube can be easily and safely ejected upon the point of the lancet or other instrument by breaking off one end and holding the other in the flame of a spirit lamp, thus doing away with the "lymph ejector."

SALIPYRIN IN INFLUENZA.

To the Editors of THE LANCET.

SIRS,—As far as I can gather this drug appears to be but little known and less used in this country. In Germany its specific action in influenza has already been widely recognised. During the present epidemic I have used salipyrin very largely and my experience has been such that I think a therapeutic note is justified in THE LANCET. Given in a mild case early enough the disease is cut short in a few hours; in what would be a severe case the pain is quickly removed, the temperature falls gradually, and, what is most important, there is no collapse, depression, or cardiac weakness from the action of the drug. Salipyrin is a salicylate of antipyrin and is supposed to break up in the alimentary canal into salicylic acid and antipyrin. It does not appear, however, that the depressing effects of antipyrin are manifested where salipyrin is used; the action seems to be chiefly antiseptic and anti-malarial. I have given it in three-grain tabloids, from three to six grains every three hours, according to the severity of the case.

I am, Sirs, yours faithfully,

A. BUTLER HARRIS, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. Oxon.
Loughton, Essex, March 13th, 1899.

THE MIDWIVES' INSTITUTE AND THE BILL FOR THE REGISTRATION OF MIDWIVES.

To the Editors of THE LANCET.

SIRS,—The enclosed letter is being laid before the Midwives Bill Committee by the Incorporated Midwives' Institute.

I am, Sirs, yours faithfully,

ROSALIND PAGET.

12, Buckingham-street, Strand, W.C., March 14th, 1899.

[INCLOSURE.]

12, Buckingham-street, W.C., March 14th, 1899.

To the Chairman of the Midwives Bill Committee.

SIR,—The Council of the Incorporated Midwives' Institute, after a conference with their members, have requested me as their representative to lay before your committee their views on the present Bill.

The Council of the Incorporated Midwives' Institute consider this Bill inferior to that of last year, but they are, however, so strongly impressed with the urgent need for legislation that they will offer no opposition to the present Bill so long as the following points are insisted on.

1. That the final decision in all cases be in the hands of the central authority (see clause 9, Duties of Supervising Authority, and clause 10, Annual and Local Certificate). They consider with regard to clause 10 that their interests are not sufficiently safeguarded.

2. That their representation on the central board is retained and that an amendment is asked for—"that the nominees of the Privy Council should be two lay persons, one a woman."

3. That the certificate of the London Obstetrical Society be retained as a qualification for licence.

Your committee will doubtless consider that these three points are some of them already dealt with in the Bill and that the others will follow as a natural sequence. The reason the council of the Institute have called your attention to them is because of the amendments to this Bill that have appeared in the *British Medical Journal*, and which will doubtless be largely supported by the medical profession.

The Council of the Incorporated Midwives' Institute consider the machinery of the new clauses to be so complicated that they will prove unworkable and provide only a "nominal" protection to the mother, and the "pretence" of a monopoly of practice to the licensed midwife. They consider the unconscientious midwife will have every opportunity of evading the law, while the conscientious midwife is controlled at every turn and might possibly fall a victim to local jealousy owing to the preponderance of medical representation on the Midwives Board. A further danger is created by the uncertainty regarding the official position of the person to be appointed as local supervising authority.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

ROSALIND PAGET

Honorary Treasurer, Midwives' Institute, and Representative on the Midwives Bill Committee.

STOCKPORT CENTRE, ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION.

To the Editors of THE LANCET.

SIRS,—Referring to the recent public meeting of the above centre and on the strength of a garbled and one-sided account thereof in the *Stockport Advertiser*, you have seen fit in your issue of 18th inst. to direct certain strictures against members of the profession which you specially represent. In reliance upon your adherence to your motto "*Audi alteram partem*" copies of other newspaper reports are enclosed for your information, together with certain correspondence which may enlighten you as to the true facts. Your inference that it was insinuated that the local secretary of the St. John Ambulance Association was making a profit out of the association merely shows that the proverbial red herring has been drawn across the track. His discourteous attitude towards some members of the medical profession and others interested in ambulance work is the real cause of the present dissatisfaction. *Not only was no insinuation of dishonesty made but the suggestion was repeatedly repudiated.*

Your remark that a public meeting is not the best place for inquiry into such matters represents the view taken by the Medical Society who decided that the local St. John secretary was not to be attacked unless he first assailed the Medical Society or one of its members. This he at once did and was attacked in turn.

I accept the entire responsibility for the statements in this letter, which I request you to publish in fairness to the medical men concerned.

I am, Sirs, yours faithfully,

Victoria-park, Stockport, Feb. 26th, 1899.

C. PORTER.

"THE TALLERMAN TREATMENT AND ITS COUNTERFEITS."

To the Editors of THE LANCET.

SIRS,—Will you allow me to correct an impression that has been formed through the misleading statements in the press that the Tallerman apparatus is heated by gas only? That apparatus is heated equally well with any heating agent—electricity, gas, or oil—and can therefore be taken anywhere and used with any heating agent available. The first two are in use at the company's institute at Welbeck-street. The Greville electric apparatus is, in which view I am supported by two well-known medical men, the same as an old electric heating apparatus that has been standing in this institute for over three years and was originally surrendered to this company as an imitation by a medical man who accompanied the surrender with a letter binding himself not to infringe the company's rights in a similar manner again.

The introduction by members of the medical profession of this apparatus and others of a similar nature in order to counterfeit the Tallerman treatment by the local application of dry air heated to high temperatures is, having regard to all the circumstances, indefensible, whilst the attempt to deprive me of the credit of inventing this new treatment by writing about the Greville "system" and "method" is an attempt to justify a line of action which, to my way of thinking, is neither in accordance with professional ethics nor in the interests of the profession.

I am, Sirs, yours faithfully,

LEWIS A. TALLERMAN.

Welbeck-street, Cavendish-square, W.,
March 13th, 1899.

ASSAULT ON A PUBLIC VACCINATOR AT YEovil.—At the Borough Petty Sessions held at Yeovil on March 7th a school attendance officer was charged with assaulting Mr. C. J. Marsh, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Edin., public vaccinator for the Yeovil Union. Evidence showed that Mr. Marsh called upon defendant in reference to the vaccination of his child and asked him whether he would have it vaccinated or not. The defendant declined to answer the question and became abusive to Mr. Marsh and finally told him to go down the steps, pushing him on the shoulder. The bench of magistrates unanimously fined the defendant 5s.