of excluding chronic cases from sanatorium treatment even if the 5 per cent. for whom (according to Dr. Dunbar) a cure could be predicted would be found prepared to acquiesce in their exclusion. Finally, where there is a proper organisation of sanatorium, dispensary, and hospital treatment, together with an efficient system of examination and diagnosis (as, for instance, in Birmingham, where the tuberculosis scheme is probably a model), it will be found that the after-history records of chronic consumptives treated in sanatoria are infinitely better than those quoted by Dr. Dunbar.

If one might suggest any alterations in the present system the existing control by Insurance Committees should be abolished in favour of organisation by health departments, and the inefficient and often entirely mythical system of domiciliary treatment should be swept away; in place of the latter the dispensary system should be amplified by the appointment of a visiting staff, and institutions should be multiplied which would be available for the proper diagnosis of undetermined cases. To contemplate running tuberculosis schemes mainly on a dispensary system is, in a sense, to put the cart before the horse, if not actually to decapitate that useful animal.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

EDWARD G. GLOVER, M.D. Glasg.,

Medical Superintendent, Salterley Grange Sanatorium,
Feb. 17th, 1917. Cheltenham.

PNEUMATIC TOURNIQUETS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—The recent letters on this subject would suggest that pneumatic tourniquets are something new, whereas they have been used extensively for several years. In THE LANCET of Jan. 25th, 1913, I illustrated a pneumatic tourniquet which I had used for several months and therein described its uses, its advantages, and some practical points which I had learnt in employing it. I have seen no reason to have it altered from the original model, and the makers, Messrs. Montague, 69, New Bond-street, tell me they have sold a large number, and receive frequently inquiries about them.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

R. H. JOCELYN SWAN, M.S. Lond., F.R.C.S. Eng.,

Major, R.A.M.C.; Senior Surgeon, Royal Herbert Hospital,
Wimpole-street, W., Feb. 17th, 1917. Woolwich, &c.

THE DRESSING OF BURNS WITH PARAFFIN WAX.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In an annotation under the above heading in your issue of Feb. 17th the use of Dr. Barthe de Sandfort's "ambrine" is mentioned as being applied for use in the Navy by the instructions of Sir Arthur May.

It is stated that: "As, however, the preparation is a secret one controlled by a company in Paris, the treatment is not as readily accessible as some of our correspondents desire."

"Ambrine" is composed of specially prepared paraffin wax with 5 per cent. of oleum succini, and will now be readily obtainable, the representation for Great Britain, &c., being in the hands of—Yours faithfully,

THE ANGLO-FRENCH DRUG CO., LTD.

Gamage Buildings, Holborn, London, E.C., Feb. 17th, 1917.

DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.—By will the late Mr. Edward Hinkley, of Southport, bequeathed £1000 each to the Southport and Birkdale District Nursing Society, the Leicester Infirmary, Southport Infirmary, £500 each to the Southport Children's Sanatorium, Leicester Institute for the Blind, Leicester Institute for the Deaf and Dumb, Southport Institute for the Deaf and Dumb, and the Homœopathic Dispensary, Southport.—The late Mr. J. Holmes, of Bradford, left £500 to the Bradford Royal Infirmary and the residue of his estate to the Bradford Eye and Ear Hospital and the Bradford Children's Hospital.—By the will of the late Mr. Alfred Ewin, of Southend, the testator has bequeathed £1000 each to the City of London Hospital, Victoria Park, and the Queen Alexandra Hospital, Hackney-road; £600 to the Southend Victoria Hospital and Nursing Home for a "Ewin" bed, and £300 for a children's cot to be called after him, and £200 to the Adelaide Dispensary, Bethnal Green.

Medical News.

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL.—At examinations held recently the following candidates were successful:—

FINAL EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREES OF M.B., CH.B.

Part I. only.—Daniel Gingell Cossham.

*** DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC HEALTH.**

Pass.—James Francis Blackett.

Part II., completing examination.—John Maurice Harper.

Part I. only.—Isaac Bernard Barclay.

HEALTH INSURANCE FINANCE IN LONDON.—A deputation from the London Insurance Committee was recently received by Sir Edwin Cornwall, M.P., chairman of the National Health Insurance Joint Committee, which laid before him the financial position of National Insurance in London in plain terms. The carrying out of the work of the London Insurance Committee upon the allowance made by the Treasury was stated to be impossible, the deficit was fixed at £20,000, and the probability of a levy having to be made upon the insured population of the County of London, if no further support from the Government should be forthcoming, was spoken of. Sir Edward Smith, the spokesman of the deputation, added that public men were not prepared to give up their time to the administration of National Insurance unless the money necessary for their purpose was forthcoming, and that those associated with him would prefer to resign their positions rather than continue attempting the work assigned to them upon an insufficient income. Sir Edwin Cornwall accorded a sympathetic reply and spoke of the request made, as being reasonable.

ROYAL MEDICAL BENEVOLENT FUND GUILD.—The annual meeting of the Guild was held on Feb. 16th at 11, Chandos-street, W., when Lady Tweedy presided and read the report of Council for the preceding year. The report of the Father Christmas branch was read by Miss Gladys Edwards, honorary treasurer. The sub-reports of the Case Committee and the Clothes Committee were read by the respective chairmen, Mrs. Liveing and Mrs. Furnival. In the unavoidable absence of the honorary treasurer, Mrs. Scharlieb, Lady Frigg submitted the financial statement. Dowager Lady Broadbent's resignation of the presidency of the Guild was accepted, and the nomination of Lady Bradford as President was confirmed. The need of new secretaries was emphasised by Lady Tweedy's statement that the Guild received applications for help from such widely scattered districts as the Shetland Isles, Wales, and Cornwall. She was glad to say that with the increase of applicants pleading for help the charity was also increasingly supported, and in two cases the Guild was benefited by gifts from the trustees of funds left for charitable purposes. This marks the beginning of an important source of help.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.—A meeting of the Central Midwives Board was held at Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, Westminster, on Feb. 15th, with Sir Francis H. Champneys in the chair.—Further correspondence was considered with reference to a candidate for examination who was stated by the approved midwife in whose house she was residing to have taken a variety of drugs and stimulants during the week preceding an examination, and in particular during the morning of the first day of the examination. The Board directed that the statement of the candidate be referred for comment to the approved midwife in whose house the taking of drugs and stimulants is alleged to have occurred.—Further correspondence was considered with reference to a candidate for examination who had tendered a certificate of birth which had been falsified. The Board decided that the candidate having now furnished the Board with an explanation of the circumstances attending the falsification of her birth certificate, and having tendered a fresh and unaltered birth certificate, be admitted to examination.—A letter was considered from the Acting Registrar of the General Medical Council conveying the request of the President that the Board would forward to the local supervising authorities (a) a copy of a circular letter addressed by the Council to all the registered medical practitioners in England and Wales, calling their attention to the provisions of the Midwives Act, 1902, which prohibit any women not being certified under the Act from attending women in childbirth habitually and for gain otherwise than under the direction of a qualified medical practitioner; (b) a copy of a warning notice issued by the Council, pointing out that any registered medical practitioner proved to have been guilty of "covering" an uncertified woman will be liable to have his name erased from the Medical Register. The secretary reported that the Local Government Board have expressed a desire to forward from their office the circular letter and the warning notice to the various local supervising authorities, and that the General Medical Council have