

## SIMILAR TREATMENT FOR SIMILAR EMPLOY.

*To the Editor of THE LANCET.*

SIR,—The answer given by Mr. Forster to Sir Robert Newman in the House of Commons on July 2nd seems a little misleading. He said: "These women doctors serving for home duty only, on temporary engagement, are treated in the same way as civilian medical men similarly employed." Now, there are women doctors attached to military hospitals at home on a month's engagement who receive 24s. a day, as against £1 paid to the whole-time medical man. I know one of the latter, over military age, who has had 17 years' experience of X ray work, and during the first two years of the war was giving anaesthetics daily in a civil hospital. He was invited to take the post of combined anaesthetic and X ray specialist in a war hospital, and was offered £1 a day as a whole-time civilian. He took the appointment and, having agreed to that very moderate remuneration, did not consider it fitting to have a question on the subject asked in the House.

Many women doctors engaged by the War Office have only just qualified and have only a student's knowledge of practical work. Should they not therefore be content with earning 20 per cent. more than the civilian medical man of mature years who is giving patients the benefit of his long experience? I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

Keswick, July 7th, 1918.

W. D. ANDERSON.

## EPIDEMIC ENCEPHALITIS.

*To the Editor of THE LANCET.*

SIR,—May I ask for space to refer to one or two points raised by Dr. Kinnier Wilson's paper on this subject in your issue of to-day?

1. The organism found by von Wiesner in the Viennese cases is, I am told by high bacteriological authority, indistinguishable from Rosenow's diplococcus, which has been, during the last two years, so generally found associated with poliomyelitis in New York, and of which, it is believed, the Flexner bodies represent one stage. The same organism has been identified recently in London.

2. Dr. Breinl concludes, on the basis of experimental results, that the Australian disease and acute poliomyelitis represent the same affection.

3. Wickman and others have recorded epidemics of poliomyelitis in winter and spring.

4. Leslie Carr has drawn special attention to stupor, and Koplik to ophthalmoplegia, in the New York epidemic of 1916.

5. In America in 1916 it was generally found that the changes in the cerebro-spinal fluid stood in relation with the "type" of case dealt with.

6. Of the cases that I personally have seen in London recently, quite a large proportion (perhaps 30 per cent.) were "meningitic" in type in a series of over 120 that included seven of the "ordinary" spinal kind.

7. Variations in type—clinical, epidemiological, and in respect of age-incidence—are the rule and not the exception if a series of outbreaks and epidemics of poliomyelitis are considered.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

Harley-street, W., July 6th, 1918.

F. G. CROOKSHANK.

## INSURED PATIENTS AND EXPENSIVE DRUGS.

*To the Editor of THE LANCET.*

SIR,—The case of Mr. F. C. Fisher reported in THE LANCET of June 29th shows that the Insurance Commissioners interpret an obligation undertaken by themselves in a different spirit from that in which they interpret an obligation undertaken by others. They profess that the benefits reaped by insured persons include the supply of appliances, but a practical experience of the Act shows that "appliances" does not mean "all appliances." Trusses, elastic stockings, and nasal irrigators have to be paid for by the patients who need them. Then why is a promise to supply "drugs" taken to include "all drugs"? The defence would no doubt be that the funds will not allow of the supply of trusses, &c., which is quite in accordance with the astonishing principle which runs through the Insurance Act, of not making sure that the cloth and the coat to be cut out of it correspond. Precisely the same argument, with immensely greater force, applies to the individual doctor and the drugs which he supplies. I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

East Grinstead, July 3rd, 1918.

F. C. POYNTER.

## The War.

## THE CASUALTY LIST.

THE following medical officers appear among the casualties announced since our last issue:—

*Died.*

Capt. R. N. Wallace, R.A.M.C., qualified at Edinburgh in 1907 and had held appointments at the Bradford Royal Infirmary, at the Manchester Children's Hospital, and at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary. Prior to the war he held a commission in the R.A.M.C. (T.F.), being attached to the 6th Battalion, Royal Scots, and gave up an active practice at Edinburgh to devote himself to military duties in connexion with the war. He died at Colchester Military Hospital from acute pneumonia.

Lieut.-Col. W. McCall, D.S.O., R.A.M.C., was educated at Anderson College and at the University, Glasgow, and qualified in 1892. He was in practice in Birmingham, and prior to the war was attached to the R.A.M.C. (T.F.), being in command of the 1st South Midland Ambulance. The award of the D.S.O. was recorded in THE LANCET of Jan. 12th this year, p. 78.

Capt. P. J. Monaghan, South African M.C., qualified M.R.C.S. Eng. and L.R.C.P. Lond. in 1911, and later went to South Africa, from whence he came over with the South African Contingent in the early days of the war.

Capt. J. Anderson, R.A.M.C.

Lieut. L. F. Jamieson, R.A.M.C.

*Wounded.*

Capt. E. S. Cuthbert, R.A.M.C.

Major G. G. Timpson, R.A.M.C., attached R.F.A.

*Previously reported Missing, now reported Not Missing.*

Capt. J. P. McVey, R.A.M.C., attached Norfolk Regt.

*Previously reported Missing, now reported Prisoners in German Hands.*

Capt. G. L. Jones, R.A.M.C., attached Scottish Rifles.

Capt. R. M. Coalbank, R.A.M.C., attached Lancs Fusiliers.

Capt. C. W. Fowler, M.C., R.A.M.C., attached R. Berks Regt.

Capt. P. H. Green, R.A.M.C.

Capt. H. S. Moore, R.A.M.C., attached Lines Regiment.

Capt. A. G. Clark, M.C., R.A.M.C., attached S. Lancs Regt.

## CASUALTIES AMONG THE SONS OF MEDICAL MEN.

The following additional casualties among the sons of medical men are reported:—

Major C. F. Clarke, Indian Cavalry, died of illness contracted on active service, only child of the late Dr. J. F. Clarke, of Mitcham, Surrey.

Lieut. E. C. Rennie, R.G.A., attached R.A.F., died of wounds, son of Dr. G. E. Rennie, of Point Piper, Sydney, N.S.W.

Second Lieut. W. W. Pollard, R.A.F., died in hospital, only son of Dr. W. H. Pollard, of Birmingham.

## THE HONOURS LIST.

The following are the statements of service for which the decorations recorded in THE LANCET of Feb. 9th, 1918, p. 234, were conferred. All are members of the R.A.M.C. except where otherwise stated:—

*Bar to the Distinguished Service Order.*

Maj. (temp. Lieut.-Col.) ARTHUR CARR OSBURN, D.S.O.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. On seeing the enemy approaching close to his dressing station, he carried out the evacuation of the wounded under heavy shell and rifle fire in the coolest and most gallant manner. Having cleared away all cases by ambulance train and cars, he re-established his dressing station further in rear. As officer commanding bearer divisions he constantly inspected his line of bearer-posts and forward dressing stations under heavy fire. The successful evacuation of the wounded from the divisional front was due to his careful organisation and fearless supervision under the most trying conditions. His was an example of gallantry, courage, and resource worthy of the highest praise.

*Distinguished Service Order.*

Temp. Capt. FERGUSON FITTON CARR-HARRIS.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Hearing that ten men of another battalion were lying wounded in front of the position, he volunteered on completion of the relief to go to their rescue. He was out for eight hours of the night, found nine of the men alive, took two of them back to headquarters, and organised the rescue of the remainder. He showed great coolness and self-sacrifice.

Major (temp. Lieut.-Col.) CHARLES ALGERNON STIDSTON.—For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when his dressing station was very heavily shelled throughout a whole day and received several direct hits. It was impossible to remove the wounded, and throughout the day he moved about continuously, arranging for their safety, with utter disregard of danger. It was owing to his fearless example and splendid organisation that all the wounded were finally removed without further casualties.