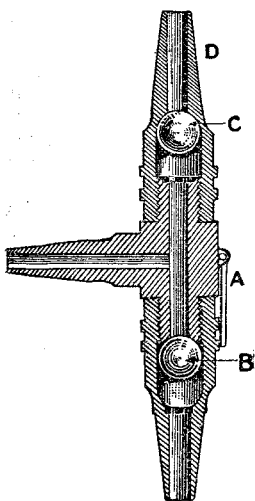
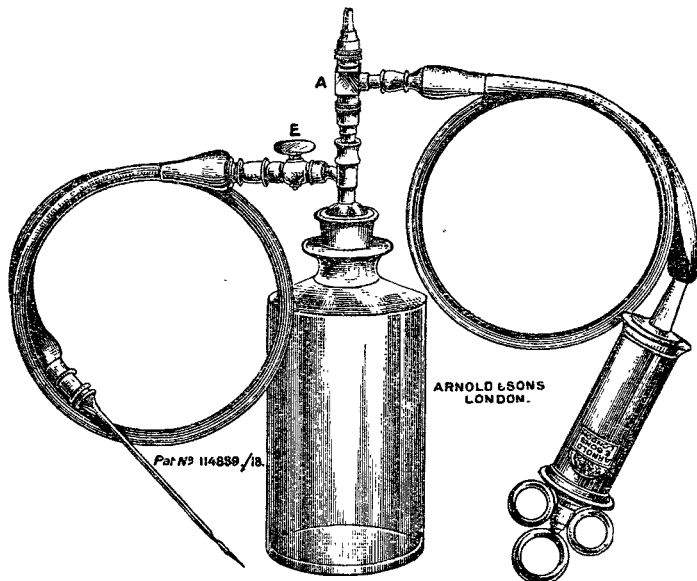


that a patient should be taught from the first to do practically everything with his remaining hand, and should expect to use his artificial arm only as an occasional and very secondary assistant to his sound limb. That tuberculous patients should return to their former occupation and not change to outdoor work with worse pay and longer hours is the main theme of Dr. Stewart's article on Work for the Tuberculous. The University of Toronto are providing a course of training extending over two months for social service workers who follow up discharged soldiers in their homes.

## New Inventions.

### A NEW ASPIRATOR.

THE aspirator here illustrated constitutes a new departure from the instruments of the same nature at present in use, and will be found to simplify the apparatus greatly, as well as to present new features of advantage in practical working. The instrument consists of a valve chamber A, attached to the ordinary aspirator bottle; the vacuum, or negative pressure in the bottle, being produced with a syringe connected by means of rubber tubing to the valve chamber. No exhaust pump is required, the instrument being so designed that it will work with any ordinary syringe, such as an ear syringe. It has been tested with the cheap glass syringe that can be bought at any chemist's shop, and this



Valve chamber in section.

has been proved to be quite efficient. It is the working of the valve chamber that gives the special features to the instrument. The instrument works as follows:—The valve chamber having been connected with the syringe the stop-cock E is turned off; the syringe is then used as a pump. On pulling out the piston of the syringe the ball valve B rises, and air is extracted from the bottle, at the same time the ball valve at C is sucked down, preventing any air entering the syringe from this part of the valve chamber. On pushing back the piston of the syringe, the ball valve at C rises and the air in the syringe is expelled at D, no air entering the bottle on account of the ball valve B falling and being held tightly in position by the suction in the bottle. By pumping with the syringe air is continually sucked from the bottle, and expelled at D, a very high degree of vacuum being produced in the aspirator bottle. No tap is required between the valve chamber and the aspirator bottle; the ball valve B acting automatically seals the opening from the bottle, thereby preventing any loss of vacuum. The valve chamber consists of a central body and upper and lower caps, which screw to the central body and are fixed with a small catch. The caps enclose the ball valves, and these ball valves fit accurately into seatings similar to a cup and ball. The valve chamber is attached to the aspirator bottle by a taper

push joint. It is constructed in such a way that there is nothing to get out of order. It is detachable, and the different parts take to pieces and can be readily sterilised as required. The valve chamber has other minor mechanical refinements which, though necessary for the efficient working of the instrument, it would take up too much space to describe. The advantages of this instrument are:—1. It is a very simple form of aspirator. 2. There is nothing to get out of order. 3. It can be taken to pieces and readily sterilised. 4. It can be operated with an ordinary syringe, no exhaust pump being required. 5. It does away with the tap on the syringe side of the instrument. 6. The valve chamber can be detached and used where suction is required, as in Bier's treatment; attached to a suitable glass receiver it makes a powerful breast pump. 7. The exhaust at D may be used if required as a continuous force pump for either liquids or gases.

The instrument is manufactured by Messrs. Arnold and Sons, Giltspur-street, London, E.C. 1.

Southampton.

F. W. HOPE ROBSON, M.D.

## ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.

### MEETING OF COMITIA.

AN ordinary Comitia of the Royal College of Physicians of London was held on Oct. 30th, Sir NORMAN MOORE, Bart., the President, being in the chair.

In the course of the minutes of the Censors' Board it was announced that Mr. Jack William Jeffery had been appointed twenty-seventh Jenks Scholar.

The following candidates, having passed the necessary examinations, were admitted as Members:—Dr. W. J. Adie, Dr. Phoebe M. Bigland, Dr. F. G. Chandler, Mr. Major Greenwood, Dr. Isaac Jones, Dr. W. B. Knobel, Dr. F. D. H. B. Lawton, Dr. J. E. A. Lynham, Dr. B. T. Parsons-Smith, Dr. W. J. Pearson, Dr. E. L. Pope, Dr. R. M. Ranking, Dr. F. A. Roper, Dr. G. C. Willcocks.

Licences to practise physic were granted to 79 candidates who had conformed to the by-laws and regulations and passed the required examinations.

Communications were received from (1) the secretary of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, dated Oct. 10th, reporting proceedings of the Council of that College on Oct. 9th; (2) the secretary of the Ministry of Health, dated Oct. 6th, enclosing a list of the members of the Consultative Council on Medical and Allied Services.

The REGISTRAR proposed, for the first time, the following temporary by-law: "That Dr. Cuthbert Allan Sprawson, being resident abroad, be admitted to the Fellowship *in absentia*, any by-law to the contrary notwithstanding." This was passed.

A report was received from the Committee of Management, dated Oct. 14th, as follows:—

The Committee recommend that the Salford Royal Hospital be added to the list of general hospitals recognised by the Examining Board in England.

The Committee report that under Paragraph VI., Part I, of the scheme for constituting the Examining Board in England the following members retire by rotation from the Committee: Sir James Galloway, K.B.E., C.B.; Sir George H. Makins, G.C.M.G., C.B.

On the nomination of the PRESIDENT, Sir James Galloway was reappointed a member of the Committee of Management.

After some formal College business, the PRESIDENT declared the Comitia dissolved.

AUXILIARY ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS FUNDS.—The usual quarterly committee meeting was held on Oct. 31st at 11, Chandos-street, Cavendish-square, W. Five grants were made to cases in the Benevolent Branch for Officers amounting to £350, and 62 grants in the Relief Branch for the rank and file amounting to £2007 5s. These Funds are for the relief of widows and orphans of commissioned officers and non-commissioned officers and men of the rank and file of the Royal Army Medical Corps, Special Reserve, Territorial Force, and New Armies, and also for the relief of the children of those who have been so severely damaged in the present war that they need help for the education of children. Requests for relief should be addressed to the honorary secretary, at the offices of the Funds, at 11 Chandos-street, Cavendish-street, W. 1.