

THE WOOD-HILL FUND.

THE following subscriptions and promises have been received to the fund for reimbursing Dr. H. Wood-Hill in the very heavy expenses incurred by him in the case *Clayden v. Wood-Hill*, in addition to those recorded in the list published in our issue of Dec. 3rd (p. 1187). There is ample need for further support.

Amount previously acknowledged	£	s.	d.
Kent Branch of the British Medical Association (per Dr. Edwin Starling, Tunbridge Wells)	196	19	0
Mr. G. Grey Turner, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Mr. H. A. T. Fairbank, London; Mr. E. H. Bruce Fox, Yealton; Mr. William Wyllys, Great Yarmouth; Sir Hugh M. Rigby, K.C.V.O., London; Mr. Herbert C. Crouch, Ascot	27	16	0
"M." London; Mr. Hugh Whitwell, Norwich; Mr. Herbert M. Sylvester, Leiston; Mr. Naughton Dunn, Birmingham; Mr. Charles J. Acton, Warrington; Mr. H. G. K. Young, Braintree; Medical Committee of Durham County Hospital (per Dr. Selby W. Plummer); Dr. Arthur Burton, Cromer; Dr. James Taylor, Oulton Broad	10	0	0
Dr. Branford Morgan, Norwich; Mr. C. W. Dean and Dr. F. W. Bury, Lancaster	5	5	0
Dr. Arthur Crook, Norwich; Dr. P. L. Giuseppe, Felixstowe; Dr. W. T. Rowe, M.C., Nottingham; Mr. N. Blake Odgers, Northampton; Mr. Hunter F. Tod, London; The Wrekin Medical Club (per Dr. George Mackie, Wellington)	4	4	0
Mr. John Shephard, North Walsham; Dr. C. S. Pantin, Douglas; Dr. John Unthoff, Bournemouth; Mr. Guy B. Nicholson, Hull; Dr. E. J. C. Dicks, M.B.E., Framlingham; Mr. H. N. Baron, Orford; Dr. G. C. Gaynor, Wymondham; Mr. Charles F. Gross, Wickham Market; Mr. Vincent P. Tighe, Dublin; Mr. Mark R. Taylor, Norwich; Mr. Henry Wyllys, Great Yarmouth; Dr. Dora Colebrook, Cambridge; Mr. C. H. Andrews, Norwich; Mr. W. E. Wyllys, Belton; Dr. W. F. Addey, Ipswich; Dr. John Attlee, London; Mr. Francis Barwell, Mildenhall; Mr. E. P. Hughes Dudley, Caxton; Dr. Herbert Cook, C.B.E., Cardiff; Mr. C. P. Crouch, Weston-super-Mare; Dr. A. J. Campbell, Duns; Dr. Cyril E. Harrison, North Elmham; Mr. Edward V. Perry, O.B.E., Reepham; Mr. F. A. Martin Flegg, South Woodford; Dr. H. Mallins, Watton; Dr. Batterbury and Partners, Wimborne; Dr. J. S. Hinnell, O.B.E., Bury St. Edmunds; Dr. H. M. Hart-Smith, Southold; Mr. A. M. Vann, Durham; Dr. Louis Macpherson, Edinburgh	3	3	0
Mr. J. E. Chalmers, Castleton	2	2	0
Dr. Ian M. Jefferies, London; Mr. Reginald Cook, London; Dr. P. R. Bolus, Upper Norwood; Dr. G. MacLellan Blair, London; Dr. Enid Calder, Lowestoft; Dr. Darley Wynne, St. Faiths; Dr. C. A. O. Owens, Long Stratton; Dr. George Master, Bury St. Edmunds; Dr. Bernard Batt, Bury St. Edmunds; Mr. E. H. Worth, Streatham; Dr. W. W. Floyer, Egham; Dr. W. Black Jones, Bulth Wells; Dr. J. C. Jones, Pensilva; Mr. M. C. Moxham, Aldborough; Dr. A. G. Hamilton, Chester; Dr. J. Delpratt Harris, Exeter; Mr. G. H. Hunter, Haughley; Mr. Alfred E. Sears, Blackheath; Dr. Thomas C. Blackwell, Oxshott; Dr. A. M. Watts, Broadstairs; Dr. William J. Ashby, Aylesbury; Mr. A. E. Ironside, M.C., Ashted; Mr. William F. Haslam, Birmingham; Dr. J. S. Manson, Warrington; Dr. Charles J. Gilling, Salisbury; Dr. Dudley G. Greenfield, Rushden; Dr. H. Laird Pearson, Birkenhead; Mr. Philip Talbot, Stalybridge; Mr. H. B. Walker, M.C., Minehead; Mr. R. Loy Wilcox, Hemel Hempstead; Dr. Frank W. Melvin, M.B.E., Oswestry; Dr. Joseph Walker, Bootle; Dr. W. J. Dewar, Arbroath; Dr. Francis C. Bottomley, O.B.E., Bournemouth; Dr. J. Alford Andrews, Bovey Tracey; Dr. C. H. Attenborough, Frimley; Dr. John Fletcher, Fulham; Dr. Wortley Quait, Mundesley; Dr. George Black, Tomintoul; Mr. T. Walsh Tetley, Kirby Moorside; Dr. Alfred Cox, O.B.E., London	2	0	0
Mr. T. A. Murray, Penketh; M. E. M. C., Kensington; Dr. R. E. Paterson, Methlick	1	1	0
Dr. R. W. Rix, Sudbury	1	0	0
	0	10	6

EPSOMIAN CLUB: ANNUAL DINNER.—Dr. H. E. Haynes presided at the annual dinner of the Club, held at the Trocadero Restaurant on Dec. 8th, when there was a full attendance of old Epsomians, largely medical, a few clerical, with representatives of other professions. Sir Ernest Pollock, Sir D'Arcy Power, and Sir J. Purves Stewart were among the invited guests. "Floreat Epsomia" was sung with enthusiasm after the headmaster, Rev. W. J. Barton, had chronicled the last year's school activities. Dr. H. F. Ealand, of Farnham, wittily proposed the guests and Sir D'Arcy Power voiced the warm feelings of those present towards the chairman for his many services to the Royal Medical Foundation.

Correspondence.

"Audi alteram partem."

CLINICAL UNITS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—It has been a great satisfaction to me to find that my reflections¹ on this new development of medical education in England have been well, even cordially, received; but no doubt, as time goes on, certain just criticisms will appear. Meanwhile my notions may be on right lines, in the main. One criticism, which has appeared more than once, is that, in urging that the direct function of the director of the unit will be less the teaching of the undergraduate and more the study of disease in association with senior and graduate students, I had forgotten the counsels of Huxley and Foster that it is particularly the function of the professor to teach the beginner so that in the first instance he may get his head put straight. May I suggest that in my article I indicated—indirectly perhaps—that the conditions of comparison in this case were not the same. I said plainly that the director of the unit was but one of the teaching staff; that on the honorary staff of a large hospital there were other physicians and surgeons of even greater experience and sagacity who were at least as well fitted to teach the undergraduate; in a sense perhaps more so. The director I proposed was to be a comparatively young man, on his election, who would devote himself rather to research than to the pragmatics of practice, which in this stage of his education are, rightly enough, more prized by the undergraduate and his father.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
Cambridge, Dec. 9th, 1921. CLIFFORD ALLBUTT.

THE ORGANISATION OF MEDICAL EDUCATION.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

"It may be that professional preparation will divide into two courses—into a five-years' course on craft lines for the diploma of the colleges, and a university course for those who have the turn and the time for wider and deeper study; a difference which is perhaps coming about, more or less, undesignedly. In any case the universities must not trifle with their standards."—Sir CLIFFORD ALLBUTT, THE LANCET, Nov. 5th, 1921.

"Is it not wasteful, archaic, not to say stupid, to insist that each and every student shall pursue precisely the same subjects, presented in the same way?"—Prof. MADISON TAYLOR, *American Medicine*, August, 1921.

SIR,—The innumerable suggestions which, within the last few years, have been made with a view to reorganisation of medical education, leave little doubt as to the existence of widespread dissatisfaction with the present state of affairs. In every civilised country efforts have recently been made to counteract the growing complexity of the medical curriculum by the elimination or curtailment of the least important educational subjects. In theory this process may seem comparatively simple; in practice it is reminiscent of an anecdote related by Sir Clifford Allbutt. He sat on a committee to simplify the British Pharmacopœia by the ejection of the least valuable of its contents. But which were they? Whenever one member of the committee proposed the ejection of a certain drug, another member would insist that this particular drug had been his chief aid and stay. So the British Pharmacopœia emerged from this ordeal as bulky as ever. As long as the problem is solely in the hands of professors and specialists, there is little chance of a radical change for the better in medical education, for the same pitfalls await the reformer as those which Sir Clifford Allbutt

¹ THE LANCET, Nov. 5th, 1921, p. 937.