

some of the injection is returned and the anæsthetist is then in the dark as to the depth of anæsthesia to be expected. To prevent this it is a good plan before injection to place a pillow under the buttocks, which are then held together for a few minutes when injection is complete. If the patient has been anæsthetised in bed he should be moved carefully on to the operating table.

Distension of the intestine may occur (it probably always does); has Mr. Page found that it interferes with abdominal surgery? I cannot agree with him that ether-oil is a good method in oral surgery; one cannot guarantee the presence of a vigorous cough reflex, and, if it is present, I do not think it is welcome to the surgeon. There can be very little doubt that intratracheal insufflation of ether is the best method in this branch of military surgery. Small quantities (3-4 oz.) of a solution of suitable strength of ether-oil may be used to great advantage as an addition to the preliminary hypodermic to overcome the difficulties or dangers of induction in special cases. But it must not be forgotten that the highly sensitive and fastidious patient may not take kindly to ether-oil per rectum.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

FRANCIS E. SHIPWAY.

Queen Anne-street, W., Oct. 29th, 1917.

## BRITISH HOSPITALS' ASSOCIATION AND INCREASED GRANTS FOR TREATMENT OF SOLDIERS.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—A conference was held by the British Hospitals' Association at Westminster Hospital on Oct. 19th for the consideration of the following subjects—viz.: (1) Increase of grants for treatment of soldiers, and (2) proposed payment for discharged soldiers. There was a large and representative attendance, and after full discussion the following resolutions were passed—viz.:

1. That, having regard to the abnormal advance in prices of provisions and all other commodities since the rates of payment for the treatment of wounded soldiers in civilian hospitals were fixed, this meeting is unanimously of opinion that formal representations should be made to the authorities concerned with a view to obtaining an immediate increase in such rates of payment.

2. That this meeting is of opinion that the scale of charges for the treatment of disabled sailors and soldiers in civilian voluntary hospitals, as proposed by the Ministry of Pensions (*vide* Schedule 1, "Instructions and Notes on the Treatment and Training of Disabled Men") is inadequate and would only partially meet the cost of such treatment, and strongly affirms the view that the scale of charges should be such as would cover the whole cost of the maintenance, including treatment given and remuneration in respect of professional medical services.

3. That the chairman and council of the British Hospitals' Association are hereby requested to consider the foregoing resolutions and take such action as may be necessary.

The executive committee have forwarded the resolutions to the secretaries and superintendents of hospitals, asking these officers to bring them to the notice of their managing committees, with a view to their sending to the association, not later than Nov. 10th, any comments which they may desire to express thereon.

We are, Sir, yours faithfully,

J. COURTNEY BUCHANAN, } Honorary  
CONRAD W. THIES, } Secretaries.

14, Victoria-street, Westminster, S.W. 1, Oct. 26th, 1917.

A COMMITTEE over which Sir George Makins will preside has been appointed to inspect the hospitals for British troops in India and to issue a report regarding them.

CORNWALL COUNTY COUNCIL AND MIDWIVES.—The sanitary committee of the Cornwall county council has given £250 to the local county nursing association for the purpose of training five nurse-midwives who will work in parishes unprovided with midwives. The medical officer of health for the county of Cornwall, Dr. E. M. Clarke, states that Cornwall requires 20 additional midwives.

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM ELDER.—William Elder, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.M. Edin., died at his residence, Cottam, Bristol, on Oct. 14th, in his seventy-third year. The deceased devoted his life to medical missions; he was for 13 years superintendent of the Madras Medical Mission Dispensaries and Hospital and Medical School. He afterwards was appointed superintendent of the Medical Mission at Bristol, holding the appointment for over 30 years. He was held in high respect in Bristol and did a wonderful work amongst the poorer inhabitants of that city.

## The War.

### THE CASUALTY LIST.

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

#### Killed.

Major G. M. Hunt, M.C., Australian A.M.C., qualified at Sydney in 1911, and was in practice at Candelo, New South Wales, prior to joining the Australian Expeditionary Force. The award of the M.C. was recorded in THE LANCET of April 21st, 1917, p. 630.

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

#### Died of Wounds.

Capt. F. B. Metcalfe, Australian A.M.C.

Capt. J. R. Tillett, Australian A.M.C.

Capt. J. Davie, Australian A.M.C.

#### Wounded.

Capt. E. P. Dark, M.C., R.A.M.C.

Lieut. W. B. Douglas-Drummond, R.A.M.C., attached Scots Guards.

Capt. J. A. Liley, M.C., R.A.M.C., attached King's Own Scottish Borderers.

Major W. H. Rennick, Australian A.M.C.

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

Capt. H. A. Macmillan, R.A.M.C., attd. Leicester Regiment.

Capt. F. Metcalfe, R.A.M.C.

Capt. F. C. Pridham, R.A.M.C.

Capt. E. A. Lumley, R.A.M.C.

Capt. F. L. Bignell, Australian A.M.C.

Lieut.-Col. C. W. Thompson, Australian A.M.C.

Capt. G. A. Birnie, R.A.M.C., attached East Surrey Regiment.

Capt. T. Duncan, R.A.M.C., attached Royal Scots.

Capt. F. E. Keane, R.A.M.C., attached Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Capt. A. E. Pringle-Paterson, R.A.M.C., attached Royal Scots.

Capt. F. W. Stone, R.A.M.C.

Capt. I. Faris, New Zealand M.C.

Capt. W. A. Todd, R.A.M.C., attached Norfolk Regiment.

Capt. H. F. Wilson, R.A.M.C., attached Durham Light Infantry.

Capt. F. W. Fay, Australian A.M.C.

Major H. L. Welch, D.S.O., Australian A.M.C.

Capt. C. H. Brennan, R.A.M.C.

Capt. J. E. Cable, R.A.M.C., attd. Northumberland Fusiliers.

Capt. W. G. Goudie, R.A.M.C., attached R.F.A.

Capt. H. B. Graham, R.A.M.C.

Capt. R. MacKinnon, R.A.M.C.

Capt. D. H. Russell, M.C., R.A.M.C.

Capt. E. B. Leech, R.A.M.C., attached West Yorks Regt.

### CASUALTIES AMONG THE SONS OF MEDICAL MEN.

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

Capt. E. T. Gaunt, R.A.M.C., killed in action, second son of Dr. J. P. Gaunt, late of Alvechurch, Worcestershire.

Capt. E. B. C. Burnside, The Buffs, killed in action, only son of Col. E. A. Burnside, A.D.M.S., Ripon.

Capt. D. W. Edwards, M.C., A.S.C., attached Royal Flying Corps, reported missing April 6th, 1917, now reported killed in action, younger son of Capt. D. W. Edwards, R.A.M.C.

Lieut. R. S. M. Inch, M.C., Norfolk Regt., killed in action, son of Dr. R. Inch, of Gorebridge, Midlothian, Scotland.

### THE HONOURS LIST.

The following awards to medical officers are announced. The acts of gallantry for which the awards were made are not yet announced. All are members of the R.A.M.C.

*Distinguished Service Order.*—Temp. Capt. J. C. Sale, M.C.

*Bar to the Military Cross.*—Temp. Capt. H. R. MacIntyre, M.C. (The award of the Military Cross was recorded in THE LANCET of August 25th, 1917, p. 332.)

*Military Cross.*—Temp. Lieut. H. M. L. Crawford, Temp. Capt. L. H. Guest, Temp. Capt. W. L. A. Harrison, Temp. Capt. W. G. Johnston, Temp. Capt. R. Kennon, Temp. Capt. J. Kirton, Temp. Capt. W. J. Pearson.

THE Bronze Medal for Gallantry in Saving Life at Sea has been awarded by the King to Captain E. D. Gairdner, D.S.O., R.A.M.C., in recognition of his services when the transport *Iverna* was torpedoed in the Mediterranean on Jan. 1st last.