

## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS.

### THE MASTOID OPERATION.

THE EDITORS,

*The Journal of Laryngology and Otology.*

SIRS,—I am pleased to read Mr Cheatle's condemnation of the meato-mastoid operation in the February number of the *Journal*.

I would like Mr Cheatle to tell us whether he still holds the view that the sclerotic type of mastoid process, found almost invariably in those cases undergoing the radical mastoid operation, is an original type or is the result of a pathological process. If it be an original type, it is strange that I have never seen one among the numerous classical operations that I have performed! I see many of the diploëtic type, also of the pneumatic type with cells of varying size, but none of the compact type.

At the recent Australasian Medical Congress in Dunedin a radical mastoid operation was described and was reported to be commonly done in this country, wherein the incision was made close to the sulcus and the skin of the scalp turned into the cavity. The objections to this operation, in my opinion, are several. The position of the scar is bad; the folded-in skin has hair on it and sebaceous glands in it, the latter often the seat of staphylococcal infection. I understood that the reason grafts were taken from the front of the thigh was that there were few hairs and practically no glands!

Again, in the same number of the *Journal*, there is an article on the use of radium in middle-ear disease of the dry type. I find radium removes cheloid from the membrana tympani and elsewhere, and, if properly applied, it seems to me feasible to do something with it in cases of adhesive otitis media. But otosclerosis is quite different, and while its first effects are noticed as conduction deafness, the disease really is one affecting the petrous bone and not the middle ear.—Yours faithfully,

T. A. MACGIBBON.

CHRISTCHURCH, N.Z., *March* 1927.

# Letters to the Editors

## THE NORMAN GAMBLE FUND AND RESEARCH PRIZE.

THE EDITORS,

*Journal of Laryngology and Otology.*

DEAR SIRS,—It may interest your readers to know that Mr Norman Gamble has presented to the Royal Society of Medicine the sum of £1000 for the purpose of founding the “Norman Gamble Fund and Research Prize” for the promotion of “research work on deafness, with particular and special reference towards the alleviation and cure of nerve deafness.”

I enclose a copy of the regulations which have been drawn up for the administration of the Fund, from which you will see that the first award will be made in 1930.—Faithfully yours,

T. B. LAYTON,  
*Hon. Secretary, Section of Otology.*

16th June 1927.

### REGULATIONS.

The Council of the Royal Society of Medicine has accepted, as a trust, the sum of one thousand pounds (£1000) presented by Mr Norman Gamble for the purpose of founding “The Norman Gamble Fund and Research Prize.” The conditions are as follows:—

(1) That the income of this Fund be allowed to accumulate for periods of four years for the purpose of awarding a prize of £50 every fourth year, such prize to be known as “The Norman Gamble Research Prize,” and the balance of the accumulated income for any period of four years to be used for the purpose of awarding grants in aid of research work.

(2) All awards of the Norman Gamble Research Prize and grants in aid of research work shall be made by the Council of the Royal Society of Medicine on the recommendation of the Council of the Section of Otology, such recommendation being made upon receiving a report from the Norman Gamble Research Fund Committee, hereinafter referred to as the Committee of Award.

(3) The Norman Gamble Research Prize shall be awarded for the best original work in Otology completed during the four years previous to the month of October in the year of the award. The competition for this prize shall be open to any British subject, whether lay or medical, who cares to compete, whether or not such persons be holders of or candidates for grants-in-aid of research.

(4) Grants in aid of research work in Otology may be made to any British subject, lay or medical, who may be recommended by the Committee of Award to receive such grants, whether or not such person be a holder of or a candidate for the Norman Gamble Prize. Moreover, such grants may be given either to persons who apply for a grant in order to carry out a specific piece of work, or to selected workers chosen by the Committee of Award to carry out certain specified work of its selection.

## Letters to the Editors

(5) Any person to whom a grant in aid of research is made from this Fund shall, within such time as may be allowed by the Committee of Award, render a typewritten or printed Report in the English language on the work which has been carried out under the grant, and the Committee of Award shall have the right to publish such Reports.

(6) The Committee shall not make any recommendation either for the award of the Norman Gamble Prize or for any grant in research if the papers or work under consideration are not of a sufficiently high standard.

(7) The Committee of Award may recommend a grant for research at any time, but it shall not be necessary that all the money allocated for grants in any four years shall be expended at one time.

(8) If, for whatever reason, the Committee of Award should not make any recommendation for award whether of a Prize or of a research grant, or of both, in any period of four years, the part or accumulation of the income of the Fund thereby not expended, together with such interest as it may have earned in the meantime, shall be added by the Council of the Society to the capital sum invested.

(9) The Norman Gamble Fund and Research Prize Committee shall consist of the President and Senior Honorary Secretary of the Section of Otology for the time being, Sir William Milligan, and three other Members of the Section of Otology, elected by the Council of the Section. The elected Members shall be elected every four years at the December Meeting of the Council of the Section and shall be eligible for re-election. The Committee of Award shall have the power to co-opt as Members of the Committee having a vote, such person or persons as it may consider competent and necessary to assist it in arriving at a decision on any award. Alternatively, or also, it may refer any paper, piece of work, or other matter to any person or persons (not members of the Committee) as may seem to it desirable in order that the Committee may have the benefit of the opinion of such referee or referees.

(10) The Committee shall have the power to advertise the Prize and/or the Grants-in-Aid in such manner as it sees fit, any such advertisement being made at least six months before the date on which it is presumed that the Award should be made.

(11) The Committee shall make its first recommendation to the Council of the Section of Otology at their Meeting held in December 1930.

(12) The Council of the Section of Otology shall be empowered, if a two-thirds majority of the whole Council be obtained, to make such alterations in the conditions and in the method of the awards as shall from time to time seem to them to be advisable, such alterations to be laid before the Council of the Royal Society of Medicine for approval.

(13) Any expenses properly incurred by the Society in administering the Fund, or the income therefrom, shall be a first charge on the income of the Fund.

*All inquiries should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Section of Otology, Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London, W. 1.*

# GENERAL NOTES

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE,  
1 Wimpole Street, London, W. 1.

*Section of Laryngology.*—The Opening Meeting of the Session 1927-28 will be held on Friday, 4th November, at 5 P.M. *President*, Mr Harold S. Barwell, F.R.C.S.; *Hon. Secretaries*, Mr. W. M. Mollison, M.Ch., 23 Devonshire Place, London, W. 1, and Mr Lionel Colledge, F.R.C.S., 2 Upper Wimpole Street, London, W. 1.

*Section of Otology.*—The Opening Meeting of the Session 1927-28 will be held on Saturday, 5th November, at 10.30 A.M. *President*, Dr. J. S. Fraser, F.R.C.S.E.; *Hon. Secretaries*, Mr Alexander R. Tweedie, F.R.C.S., 14 Oxford Street, Nottingham, and Mr Nicol M. Rankin, M.B., 56 Harley Street, London, W. 1.

\* \* \*

## THE SEMON LECTURE, 1927.

Mr Lionel Colledge, F.R.C.S., has been invited by the Semon Lecture Board to give the Semon Lecture of the University of London. The address, which is entitled "The Present Position of Laryngectomy in Cancer of the Larynx," will be delivered in the Hall of the Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London, W. 1, on the afternoon of Thursday, 3rd November, at 5 o'clock.

\* \* \*

The Italian Society of Otology, Rhinology and Laryngology will, this year, hold its Annual Meeting in Parma. As Salsomaggiore is only a few miles distant, it would be an opportunity for visiting this health-resort. At the same time there will be held in Parma the Congress of the International Society of Hydrology. Full particulars can be obtained from Professor F. Lasagna, 17 Piazza Gigli-Cerri, Parma, who speaks and writes fluent English.

\* \* \*

## FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF OTO-RHINO-LARYNGOLOGY.

The Congress will be held in Copenhagen from 30th July to 1st August 1928, under the presidency of Professor Schmiegelow.

The following subjects have been arranged for general discussion:—

1. The Modified Radical Treatment of Middle-ear Suppuration, introduced by Professor Tapia (Madrid) and Professor Neumann (Vienna).
2. Septic Diseases originating from the Throat, introduced by Professor Ferreri (Rome) and Dr Uffenorde (Greifswald).
3. Surgical Diathermy of Malignant Growths in the Upper Air Passages, introduced by Dr Dan McKenzie (London) and Professor Gunnar Holmgren (Stockholm).
4. The Anatomical Structure of the Ear and its Influence on the Course of Suppuration of the Middle Ear, introduced by Professor Mouret (Montpellier) and Professor Wittmaack (Jena).

\* \* \*

Dr Chevalier Jackson, Professor of Bronchoscopy and Œsophagoscopy at the Jeffreson Medical College, has been presented with the award of

## General Notes

\$10,000, a sum given annually by Mr Edward W. Bok to the individual who has done most to advance the interests of the city of Philadelphia during the current year. The award has been made to Professor Jackson for his work on Bronchoscopy.

\* \* \*

Dr William Smith Kerr, M.B., Edin., F.R.C.S.E., has been appointed Lecturer on Diseases of the Ear, Nose, and Throat in the University of Sheffield.

### THE SPECIALIST : WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH HIM ?

Under the above title, Dr S. S. Goldwater, Director of the Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, in an article in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 28th May 1927, dealing with hospital organisation, makes some pertinent remarks on the subject of specialists.

A specialist is at once the hope and despair of modern medicine. Strange diseases are made fashionable by his simple ukase, only to be banished from society when new favourites win his approval. The specialist is the prop of debilitated men, the idol of neurotic women, the restorer of under-nourished children. He is admired for his industry and is sometimes envied for his wealth. But with every increase in his activities, he tends to become more and more absorbed in detail and finds it increasingly difficult to see the whole of his patient. He tends to lead a life of professional isolation, the consequences of which are in some respects deplorable ; for living and labouring somewhat apart, little by little the specialist acquires the habit of exaggerating the significance of symptoms which are most familiar to him and of overestimating the importance of the forms of treatment in which he is most skilful. In course of time his diagnostic judgment is apt to be impaired, eventually it becomes suspect, even when, in an individual case, it may be perfectly sound.

Speaking as a hospital administrator, Dr Goldwater states that what troubles him most is the fact that specialism, which in its proper sphere has served and continues to serve a highly useful purpose, has split the forces of medicine into numerous small bodies, which, valuable as they may be for skirmishing purposes and in certain critical emergencies, are powerless to act as an effective unit in the endless struggle against disease. Can anything be done, he asks, by hospital organisation, to promote the training of specialists under conditions that will conserve and develop in them what is soundest and most useful, while checking what arises out of their professional isolation.

\* \* \*

### BOOKS FOR REVIEW.

*Les Voies Respiratoires Supérieures et la Phtisiologie.* By Georges Didier, Laryngologist at the Louise de Marillac Dispensary, Lille. Preface by Georges Laurens ; 80 pages. Gaston Doin et Cie, 5 Place de l'Odéon, Paris, 1927. Price 10 francs.

*Sur les Fonctions de l'Oreille Interne.* By P. J. Mink, Utrecht ; 80 pages with 8 Figures. Martinus Nijhoff, The Hague, 1927. Price 2-70 gld.

# EAR-MICROSCOPE

according to E. Lüscher

magnifying 10-50 fold

Described in the "Zeitschrift für Hals-Nasen und  
Ohrenheilkunde." Vol. 17, 1927, page 403.

**Haag-Streit, Berne**

*Manufacturer of  
Optical — Medical — Instruments*

*Please ask  
for detailed  
Prospectus*

## HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE THROAT

GOLDEN SQUARE, LONDON, W. 1

### HONORARY MEDICAL STAFF

#### Surgeons

Mr T. JEFFERSON FAULDER  
Mr GEORGE W. BADGEROW  
Mr LIONEL COLLEDGE

Mr G. A. DAWSON  
Mr GILBERT CHUBB  
Mr THEODORE JUST

#### Assistant Surgeons

Mr ORMEROD  
Mr BEDFORD RUSSEL

Mr DINGLEY  
Mr SANDIFORD

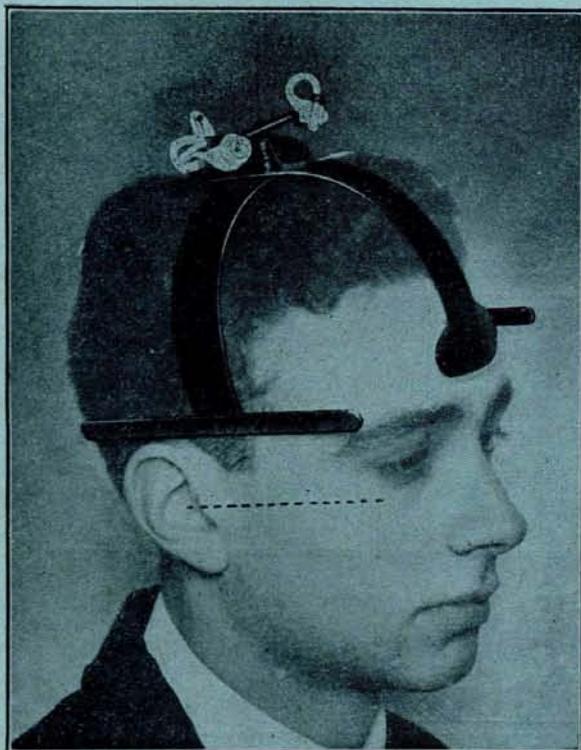
The Hospital, which has for some considerable time been undergoing very extensive reconstruction and extension, has nearly 80 beds for In-patients and an annual Out-patient attendance of over 60,000.

#### CLINICAL INSTRUCTION

Clinical Instruction in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Diseases of the Ear, Nose and Throat is daily given in the Out-patient Department from 2 to 5 p.m. On Tuesdays and Fridays from 6.30 to 9 p.m. also. Major operations are performed daily, except Mondays and Saturdays, in the In-patient Operating Theatres. Minor operations are performed in the Out-patient Department by the Assistant Surgeons on four mornings a week.

Practitioners and Medical Students are admitted to the practice of the hospital and Clinical Assistants, whose duty it is to assist the staff, are appointed from time to time among them. For further information apply to the Dean, THEODORE JUST.

# Models of the Labyrinth



These models (King's  
College Hospital pattern)  
were devised by

Mr A. H. CHEATLE

and

Mr NEGUS

for teaching purposes  
and for investigating  
labyrinthine diseases.

The pointers on the Head frame lie parallel with the Frankfort plane, so that when the frame is on the head the models lie in correct orientation in all respects. The patient's head can be put in any position and the exact relations of each of the canals are seen; rotation and caloric tests can be carried out with the frame in position.

---

Surgical Instrument Manufacturers

Established over Sixty Years

*Mayer & Phelps*

**CHIRON HOUSE**  
59-61 New Cavendish St.  
London, W. 1

