devoted to plastic surgery of the face and to the surgery of the thyroid gland which are not generally regarded as coming within the scope of the specialty.

One fault characteristic of Latin authors, whether French or Italian, which is evident in this book, is the indifference or carelessness about the spelling of proper names, such as Mac Even, Cheyne Stocke, William. Watson, Glascow, Ingols, etc. However, the book is well illustrated with clear cuts, and the chapters dealing with nasal surgery are well written and concise, so that on the whole this book forms a distinctly useful addition to medical literature as a teaching manual.

J. K. MILNE DICKIE.

# GENERAL NOTES

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, GLASGOW.

The Ninetieth Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be held under the Presidency of Sir William Macewen, F.R.S., from the 25th to the 29th July inclusive. The Sectional Meetings are arranged for the 26th, 27th, and 28th. Laryngology and Otology have been placed in the Single Day Sections.

The following Office-bearers have been elected:-

Section of Laryngology—President, Dr John M'Intyre, Glasgow. Vice-Presidents, Dr A. Brown-Kelly, Glasgow; Sir St Clair Thomson, London. Hon. Secretaries, Dr Francis Frederick Muecke, 36 Cavendish Square, London, W. I; Dr William Smith Syme, 11 Lynedoch Crescent, Glasgow.

Section of Otology—President, Dr A. A. Gray, Glasgow. Vice-Presidents, Dr J. G. Connal, Glasgow; Dr W. F. Wilson, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Hon. Secretaries, Mr F. J. Cleminson, 32 Harley Street, London, W. I; Mr J. W. Leitch, 6 Clairmont Gardens, Glasgow.

The Section of Otology will hold its Session on Wednesday, 26th. Discussion: Septic Sinus Thrombosis, its Diagnosis and Treatment, introduced by Sir William Milligan and Mr Lionel Colledge.

The Section of Laryngology will meet on Thursday, 27th. Discussion: Diseases of the Œsophagus, their Symptomatology and Differential Diagnosis, introduced by Mr W. G. Howarth and Dr D. R. Paterson.

On Friday, 28th, a Clinical Meeting of the Scottish Otological and Laryngological Society will be held in the Western Infirmary, to which all visitors are cordially invited.

With a view to facilitating the arrangements, social as well as scientific, Dr Syme will be glad if those who propose to attend the Meeting will intimate the fact as early as possible, stating, at the same time, if they propose to be accompanied by ladies.

FRENCH CONGRESS OF OTO-RHINO-LARYNGOLOGY.

The Congress will be held on the 17th July at the Faculty of Medicine of Paris, under the Presidency of Dr Georges Laurens of Paris and the Vice-Presidency of Professor Jacques of Nancy.

The date of the Congress, usually held during the first fortnight of May, has been changed this year in response to the desire of many members who wished to see the Meeting coincide with that of the International Otological Congress.

The subjects arranged for discussion are: -

- I. The Classification of Chronic Deafness, introduced by Drs Escat and Rigaud.
- II. Vaccine Therapy in Otology, Rhinology, and Laryngology, introduced by Drs Baldenweck, Jacod, and Moulonguet.

All communications should be addressed to Dr Georges Liebault, The General Secretary, 216 Boulevard Saint-Germain, Paris (VII).

TENTH INTERNATIONAL OTOLOGICAL CONGRESS, PARIS, 19th to 22nd July 1922.

The Meetings will be held in the École de Médecine, under the Presidency of Dr Sebileau.

The following subjects for discussion (Rapports) have been arranged:

- I. Abscess of the Cerebellum.
- II. Otitic Meningitis.
- III. The Value of Functional Tests of the Vestibular Apparatus.
- IV. Syphilis of the Ear.

The speakers will be: -MM. Buys, Gradenigo, Hennebert, Hinojar, Jenkins, Quix, and Schmiegelow.

During the Congress, a Supplementary Meeting will be devoted to the discussion of the following subject:—

"The Treatment of Cancer of the Larynx by Operation and by X-rays and Radium."

The speakers will be:—MM. Chevalier-Jackson, Moure, Regaud, St Clair Thomson, Sebileau, and Tapia.

The subjects for discussion will be printed and distributed before the Congress meets.

The mornings will be occupied in visiting the Departments for treatment of Diseases of the Ear, Throat, and Nose, and for the surgery of the Head and Neck. (Operations, presentation of patients, etc.)

A collection of instruments and of anatomical and surgical specimens relating to diseases of the ear, nasal fossæ and nasopharynx, will be shown at the Faculty of Medicine during the Congress.

The subscription, which entitles members both to a copy of the *Rapports* and to the résumé of papers, is £2 sterling, and should be paid to the Treasurer, Dr George Laurens, 4 Avenue Hoche, Paris (VIII).

In order to facilitate arrangements, members are requested to state whether they intend to be accompanied by members of their family.

Tentative arrangements have been made at the Hôtel St James et d'Albany, 211 Rue St Honoré, for the accommodation of British Members of Congress.

Those who propose attending the Congress must make their own arrangements, both as regards their rooms at the hotel and their journey to and from Paris.

The Congress of La Société Belge d'Otologie, de Rhinologie, et de Laryngologie will be held in Ghent in July 1922.

THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF HISTORY OF MEDICINE.

The Congress will be held in London from 17th July to 22nd July. The Sessions will be held at the Royal Society of Medicine, the Royal College of Physicians, the Royal College of Surgeons, the Wellcome Historical Museum and elsewhere.

There will be special exhibitions of objects connected with the history of medicine, surgery, and the allied sciences. The loan of any objects of special interest from members will be greatly appreciated by the Executive Committee.

Membership of the Congress can be secured by a subscription of £2, which should be sent to:—The General Secretary, Dr J. D. Rolleston, 21 Alexandra Mansions, King's Road, London, S.W. 3.

Sub-mucous Resection of the Nasal Septum.—A critical study of this subject is being composed by Professor Mouret of Montpellier and his Chef de Clinique. They would be much obliged if every colleague who has written anything on the subject would send a reprint to Dr Paul Cazejust, Place du Palais 2, Montpellier, France.

At the Forty-fourth Annual Congress of the American Laryngological Association held at Washington, D.C., 1st to 3rd May 1922, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—Dr George Fetterolf, Philadelphia, Pa; Second Vice-President, Dr Lorenzo B. Lockard, Denver, Colorado; Secretary, Dr George M. Coates, Philadelphia, Pa.; Librarian, Dr Joseph H. Bryan, Washington, D.C.; Treasurer, Dr J. Payson Clark, Boston, Mass.

# "THE NEW YORK MEDICAL RECORD."

April 22nd marked the passing of the last of the old independent medical weeklies—the *Medical Record*. The final issue as a separate publication appeared on that date, and announcement was made that the *Medical Record* had been sold to, and combined with, the *New York Medical Journal*, which appears semi-monthly.

Throughout the fifty-six years of its service to the profession, the *Medical Record* has had the same publishers, and but two editors. Dr George F. Shrady guided its course for the first thirty-eight years and was succeeded by his assistant, Dr Thomas L. Stedman, who has long been

dean of American medical editors, and widely esteemed. The famous old firm of William Wood & Company will now devote its energies entirely to the publication of medical books, in which service it has been engaged for 118 years.

It is interesting to recall that many of the most important discoveries and developments in the progress of medicine were first announced to the American profession by the *Medical Record*. These include Lister's method of antisepsis; Koch's discovery of the tubercle bacillus and that of tuberculin; the employment of cocaine in eye surgery; the Roentgen rays; the discovery of the anti-toxin of tetanus and that of diphtheria; Madame Curie's discovery of radium, and many others.

# Bretonneau.

It is only one hundred years ago that diphtheria was recognised as a specific disease. From the time of Hippocrates and Aretæus, it had been confused with Putrid Sore Throat or Angina Maligna.

It was after the lapse of two thousand years and in comparatively modern times that diphtheria forced itself upon the attention of physicians as a distinct disease. In the eighteenth century, Patrick Blair, John Starr, and Huxham of Plymouth advanced the study of what was often called "Croup," while Francis Home, Cheyne, and Cullen gave a description of "Cyanche Trachealis," which evidently corresponds to the diphtheria of modern times.

But it remained for the profession in France to complete the identification. "Croup," as it was called, was a more frequent and deadly visitor in France than in our islands. After it had caused the death of some of the members of the Imperial Family in 1807, a prize was offered by Napoleon I. for the best essay on the subject. This led to the publication of valuable works which preceded the classical memoirs of Bretonneau.

Bretonneau was a physician in the picturesque town of Tours, on the river Loire, and his work was founded on an alarming outbreak of the disease there in the latter part of the year 1818. The term diphtheritis was originally suggested by Bretonneau, who, observing that the disease was differentiated from other similar maladies by the formation of a false skin or membrane, coined the word diphtherite, from the Greek  $\delta\iota\phi\theta\dot{\epsilon}\rho\alpha$ , a skin or parchment, and ite, from  $t\tau\eta s(\epsilon\iota\mu)$  (=hasty, impetuous), the well-known term used in medicine to imply inflammation.

Bretonneau paid this country the compliment of putting an English text on his frontispage with the words "Few men, even those of considerable capacity, distinguish accurately between opinion and fact (M. Moore)."

It is just one hundred years since this illustrious clinician affirmed the principles of the specific nature of diphtheria, and the event will be celebrated in the autumn in the town of Tours. There will be an exhibition of memorials and documents of Bretonneau and his pupils, and an excursion to the little village of Saint-Georges, on the river Cher, where a tablet will be fixed on Bretonneau's birthplace. A reception will be given at the beautiful Château of Chenonceaux by the chocolate millionaire, Monsieur Menier, and an excursion will be made to Chenon to visit the country of Rabelais, a still more celebrated medical man.

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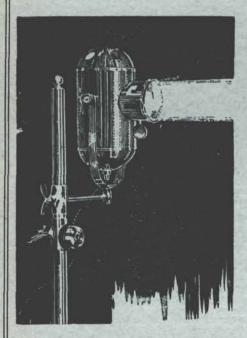
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