

Primary Abdominal Tuberculosis

SIR,—We are grateful to Sir Henry Gauvain for his complimentary reference to our article pointing out the danger of primary abdominal tuberculosis in young children. We fully agree that in older children danger of dissemination of the disease from the primary focus is not so great and that early diagnosis is not so difficult as in early childhood. But in our paper we considered only children up to 5 years of age whose disease, before the onset of meningitis, was at the stage of a recent primary focus, the anatomical basis of which consists usually of a few moderately enlarged glands. No definite sign of this lesion exists, and the general initial symptoms given by Sir Henry Gauvain are too common to suggest tuberculous infection. One of us (S. E.) investigated from this point of view children complaining of vague abdominal symptoms and found that the tuberculin test in these children was less often positive than in children without abdominal symptoms. This shows that there is little likelihood of there being a causal connexion between a primary tuberculous focus and vague abdominal symptoms in children. By the time that secondary local or distant manifestations appear (for example, the "doughy abdomen" which Sir Henry quotes as presumptive evidence of tuberculosis) diagnosis is not difficult and the risk of dissemination is small. As we emphasized in our paper, it is before the disease is clinically recognizable that meningitis is likely to occur, and for this reason we stressed the necessity for prevention of infection.

It may be of interest to note that since our paper went to press four other cases of tuberculous meningitis following a primary abdominal focus of infection have come to necropsy at this hospital.—We are, etc.,

STEFAN ENGEL.
RUBY O. STERN.
G. H. NEWNS.

The Hospital for Sick Children, Great
Ormond Street, W.C.1, Dec. 12.

Human Oil and Adherent Scars

SIR,—With reference to the article by Mr. Cecil P. G. Wakeley in the *Journal* of September 17 (p. 618), may I state that eighteen years ago I used injections of human oil, or as I called it melted human fat, in the treatment of adherent scars on the face in soldiers. Although it gave apparently satisfactory results at the time I gave up its use because it seemed to me that the scars tended to become re-adherent after the fat had completely absorbed, as it always did. A much more satisfactory and lasting method is to divide the adhesions subcutaneously and insert thin autogenous fat grafts, which do not tend to absorb, and the results are in my experience more efficacious and cosmetically much superior.—I am, etc.,

Wellington, N.Z., Nov. 23.

H. P. PICKERILL.

For many years Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Farquharson have been developing and making known the idea that the study and teaching of sociology and civics should be based on observation and field work, and they are now organizing a winter school of sociology and civics from December 30 to January 6 at the London House of Citizenship in South Kensington. The Royal Borough of Kensington will provide the material for observational work and field studies dealing with the natural environment, historical development, and present-day social and economic conditions. Mr. and Mrs. Farquharson will have the assistance of Dr. Marie Jahoda, formerly of Vienna. Particulars may be obtained from the Hon. Organizer of Field Studies, Le Play House, 35, Gordon Square, W.C.1.

Obituary

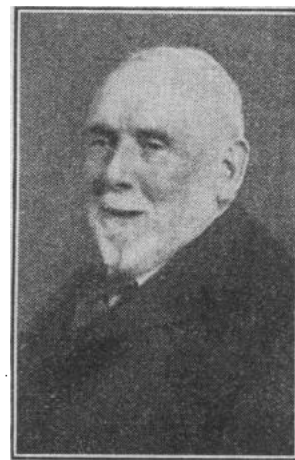
SIR COOPER PERRY, G.C.V.O., M.D., LL.D., F.R.C.P.
Consulting Physician, Guy's Hospital

The death of Sir Cooper Perry on December 17, at the age of 82, removes an outstanding character and a mind of remarkable strength and versatility.

Edwin Cooper Perry, son of the Rev. E. C. Perry, had a brilliant career at Eton and King's College, Cambridge, which he entered as a scholar. He was Senior Classic in the Classical Tripos of 1880, and immediately afterwards was elected a Fellow of King's. While still holding this fellowship he studied medicine at the London Hospital, taking the M.R.C.S. in 1885, the M.B. soon afterwards, and proceeding M.D. in 1888. During his period of residence at King's he was assistant demonstrator of anatomy in the Cambridge Medical School. At the London Hospital he served as house-physician and house-surgeon.

Sir Cooper Perry's long connexion with the teaching staff of Guy's Hospital began with a demonstratorship in morbid anatomy. He was soon afterwards elected assistant physician, and held office in the medical school as lecturer in materia medica, in dermatology, and in medicine, and he was given charge of the skin department. He was also examiner in materia medica and pharmacology for the University of London, in medicine for the University of Cambridge, and in materia medica and medicine for the English Conjoint Board. His election as F.R.C.P. was in 1894, and he served on the Council of the College in 1913-15. He wrote papers for the *Guy's Hospital Reports* on malignant disease (with Dr. Lauriston Shaw) and on diseases of the duodenum. For many years he combined clinical and teaching work at Guy's with the post of superintendent of the hospital, which gave scope for his great powers of administration, and on retiring from the staff he was elected consulting physician and a governor of the hospital and school. In 1903 he received the honour of knighthood. From 1920 to 1926 he was Principal Officer of the University of London, after serving two years as Vice-Chancellor. On October 20, 1926, the Senate adopted a resolution placing on record its high appreciation of the work he had done for the University.

From 1898 onwards Sir Cooper Perry was closely associated with King Edward's Hospital Fund for London, and he served on its General Council and Management Committee and presided over its Distribution Committee. He had held many other public offices, including membership of the Army Qualifying Board, the Voluntary Hospitals Commission, and the Departmental Committee on Postgraduate Medical Education in London, and chairmanship of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, of the Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics, and, after his retirement to Worthing, of the local hospital. He had also been chairman of the



Army Hospitals Commission and a governor of Holloway College. In 1927 he went to Egypt to reorganize the work of the Faculty of Medicine in the Egyptian University at Cairo, and remained there for some time as director. He was created G.C.V.O. in 1935.

Mr. H. L. Eason, C.B., C.M.G., Principal and late Vice-Chancellor of the University of London, sends the following appreciation:

"Nihil quod tetigit non ornavit" is, I think, the best epitaph for Sir Cooper Perry. He would have made an ideal Civil Servant. A classical scholar, a musician, a great physician and pathologist, an administrator of unusual quality, in all spheres of his activity he did not much care who got the credit for anything done so long as it was done, usually by him. Those who worked with him behind the scenes knew his value, his massive intellect, and his constructive capacity. The outside world knew him hardly at all. This was due to a peculiar combination of intense shyness and a justifiable vanity. He hated public speaking, and in his hospital days was so nervous about giving a lecture to students that he never slept the previous night. When he did lecture he did so with his eyes on the ground in manifest discomfort. His shyness led him to hide behind a certain brusqueness of manner which was not always appreciated by his acquaintances. Those who got behind this screen soon found that he was intensely human, kind-hearted, and sensitive. He was extraordinarily fair-minded and just, and would make allowances for everything but mental dishonesty. Moral delinquencies he could forgive, but anyone who prostituted his intellectual gifts to base purposes or was tortuous in his mental dealings passed into the limbo of outer darkness so far as he was concerned.

In the world of medicine he was the last of the great succession of morbid anatomists at Guy's Hospital. His manual skill in conducting a necropsy was perfect, and his knowledge of morbid anatomy encyclopaedic. His bedside teaching was extremely effective, owing to his grasp of both clinical knowledge and morbid anatomy, and to be his house officer was the delight of generations of Guy's men. In the world of music his important achievement was the revision, in conjunction with Dr. A. H. Mann, of the Anthem Book in use at King's College, Cambridge, and throughout his life he was a devotee of the more formal and classical music. It was in administration, however, that he made his mark. Coming to Guy's Hospital from the London Hospital in the early nineties of the last century, he found that it had been asleep for thirty years. He reorganized its constitution, its administration, and its finances, and for the twenty-eight years that he was its superintendent it flourished as a happy institution free from acute financial anxiety. He reorganized the Army Medical Service after the South African War and was responsible for the building of the present Army Medical College at Millbank. He was for many years on the council of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London and the chairman of its Distribution Committee. In this capacity his profound knowledge of hospital administration and his understanding of the peculiar problem of teaching hospitals were invaluable.

He had a mastery of concise and lucid English prose. He was a firm believer in that precept of Quintilian's that "Care should be taken not that the reader may understand if he will, but that he must understand, whether he will or not." It was this passion for accuracy that led some people to think that he was fussy over verbal corrections. As a matter of fact he never corrected a document that he did not improve. A few words changed,

a sentence reconstructed, and the memorandum was at once on a higher plane. When he himself was in doubt as to the clarity of a sentence he had the habit of translating it into Latin and then back again into English. If he could get the sense clearly in Latin it must be clear and he was satisfied.

Women either admired him or disliked him intensely. There was no middle course for them. He had a habit of paying back-handed compliments that did not make for feminine appreciation. Those who realized his great human qualities behind the lack of social graces were his devoted friends for life, and he in turn repaid their devotion with countless kindnesses. In his form he was bulky and ungainly. No one seeing him at any time in the last forty years would ever have imagined that he had played the wall game at Eton. He never walked if he could take a cab, and in his later years physical exercise was unknown to him.

His success as an administrator was due to the fact that he always had a constructive policy of his own for every problem. He had a contempt for the destructive critic who had no constructive ideas. As a committeeman one found that he had always read the minutes of the previous meeting and had corrections to make if necessary. He had always read his agenda and had his own ideas as to the action to be taken; and, finally, he had his own ideas committed to writing in the form of a resolution. A man who does this nearly always carries a committee with him, especially when his ideas are both well-considered and original. Resembling the late Lord Salisbury in his face and figure, he in his mind also resembled an Elizabethan statesman such as Cecil. Weighty, wise, deliberate in judgment, knowing just when to wait and watch and when to take decisive action, he would have been a worthy member of Queen Elizabeth's famous Councils of State. He could draft a document that could be subtle without deceit and uncompromising yet courteous.

He lived his life as he wished it. Regardless of money or public applause or preferment, he chose the reality of power and influence rather than the trappings of publicity, and he used his incomparable mental gifts entirely to the public good. He well deserved one of his favourite epitaphs—"Inservivit saeculo suo."

Many will have heard with deep regret of the death of HUGH DAVIES-COLLEY, O.B.E., M.B., F.R.C.S., who has been responsible for much of the surgical work of the Aldershot Command since 1915. The spirit of surgery coursed in his veins, for he was the son of a famous Guy's surgeon, and his mother was the daughter of a former treasurer of Guy's. The family record is a most illustrious one, for not only have his father and younger brother held posts of high honour on the surgical staff of Guy's, but each has also served the Royal College of Surgeons of England in several distinguished capacities. His sister, who herself predeceased him, was a famous woman surgeon and was on the surgical staff of several hospitals in London. Educated at Westminster and Trinity College, Cambridge, Hugh Davies-Colley received his clinical education at Guy's. He obtained the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1904, but it was the European war that really discovered him as a surgeon. Davies-Colley was appointed to the staff of the Cambridge Military Hospital, Aldershot, at a time when Sir Arbuthnot Lane was organizing the medical and surgical arrangements of the Command; at first the genito-urinary department was allotted to him, and to many his name will conjure up memories of a kindly, indefatigable, and in those days bearded surgeon wandering through the long corridor at any hour of the day or night armed with his "periscope." He ultimately became the chief surgeon

to the Cambridge Hospital, and held this position until his death. He had a most lovable disposition; his temper was never known to be ruffled; I do not believe that he had an enemy in the world. It was indeed fitting that his coffin should have been borne on other men's shoulders from the hospital to which he had given his best for nearly a quarter of a century.—G. G.-T.

The death of Dr. JOHN WHEELER CLEVELAND, J.P., of St. Albans, on November 11, at the age of 61, removed one who had been conspicuous for his work in various spheres of public service; it brought sorrow to a large circle of his medical colleagues. Born at Havant in Hampshire, he was educated at Charterhouse and St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Having taken the diplomas M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. in 1904, he was assistant house-surgeon at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, and then resident anaesthetist and house-surgeon. He began to practise in St. Albans in 1906, where he continued at work until his death, apart from a period of war-time service, during which he was at first resident surgeon officer at the King George Military Hospital for Officers, and later medical officer in charge of the Endsleigh Palace Hospital for Officers. In 1919 Dr. Cleveland was appointed to the medical staff of St. Albans Hospital, and ultimately became honorary consultant surgeon and a member of the House Committee. He was one of the founders of the St. Albans Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and its surgeon. He was appointed an Associate of the Order of St. John in 1923, and three years later was promoted to the rank of Officer of the Order in view of his great services. For nearly sixteen years he was a member of St. Albans City Council, and was mayor of the city in 1922-3; he was also active in support of the Nursing Association and the British Legion. He was a prominent Freemason: W.M. of the Halsey Lodge in 1928, and a Past Provincial Grand Deacon of Herts, in both the Craft and the Royal Arch Degrees. A keen Conservative, he was for many years a member of the executive council of the divisional association, and chairman of the East Ward Association. He captained the Verulam Golf Club in 1922, and had presided over the St. Albans Cricket Club. He was a strong supporter also of the St. Albans Football Club, and its honorary surgeon.

Dr. GRANT ROSS GRIBBEN, formerly a member of the Trinidad Medical Service, died at Brummana, Lebanon, on November 19, and was buried at Beirut in the Anglo-American cemetery. A student of Glasgow University, he graduated M.B., Ch.B. Glasg. in 1924, and afterwards took the D.T.M. Liverpool. Dr. Gribben during his period of service in Trinidad was medical officer of health for Brighton-la Brea rural sanitary district and port medical officer. He was elected a member of the British Medical Association by the Glasgow and West of Scotland Branch immediately after graduation, and five years ago he read to the Trinidad and Tobago Branch a paper on mass treatment with plasmoguin, which was fully reported in the *British Medical Journal* of November 18, 1933.

Dr. WILLIAM FOSTER, medical officer of health under the Shipley Urban District Council for thirty-four years, died at his home on November 27 at the age of 83. The son of Dr. John Foster of Bradford, he was educated at Bradford Grammar School, Epsom College, and the University of Cambridge, taking the clinical part of his course at the Leeds Medical School. He obtained the M.R.C.S. and L.S.A. diplomas in 1879, the Cambridge M.B. in 1885, and the D.P.H. in 1892. After working as house-physician and resident medical officer at the Bradford Royal Infirmary Dr. Foster travelled to Australia, South Africa, and America as a ship surgeon. He began practice at Shipley in 1885, and was appointed medical officer in 1895 and school medical officer in 1906. He acted for some time as medical superintendent of the child welfare centre and consulting surgeon to Sir Titus

Salt's Hospital. He had been a member of the British Medical Association for thirty-five years at the time of his retirement from active work in 1929.

Dr. JOHN H. FARDON, a well-known practitioner of Birkenhead, died at Oxtou, Birkenhead, on November 28, 1938, at the age of 75. After qualifying M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., he became demonstrator in anatomy at Bristol University, which position served him in good stead for his future career as a surgeon and general practitioner. He later held resident posts in the Liverpool hospitals and began general practice in Birkenhead in 1894, in which town he remained in active practice until the day of his death. He was appointed honorary surgeon at the Birkenhead General Hospital, then called the Borough Hospital, in 1902, giving his time and skill unstintingly until 1926, when he became a consultant surgeon. During the late war Dr. Fardon, besides doing his work at the hospital and in general practice, was medical officer to one of the larger school military hospitals in Birkenhead, and it is on record that he only missed meeting four of the ambulance trains arriving day and night during the whole of the war years. For this excellent work he was awarded the M.B.E. He had been a member of the British Medical Association since 1896. A colleague, "E. L. M.," writes: Dr. Fardon was a most enthusiastic worker for the British Red Cross, in which Society he took a tremendous interest and was for many years an examiner and instructor in the Birkenhead area. He was a man of high standing in his profession, conscientious, keen, and kindly, although of a retiring disposition. He was greatly esteemed and looked up to by his younger colleagues, who recognized his experience and that he was one of the real old type of general practitioners—fast fading away. Beloved by his patients, he will be greatly missed by all, and our united sympathies are extended to his wife and daughter.

Dr. CUTHBERT BRACEY DALE, who died on December 9 at Weston-sub-Edge, Gloucestershire, had practised for many years at Edgbaston, where he had been born in 1870. A student of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, he qualified as M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. in 1891, and after serving as house-surgeon at Bart's and at the Bucks General Infirmary, Aylesbury, he was for two years clinical assistant to the Royal Eye Hospital, South London. While in general practice at Edgbaston he was certifying factory surgeon for East Birmingham, and for some time anaesthetist to the Birmingham Ear and Throat Hospital and to the Birmingham School Clinic. Dr. Dale was a member of the Midland Medical Society, and joined the British Medical Association in 1901.

On December 14 EDWARD PHILIP, M.B., C.M., died suddenly at his home in Roehampton Lane, London, S.W., aged 67. The son of William Philip, shipmaster, he had his medical training at Aberdeen University, where he graduated in 1893. At an early age he started practice in a working-class district of South-West London, and his admirable professional abilities soon resulted in constant overwork. As time went on his reputation grew steadily and rapidly, and he was able to move into Redcliffe Gardens, where he practised for many years. Without making any pretensions to academic distinction, Philip had those qualities of observation, judgment, and sympathy which not merely made him deservedly successful but ensured also the affection of his patients. Some few years ago his health began to arouse anxiety—quite probably caused by the severe strain of his early days in practice, when he was accustomed to attend 200 midwifery cases a year at microscopic fees (or none at all)—and about six years ago he retired, settling ultimately opposite the gates of Roehampton Club. Philip was a man of real and unostentatious piety; he was a storehouse of amusing anecdotes, mainly Rabelaisian; and he had hosts of devoted friends among his professional colleagues, in his practice, and in the world at large. His

wife died several years ago, and he is survived by two sons and two daughters. He joined the British Medical Association in 1907, but never took office, though he was keenly interested in its affairs.

Dr. ALEXANDER MACALISTER, Walt Whitman's physician and friend, and one of the first in America to use diphtheria antitoxin, died at Camden, New Jersey, on November 22, aged 77.

JORGEN PETER MULLER, originator of the Muller system of home gymnastics and for many years principal of the Muller Institute in London, died at Aarhus, Denmark, on November 17, at the age of 73.

Medico-Legal

A HERBALIST ACQUITTED

A case tried before Mr. Justice Croom-Johnson at the Manchester Assizes at the end of November* raised some interesting points concerning unqualified practice.

Trial at Manchester Assizes

A "consulting herbalist" named Thomas Hugh Wilbraham was charged with the manslaughter of a youth of 22, whose father had put him under Wilbraham's care for diabetes. Mr. J. G. Lynskey, K.C., prosecuting, said that Wilbraham represented himself as being skilled to deal with the disease of diabetes, but had not shown the necessary skill or used the necessary care, with the result that the boy had died on September 5. In March, 1937, the boy's father had noticed that he was drinking much water and becoming drowsy. The father consulted a doctor, who diagnosed serious diabetes and sent the boy to Dr. Norman Kletz, who tried a diet for two or three weeks and then decided that the boy required insulin injections. Unfortunately, before that treatment was undertaken the father had heard that insulin was not a cure for diabetes but only a stabilizer, and got the impression that diabetes could be cured by a herbalist or osteopath. For a time he placed his son under the treatment of a woman herbalist, but in November, 1937, he went to Wilbraham. The accused, said counsel, told him that he specialized in the treatment of diabetes, had had successful results with other patients, strongly disapproved of the use of insulin, and included in his treatment the use of herbal medicine which caused the pancreas to function again. He was confident he could cure the boy. His charges were 10s. a visit. He did not prescribe any special diet except that the boy should restrict himself as much as possible to green vegetables. He began treatment in January, and in August the boy again broke down, became weak in his legs, and was terribly thin. Wilbraham, however, said he was very pleased with his condition, and that he was giving "pancreatic juices" in the medicine. Later he said that the sugar was down 1½ points. In September the boy could not stand, and his father asked Wilbraham by telephone whether he should get a doctor. The accused replied that he did not think it necessary. Next day he came to see the boy at the request of the father and said that the sugar was less, that there was not much chance of coma, that the boy was suffering from a poisoned stomach, and that he would give him medicine to put him right. Next morning the boy was worse, and he died in hospital next day.

In cross-examination by Mr. E. J. Hemmerde, K.C., the father admitted that he would not have accepted Wilbraham's treatment along with insulin, but he denied that Wilbraham had suggested insulin. Re-examined, he said that two doctors had advised the use of insulin, but he had not followed their advice because a friend gave him a paper which said that

diabetes could be prevented and cured if it had not progressed too far, provided the patient had not taken too much insulin.

Dr. Patrick Fay said that he had seen the boy in March, 1937, and that on April 23 he had stressed the need for insulin. Dr. Kletz said that in this case it was probable that without insulin life would have been materially shortened. Dr. W. H. Grace, the pathologist who made the necropsy, expressed the opinion that if the boy had started to take insulin in January he would now be living a normal active life.

Wilbraham, giving evidence on his own behalf, not only denied having neglected to give insulin, but said that the use of insulin with his treatment was definitely helpful in some cases and essential in others. He asked his diabetic patients to get insulin prescribed by a doctor. He was not allowed by law to prescribe or use insulin. Some of his present patients were using insulin under doctors' directions. In August he had told the father and the son that the son must have insulin. The son said he did not want it and the father said he could not have it. Later he said to the father, "Without the use of insulin I am afraid you are going to make a terrible mistake." The father walked out of the place in disgust. Wilbraham told him that he must call in a doctor right away, and that if he did not Wilbraham would send one. The father replied that he did not care for the doctors round there; he had had some trouble with them before. From first to last, said Wilbraham, he treated the boy according to the knowledge he had, and did everything he could to help him. If he had been allowed to use insulin he would have compelled the boy to have it. The death was accelerated by the failure to give insulin.

The judge, in summing up, warned the jury that they were not trying the question whether treatment by registered medical practitioners according to ordinary practice was better or worse than treatment by herbal medicine. The question was whether Wilbraham had advised or failed to advise insulin, or had advised against its use. The jury found him not guilty and he was discharged.

The Services

DEATHS IN THE SERVICES

Surgeon Commander ALFRED THOMAS GAILLETON, R.N. (ret.), died at Valparaiso on November 29. He was educated at Edinburgh University, where he graduated M.B., Ch.B. in 1898. He entered the navy soon after qualifying, became surgeon commander on August 10, 1915, and retired after the war. After his retirement he took the D.P.H. at Cambridge in 1923. He served in the war of 1914-18, receiving the medals.

Major-General JOHN JOSEPH GERRARD, C.B., C.M.G., late R.A.M.C., died in London, from the effects of an accident, on December 14, aged 71. He was born in Dublin on October 22, 1867, and was educated at St. Augustine's College, Ramsgate, and at Trinity College, Dublin, where he graduated M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. in 1888. He entered the Army as surgeon captain on July 23, 1891, and was specially promoted to surgeon major for services in the Tirah Campaign on May 20, 1898. Incidentally he was the last officer promoted to surgeon major before the grant of the military titles. He became lieutenant-colonel on July 28, 1906, colonel in the long list of war promotions on March 1, 1915, and major-general on January 24, 1918, and retired on January 27, 1922. He served on the North-West Frontier of India in the Tirah Campaign of 1897-8, when he was mentioned in dispatches in the *London Gazette* of April 5, 1898, received the frontier medal with two clasps, and was specially promoted to surgeon major; in the South African War from 1899 to 1902, when he took part in the action at Colenso and in the relief of Ladysmith, and in operations in the Orange River Colony and the Transvaal, and received the Queen's medal with three clasps and the King's medal with two clasps; and throughout the war of 1914-18, when he held various administrative appointments at the fronts in Flanders and France, was mentioned in dispatches in the *London Gazette* of June 15, 1916, January 4, 1917, and May 29, 1917. He received the C.B.

* *Manchester Guardian*, November 30 and December 1.