MISCELLANY

Under this department are ordinarily grouped: News Items; Letters; Special Articles; Twenty-Five Years Ago column; California Board of Medical Examiners; and other columns as occasion may warrant. Items for News column must be furnished by the fifteenth of the preceding month. For Book Reviews, see index on the front cover, under Miscellany.

NEWS

Coming Meetings†

California Medical Association. Session will convene in Los Angeles. Dates of the seventy-fourth annual session, to be held in 1945: Sunday, Monday, May 6-7.

See editorial comment, in this issue.

American Medical Association. The 1945 Session, previously scheduled for Philadelphia, will not be held. See J.A.M.A., January 20, 1945.

The Platform of the American Medical Association

The American Medical Association advocates:

1. *The establishment of an agency of Federal Government under which shall be coördinated and administered all medical and health functions of the Federal Government, exclusive of those of the Army and Navy.*
2. *The allotment of such funds as the Congress may make available to any state in actual need for the prevention of disease, the promotion of health, and the care of the sick on proof of such need.*
3. *The principle that the care of the public health and the provision of medical service to the sick is primarily a local responsibility.*
4. *The development of a mechanism for meeting the needs of expansion of preventive medical services with local determination of needs and local control of administration.*
5. *The extension of medical care for the indigent and the medically indigent with local determination of needs and local control of administration.*
6. *In the extension of medical services to all the people, the utmost utilization of qualified medical and hospital facilities already established.*
7. *The continued development of the private practice of medicine, subject to such changes as may be necessary to maintain the quality of medical service and to increase their availability.*
8. *Expansion of public health and medical services consistent with the American system of democracy.*

(Note: For interpretative comments, see *J.A.M.A.*, June 24, 1944, pp. 574-576.)

Medical Broadcasts*

The Los Angeles County Medical Association:

The following is the Los Angeles County Medical Association's radio broadcast schedule for the current month, all broadcasts being given on Saturdays:

KFAC presents the Saturday programs at 10.15 a. m., under the title, "Your Doctor and You."

In March, KFAC will present these broadcasts on the following Saturdays: March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31.

The Saturday broadcasts of KFI are given at 9:45 a.m., under the title, "The Road to Health."

"Doctors at War":

Radio broadcasts of "Doctors at War" by the American Medical Association is on the air each Saturday at 1:30 p.m., Pacific War Time.

† In the front advertising section of *The Journal of the American Medical Association,* various rosters of national officers and organizations appear each week, each list being printed about every fourth week.

* County societies giving medical broadcasts are requested to send information as soon as arranged.

Pharmacological Items of Potential Interest to Clinicians*:

1. *Symposia:* Covering all phases of nutrition, and led by Sir Edward Mellanby (*Brit. Med. Bull.*, 2:202-254, 1944). Very important one sponsored by New York Academy of Science on energy relationships in enzyme reactions, by J. S. Fruton, E. G. Ball, M. Bergman, H. M. Kalckar, O. Meyerhof, and C. V. Smythe (*Ann. N. Y. Acad. Sci.*, 45:357-436, 1944). N. Y. Academy holding important one on hypertension, Feb. 9 and 10, at American Museum of Natural History, N. Y. F. A. Lawes and B. Williams hold forth on fatigue (*Med. J. Austral.*, 2:501-507, Nov. 11, 1944).

2. *Gas:* Look carefully into E. N. Harvey & Co.'s important studies on bubble formation in animals (*J. Cell. Comp. Physiol.*, 24:1, 23, 117, 133, 257, 273, 1944). J. W. Bean fully reviews effects of oxygen at increased pressures (*Physiol. Rev.*, 25:1, 1945).

3. *Cancer:* Add symposium by staff of Barnard Free Skin and Cancer Hospital (*Surg. Clin. North America*, Saunders, Philadelphia, 1944, pp. 981-1268). R. Leuchtenberger & Company report "folic acid" (L. casei factor) IV injections cause regression and prevention of spontaneous mouse breast cancers (*Science*, 101:46, Jan. 12, 1945). V. R. Potter & Co. show that energy metabolism enzymes increase 3 fold after birth (*Cancer Res.*, 5:21, 1945). Note M. J. Shear & Co.'s series of articles on chemical treatment of tumors with hemorrhage producing polysaccharide from Serratic Marcescens (B. prodigiosus). These are summarized in clinical report (*J. Nat. Cancer Inst.*, 5:195, 1944), and refer to W. B. Coley's work (*Glasgow M. J.*, 126:49, 128, 1936) and G. Schwartzman's *Phenomenon of Local Tissue Reactivity* (Hoeber, N. Y., 1937; *Cancer Res.*, 4:191, 1944). F. Duran-Reynals shows importance of host resistance factors in enoplastic reactions to rabbit fibroma virus (*Cancer Res.*, 5:25, 1945). J. P. Greenstein and F. M. Leuthardt describe degradation of cystine peptides by exocystine desulfurase (*J. Nat. Cancer Inst.*, 5:209, 1944; *Science*, 101:19, Jan. 5, 1945). F. E. Chidester writes on *Nutrition and Cancer* (Lancaster Press, Pa., 1944).

4. *Therapy:* L. Loewe recommends combined use of penicillin and heparin in subacute bacterial endocarditis (*Canad. Med. Asso. J.*, 52:1, 1945). A. F. Coburn discusses control of streptococcus hemolyticus (*Mil. Surg.*, 96:17, 1945). L. W. Smith and A. E. Livingston recommend 1 per cent chlorophyll ointment containing 250 units penicillin per gram for promotion of wound healing (*Am. J. Surg.*, 57:30, 1945). D. Greiff & Co. find paraamino bensoic acid orally effective vs. murine typhus in mice, and PBA and penicillin rickett-siostatic, while NaFl is the reverse! (*J. Exp. Med.*, 80:561, 1944). F. M. Allen summarizes treatment of surgical shock and embolism by preventing fluid loss, replacing fluid lost, and local and general refrigeration (*J. Internat. Coll. Surg.*, 7:423, 1944). Note H. McIlwain on theoretical aspects of bacterial chemotherapy (*Biol. Rev. Cambridge Philosoph. Soc.*, 19:135, 1944).

5. *Furthermore:* J. W. Bartholomew and W. W. Umbreit report that ribonucleic acid with magnesium and cell protein is responsible for gram positive staining, and that sulfhydryl groups are involved (*J. Bact.*, 48:567,

* These items submitted by Chauncey D. Leake, formerly Director of U. C. Pharmacologic Laboratory, now Dean of University of Texas Medical School.

1944). C. Pinto recommends saponin for efficient and economical killing of snail carriers and cercaria of Schistosoma in streams (*Mem. Inst. Oswaldo Cruz,* 40:210, 1944). B. D. Davis discusses variety of biologic false positive serologic tests for syphilis (*Med.,* 23:359, 1944). R. M. McKenna notes psychosomatic factors in skin disease (*Lancet,* 2:679, Nov. 25, 1944). In swell discussion of structure and permeability of blood capillaries, J. F. Danielli and A. Stock conclude most substances reach tissue cells after filtration through pores in intracellular cement, and that edema follows Starling's hypothesis of protein gradient in pericapillary fluid and Poiseuille's equation that rate of flow is proportional to 4th power of capillary radius (*Biol. Rev. Cambridge Philosoph. Soc.,* 19:81, 1944). Note our E. H. Frieden's report on diffusion constant of penicillin suggesting molecular weight of 490 (*Science,* 101:21, Jan. 5, 1945). Also F. T. Maher's *Reticulo-Endothelial System in Sulfonamide Activity* (Univ. Illinois Press, Urbana, 1944, $3.50). And S. Drake's discovery of A. B. Johnson and his works on language (*Rev. Gen. Semantics,* 1:239, 1944). While R. A. Woodbury and B. E. Abreu say yarns and sighs increase venous return, getting blood back to tired heart, ho-hum (*Am. J. Physiol.,* 142:721, 1944).

Erroneous Insertion of Advertisement in Text Department.—Owing to an error in the bindery division of the Wolfer Printing Company, printers of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, a colored advertisement was placed between text pages 36 and 37 of the January issue. The advertising announcement was marked for placement in the back advertising section, between pages *36* and *37* of that department. Printers have expressed their regret concerning the error.

Forty-two Conscientious Objectors Risk Pneumonia.—Experiments with forty-two conscientious objectors, some of whom were inoculated with throat washings from soldiers having atypical pneumonia, have demonstrated that a virus can cause this kind of pneumonia, an Army medical commission reported on January 18.

All the conscientious objectors volunteered for the expermients. They were segregated in individual rooms in a hotel under rigid quarantine for eight weeks.

The inoculations consisted of throat washings and sputum from six patients having atypical pneumonia, which is not typical pneumonia or not like pneumonia caused by bacteria.

Recent studies have shown, the article said, that bacteria, fungi and virus, particularly those of the psittacosis or parrot fever group, may produce a group of symptoms of a disease sometimes called "virus" pneumonia.

Some of the throat washings were filtered through a glass which eliminates all bacteria, but three of the twelve receiving this bacteria free filtrates became sick with primary atypical pnuemonia. Twelve men were inoculated with unfiltered material and the same number became ill.

"The results of this experiment thus demonstrate that bacteria free filtrates, presumably containing a virus, can induce primary atypical pneumonia in man," the physicians of the Army Medical Department at Fort Bragg, N. C., concluded.

Training for Hospital Librarians.—The School of Library Service at Columbia University will offer in the summer session of 1945 a program pertaining to work in hospital libraries, running from July 2 to August 10. This is in response to a growing demand, and to a prospective expansion of such work in government hospitals.

Enquiries and requests for application forms may be addressed to the School of Library Service, Columbia University, New York 27, New York.

Stanford University School of Medicine: Department of Pharmacology.—Dr. Wei Chang Chu, instructor in pharmacology, Kweiyang Medical College, arrived in San Francisco, January 24th, on leave for two years from the Chunking Government, for work in the department of pharmacology, Stanford University School of Medicine. Dr. Chu is a graduate of the Hunan-Yale Medical College, 1937.

Mayo Memorial Fund.—Plans for erecting on the University of Minnesota Medical Campus a center for medical research, teaching and adminstration as a Memorial to Doctors William J. and Charles H. Mayo have been announced by the Committee of Founders of the Mayo Memorial appointed by Governor Edward J. Thye and headed by Dr. Donald J. Cowling, President of Carleton College.

The proposed 12-story Mayo Memorial building to be erected in the center of the University Hospitals quadrangle will be constructed at a cost of $2,000,000. The committee visualizes the Memorial as contributing much to the general public, to industry, to practicing physicians, to nurses and to medical students.

It will contain a Memorial auditorium, research laboratories, conference rooms for clinical departments, and the department of Pathology, the operating rooms and major laboratories of the University Hospitals, the administrative offices of the Medical School, the School of Nursing, the University Hospitals and the Department of Post Graduate Medical Education. By assembling these and other facilities under one roof the Mayo Memorial will create in fact a great medical center where research, training and treatment go forward hand in hand every minute of every day—thus carrying on through many generations the work so nobly advanced by the Mayos.

The Committee of Founders believes that all friends of the Doctors Mayo will wish to help make the Memorial a reality. There will doubtless be many others who may not have known the Mayos personally but who know of their remarkable work and will desire to participate in this tribute.

Further details on the proposed Memorial and a descriptive booklet may be obtained by writing to the Mayo Memorial Fund, 1126 N. W. Bank Building, Minneapolis 2, Minnesota.

A Tribute to the Country Doctor.—Last spring a woman of culture left her home in one of America's principal cities to spend six months in Arkansas. Soon after her arrival she came down with a common ailment and needed a surgeon. Her new neighbors almost failed to convince her that the village doctor was safe to consult. She asked: "If he's so wonderful, what's he doing here? A really good doctor can make a lot of money in a city."

She was right on *one* point. This doctor *could* make a lot of money in a city. He has not fared poorly where he is, but he never will be rich. He is not so much interested in money, however, as in a certain kind of success that's not measurable in dollars. He has a priceless estate of human lives. He can't leave his house without meeting people who owe their very existence to his skill.

A Rich Estate

This country doctor has the unfeigned love of his

neighbors. His work and ethics have their unqualified approval, but that's only part of the story. He likes *them* too. Nobody suffers for medical attention where he lives. "He gets paid for it," do you say? Yes, he collects from about half his patients. But the humblest sharecropper can have the best doctor he ever heard of, and never see a bill.

Writing this, I have a particular physician in mind, but I'm satisfied you are thinking about another doctor as you read it. There is one in just about every country town; two or three in big places. America still has plenty of neighborhoods where men grow up and live to a ripe old age at one address. These are the spots where a doctor is a real person, not just a service.

The Case History

Knowing the people in his neighborhood is worth a great deal to a physician's success. Even a specialist, who treats strangers almost exclusively, will agree that a patient's history is more helpful to the doctor than an examination. That's why I don't want to swap doctors with you, and I hope you feel the same way. Together, we can save this country from the political curse of socialized medicine.

A firm protest from the forks of the creek, mountain coves and farming towns can keep the Wagner National Health Bill, now decomposing in a pigeon-hole of a Senate subcommittee, from ever coming to life. It was introduced with small hope of passage, its chief purpose perhaps was to raise the issue and start people talking about medical service as something to be standardized and rationed like gasoline.

My doctor is a busy man. He works more nearly 16 hours a day than eight. A standardized working week of, say, 40 hours for him would make two new doctors in our neighborhood necessary. Of course both new men would have to study the community's health record, have to be as well schooled as the older doctor and have to receive suitable salaries.

It would be a bad deal, three ways:

1. Some of my doctor's patients would have to accept treatment from a man with all to learn about *them*.
2. Since three men cost more to maintain than one, all of us would spend more money for medical aid.
3. My good doctor wouldn't be busy. This is the worst feature. The work he loves (his estate of lives) would be taken away from him. I figure this agile mind would turn to something else, and that he'd quit being a doctor at all.—George S. Benson, President of Harding College, Searcy, Arkansas, in the Commentator column, "Looking Ahead" in the Sacramento *Commercial News*, December 15, 1944.

Press Clippings.—Some news items from the daily press on matters related to medical practice follow:

Kaiser's Profits

Congressman Says $100,000 Investment in War Industries Yielded Millions

Washington, Feb. 23—(AP.)—Henry J. Kaiser [founder of Permanente Hospitals] founded his war industries on a private investment of $100,000, and two of the firms have shown a profit of $27,274,487, according to a statement entered into the *Congressional Record* by Representative Woodruff (R., Mich.),

"Mr. Kaiser, without a doubt, has done a magnificent job in contributing to the success of our armed forces," Woodruff said in his statement.

"He has displayed a capacity for organization and production that amazes everyone familiar with his record. However, his efforts have not gone entirely unrewarded."

Quoting information he said he obtained from the Comptroller General's office, Woodruff's statement said the profit figure was after contract renegotiation but before taxes and added:

"It seems, Mr. Speaker, that when the reports on the other companies are finally in it will be found that the original $100,000 investment was a decidedly profitable one."

Woodruff said the Government had spent $216,647,743 in providing facilities for seven Kaiser companies, and "it will be noted that the original investment of the Kaiser group was $100,000."

Woodruff told a reporter he referred only to the Kaiser "war babies"—companies set up beginning in 1941 to handle war contracts—when he spoke of the original private investment.

Some Kaiser companies were operating long before the war began, but Woodruff said he is not concerned with their cost, investment or profits.

With his statement, Woodruff put in the record a detailed report from the Comptroller General's office on the financial structure of these associated Kaiser companies—California Shipbuilding Corporation, Kaiser Cargo, Inc., Marinship Corporation, Oregon Shipbuilding, Permanente Metals Corporation, Richmond Shipbuilding Corporation, and the Walsh-Kaiser Co., Incorporated.

The report showed renegotiated profits before taxes through 1943 of $16,551,324 for the California Shipbuilding Corporation, and of $10,723,163 for the Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation. Profits for the other five companies were not listed.—San Francisco *Chronicle*, February 24.

Warren Denies Housman Plea

Governor Refuses to Pardon Former S. F. Doctor

Attempts of Nathan S. Housman, former San Francisco physician, who served a prison term for perjury, to obtain a pardon and restoration of his medical license suffered a sharp setback on February 16 at the hands of Governor Warren.

Taking direct issue with Superior Judge Lile T. Jacks of San Francisco, who recommended "rehabilitation" of Housman, the Governor refused to pardon the former physician.

The Governor pointed out that in his recommendation Judge Jacks had gone counter to the law, which specifically provides that a petition for rehabilitation cannot be filed until the petitioner has lived continuously in the county of filing for at least three years before filing.

Housman, the Governor recalled, was paroled on December 18, 1942, and Judge Jacks granted him a certificate of rehabilitation on October 16, 1944—a period considerably less than the minimum required by the law. Said the Governor:

"In my opinion, a sufficient time has not elapsed to demonstrate Doctor Housman's rehabilitation, nor has he satisfied the statutory requirement of three years' residence. For these reasons, I have denied Doctor Housman's application for pardon."

The denial is expected to exert decisive influence over the decision of the State board of medical examiners, which will hear Housman's petition for restoration of license at Los Angeles on February 27. Doctor Housman's license was automatically revoked when he was convicted of a felony—two counts each of perjury, offering false evidence, and preparing false evidence.

These offenses occurred during trial of a misdemeanor charge against Doctor Housman: Omitting to keep proper records of narcotics prescriptions.—San Francisco *Examiner*, February 17.

Work Insurance

Economist Asks Living Wage, Medical Care, Job Guarantee

Washington, Feb. 18.—A post-war Government guarantee of a job for every person able and willing to work, as well as a guaranteed minimum living standard, was proposed today by a Federal economist.

E. A. Goldenweiser, chief economic adviser to the Federal Reserve Board and with the board for 26 years, advanced both ideas in a suggested program aimed at 58,000,000 postwar jobs.

"If a person has done all he can to find a job and still can't find one, the Government ought to offer him a job," the economist said, in the current issue of the Federal Reserve Bulletin. . . .

"We have a kind of minimum now in that we don't intend to have anyone starve or freeze or go without shelter, but it differs too widely.

"It depends too much on the disorganized action of individuals and groups.

There should be established a standard of living below which no person in this country needs to fall under any circumstances; a minimum of food, a minimum of clothing, and minimum of shelter, education *and medical care and even of money.*"—San Francisco *Chronicle*, February 19.