Immunity

The Journal will express no opinion of and assume no responsibility for the views of "Immunity" correspondents. They must win or lose on their own merits by abounding in their own wisdom, and each reader must appraise each communication for what it is worth and take it for better or worse.

Communications will not be signed when published, but the author must be known to the editor. Send on your complaints, your kicks, your knocks, your boosts. We want constructive and destructive criticism. Air your pet hobbies. You are not limited to your own town or the medical profession.

A MAN OF RARE JUDGMENT.

To the Editor:

It is gratifying to note that your editorials display concise up-to-date matter which ought to be of interest to every member of the State Society. If you were able to prevail upon the Program Committee to insist on shorter, more condensed papers read at the State Society meetings and thereby eliminate the cost of printing this unreadable junk, you would enhance the value of the Journal.

A READER.

San Francisco.

State Society

Acting upon the decision of the Council, the Medical Society has taken up the matter of acquiring new members. A great many good men come into our community who do not affiliate themselves with the county societies. Very often it is purely a matter of oversight. At other times there are men who have severed their connection with the county society for personal reasons, and do not re-establish that relationship because they have not been asked. Therefore, we are undertaking a campaign and county secretaries may be called upon to co-operate with the Council in this matter. Our agent at present is Mrs. R. V. S. Berry, who has been given full authority to canvass the state for new members and who is now at work on this rather comprehensive job. In the course of time she will visit practically every large center in California, and we shall expect the local county societies to give her all the assistance possible.

The Publicity Bureau has also established the beginnings of a lecture bureau, to be utilized by the county societies thoughout the state. We have obtained a list of men of prominence in the profession who have agreed to go where they are called and deliver scientific talks, illustrated by lantern slides, when necessary, and specimens, and who represent the best thought in the profession today. The county societies will be sent a list of these lecturers and the topics upon which they will hear a man talk. Provision will also be made to furnish the lantern and other appliances for demonstration where these are necessary, the expense being borne by the county society and the arrangements being made by the State Society office. By this plan we hope to stimulate the attendance at the county society meetings and further the advancement of science.

Again we must ask all county secretaries to send in the names of prospective new members in order that this office may pass upon the eligibility to membership of men not well known in their community. In this way only can we keep out undesirable applicants, for once a man is elected to membership it is not always an easy matter to prove that he was admitted without sufficient investigation and to drop him from the list.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Council will be held on or about October 25th in Los Angeles.

County Societies

LOS ANGELES COUNTY.

Announcement of Operative Course.

Medical Department University of California.

Dr. Foster K. Collins, who has just returned from overseas service, will again resume his work at the Los Angeles Medical Department of the University of California. A course of operative surgery on the cadaver and on the dog will be commenced within the next several weeks. Time of beginning, the class and hours will be through mutual arrangements with the members of the class. The course will roughly cover practically all of the operations in general surgery. For further information address Dr. Foster K. Collins, 1318 Baker-Detwiler Bldg., telephone 66133.

Returned from Service.

Dr. Herbert V. Mellinger, 608 Baker-Detwiler Bldg.

Dr. Ernest L. Commons, 1100 Brack Shops.

Personals.

Local Surgeon Released from Navy.

Senior Lieutenant J. C. Horton, local surgeon and for the past two years a medical officer in the United States Navy, received notice yesterday that his request to resign was granted by Naval Secretary Daniels, to take effect immediately, so that he will return to his private practice in this city immediately.

Dr. Horton had entire charge of the big Naval influenza quarantine camp in Los Angeles, where thousands of sailors and marines were held during the epidemic.

Dr. Etta Gray of Los Angeles is Sent Abroad to Study Conditions.

Dr. Etta Gray of Los Angeles, president of the War Work Committee of the National Medical Women's Association, which has sponsored and financed the American Women's Hospital Service in France and Serbia, will sail for one year's duty in those two countries.

The American Women's hospitals have about $100,000 in their treasury now, the result of public subscriptions and the aid of co-operating organizations, including the American Red Cross and the American Committee for Devastated France. More than 100 women served in France and Serbia from this organization after America entered the war and several units are now in various hospitals there.

Cowles Quits, But Mayor Says "No."

Dr. J. E. Cowles resigned as a member of the Playground Commission when Mayor Snyder took office. The Mayor declined to accept Dr. Cowles's resignation as he desired him to remain on the board. This is an unpaid board, the members of which even pay their own expenses on their inspection trips.

Dr. Mellinger Returns.

Dr. Herbert V. Mellinger, formerly of Chicago and who during the war served as a medical officer with the Sixty-fifth Regiment, Coast Artillery from California, has returned from duty overseas and is now living in Los Angeles, and has opened an office.

Pomona Surgeon Tells of America's Medical Men.

Sixteen thousand physicians and surgeons, 12,000 nurses and 122,000 listed men in the medical department served the American Army in France according to figures made public by Dr. J. K. Swindt of Pomona, in an address to the members of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce on his return from overseas. Thirty-three thousand American physicians volunteered for service, said Dr. Swindt, and those who served the men overseas cared for 195,000 wounded, of whom 182,000 recovered. Pneumonia and influenza caused the death of 8 000 men. Of the 2,200,000 American soldiers in France only 1,000 devloped cases of typhoid, and of these only fifty died. In the Spanish-American war more American soldiers died of

typhoid and other diseases than were killed in battle.

Dr. Swindt said there were 72,723 deaths in the American Army during the war, 32,000 men being killed outright, 13,479 dying of their wounds, 22,000 of diseases and over 4,000 suffered accidental deaths.

"When the Americans first entered the great world war," said Dr. Swindt, "the physicians and surgeons were allowed to go to the front-line trenches. As a result, many were killed, and shortly thereafter an order was issued keeping all of them out of the trenches, as they were needed to keep the fighters up to condition and it is was considered unwise to expose them to unnecessary and useless danger. The casualty list of doctors rapidly diminished after that."

Dr. Swindt pointed with pride to the accomplishment of the medical department in landing a base hospital in France one month and one day from the date the United States entered the war. Another accomplishment that reflected the efficiency of this branch of the service was that of keeping 94 per cent. of the fighters always in condition for active duty. Only three per cent. indisposed by wounds and the other 3 per cent. by sickness. Dr. Swindt said this was a record that has never been approached in any other war.

Several notable buildings were used for American hospitals on the other side, among the most notable being the Haviland china factory.

The great size of some of these hospitals was another feature touched upon by the speaker, who said one contained 25,000 beds and would have been enlarged to hold 40,000 beds if the armistice had not been signed when it was. An interesting side light was the statement that there were 15,000 more beds in the base hospital than were actually needed at the close of the war.

The necessity of quick work was emphasized when the speaker said the surgeons in the hospital worked in shifts of four hours.

Capt. Orbison's Task on the Baltic.

An interesting insight into the work of the American relief administration in Europe, and the tasks and achievements that are earning for this country the gratitude and confidence of the world, is furnished through the correspondence of Capt. Thomas J. Orbison, Los Angeles physician, now in charge of the relief work in Libau, on the Baltic.

Capt. Orbison assumed charge of the first actual distribution of food in Libau on June 5. Libau is a city of 63,000 inhabitants. It contains, according to the best official estimates, 19,500 children from 1 to 16 years of age, of whom about 5,000 are under 7 and are absolutely destitute. Their immediate needs according to the official report to the commanding officer of the Baltic mission, are food and medical attention.

The first problem on taking over the work was the formation and correlation of the various local agencies and institutions.

The first job was to deliver food and see that it was properly distributed in eleven city institutions caring for orphans from 5 to 16 years old. Most of these places were well run, and some had small gardens cultivated by the children. But practically every one was small and did not have the needed equipment. At the beginning Dr. Orbison personally supervised the work. Each institution received food supplies sufficient to keep it going one or two weeks.

The next reform put into effect was the rule made by Dr. Orbison that the destitute children had to be fed at the various kitchens instead of supplying their parents with their food allotments. This was enforced because it was feared that children who needed it might not get all the food to which they were entitled. This plan has worked out well.

The examinations of children showed that there was need for drastic measures in counteracting the curable ailments, and one result of the examination method was that Dr. Orbison called a meeting of all physicians in Libau. In addition to the leading men of the profession, the mayor and chief business men of the city attended. Dr. Orbison's address was received with enthusiasm, and a committee of six was organized to formulate and operate clinics similar to the ones in the United States.

Win Health in Open Air.

According to Jennie Van Allen, while awaiting the establishment of a permanent preventorium in the vicinity of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Tuberculosis Association is doing a splendid work by giving several hundred children the mental, moral, physical and spiritual stimulus of summer health camps.

The first camp was established at Hermosa Beach three years ago. Last year 220 boys and girls predisposed to the white plague were given a fortnight's outing at the open-air camp at Devil's Gate, Pasadena, donated by the Supervisors. The site being needed for public improvement work, a camp in the San Gabriel Canyon, ten miles from Azusa, was this year placed at the disposal of the association, and Miss Sidney M. Maguire, executive secretary, pronounces it a perfect location.

At the camp over 400 boys and girls from Los Angeles and Pasadena have been given a month's outing in the mountains, thanks in large part to the Junior Red Cross, of which Mrs. J. J. A. Van Kaathoven is chairman, which made the splendid gift of $3.000. This organization is composed of school children and it was their express wish that their savings should go to help less fortunate children.

The City Council donated $500 and the Tuberculosis Association received nearly $1,000 in reply to circular letters sent to the citizens of both cities, who believe that the municipal stability depends upon the child of to-day who will be the citizen of to-morrow. Supt. Martin of the County Hospital loaned all the beds and bedding that could be spared from the institution, and the Brunswig Drug Company sent toothbrushes for every child. Needed clothing, games and hammocks, swings and other equipment added to the comfort of the camp, which included sleeping tents and pavilion, headquarters and tents for mess, hospital and recreation. The sports included baseball and basketball, croquet, punch bags, hiking and fishing.

The camp, which owes its existence to the energy of Miss Maguire, is conducted on military lines with Frank W. Otto, a medical student, as physical director. His days are full of action, and in addition to his other duties he officiates morning and evening at the raising and lowering of the flag, and also supervises the exercises inaugurated last year by Mrs. Zella V. Ornum Glimm, an authority on breathing and postural exercises, who has given her services several times a week during the three camp seasons.

The camp is under strict military hygiene and is in the highest sense of the word a health camp. Every child needs special care and discipline, as all are handicapped by inherited disease. Garbage is hauled away and tin cans and papers buried. The fly problem is eliminated, as every building is screened, the drainage is perfect and the sanitation above criticism by the Los Angeles Board of Health.

Miss Gertrude MacIntosh, the "real mother" of the camp, is on duty day and night. As head she must be doctor and surgeon in all the accidents and emergency cases, and her hospital tent is headquarters for all the troubles from a stubbed toe to a slight scalp wound received in the age-old game of defending the camp from invasion. Children are weighed once a day and during their stay have gained from two to ten pounds. There is

no distinction of race and all are taught they are good American citizens regardless of color or creed.

Dr. Hannah J. Beatty and Dr. Maria Pattrick visit the camp on alternate weeks to examine these children, who are suffering from malnutrition and a predisposition to ills that inevitably affect an under-par child born of a long line of physically incompetent men and women.

Mrs. Des Camps is the matron of the camp. She was with the Thirty-fourth Division at Camp Doniphon, Fort Sill, Okla., and has soldierly tactics in enforcing order and cleanliness.

The association makes a powerful appeal to the officials and citizens of Los Angeles county to make immediate preparation to meet this tremendously important issue. A preventorium is needed in the coming winter. It is the country's duty to save the children from tuberculosis and stop the useless waste of human life and energy.

A week at the seashore and a fortnight or a month in the mountains start children on the road to health. But what is a week, a fortnight or a month when balanced against the life of a child? Make it twelve months for all the years he needs medical supervision. Liberally endow a permanent preventorium. Make it the biggest and finest in this United States, so that every child who has a touch of the white plague can have scientific care. It is the finest investment Los Angeles County can make.

New Hospital at Pasadena.

A six-story hospital building for the plant of the Pasadena Hospital Association, a semi-philanthropic institution, will be erected here within the next few months at a cost of $500,000. The new building will adjoin the present building of the Pasadena Hospital at Pasadena avenue and Congress street. It will contain the latest approved hospital facilities and equipment and will provide increased hospital accommodations to meet the growing needs of the city. The new building will be built under the direction of a special committee of the association, comprised of David Blankenhorn as chairman, Theodore Coleman as secretary and treasurer, Judge G. A. Gibbs, Mrs. George E. Hale, Dr. Chas. D. Lockwood, John McWilliams and John S. Cravens. The committee will have architects prepare plans for the new building at once.

Sees Need for New Hospital.

Pleading for the establishment of more Seventh Day Adventist hospitals and sanitarium in Southern California, Dr. W. J. Johnson of the Glendale Sanatorium spoke before a large audience at the camp meeting at Western and Melrose avenues. The denomination now has three sanatoriums and one hospital in this part of the state, located at San Diego, Loma Linda, Glendale and Los Angeles, besides a large sanatorium at St. Helena, Cal., and another in Portland, Ore. It also has twenty-four other medcal institutions in various parts of the world.

Deaths.

Dr. Anne W. Nixon, 461 East Colorado street, Pasadena, Cal.; Cooper Medical College, San Francisco, Cal., 1892; licensed 1893; age 75 years; died after a long illness May 11, 1919, of heart disease. Dr. Nixon was a member of the California State Medical Society. She was a widow and left no relatives.

Dr. William Bradley Towler, age 76 years, died August 12, 1919, at his home, 1217 West Forty-seventh street. Dr. Towler was a graduate of Victoria University, Toronto, Canada, May 5, 1896. After practicing his profession in Toronto for forty years he was forced to move to Southern California on account of ill health. He was licensed in 1896. For the past twelve years he had devoted his time to church and philanthropic work. He leaves a widow and a sister, Mrs. Robert McIndoo of Fresno.

Tots' Dentist Dead.

Dr. Birdine M. King, who was 52 years of age, died August 11, 1919, at her home, 706 South Chicago street. She came here from Gridley ten years ago to take charge of the dental work at the O. T. Johnson dispensary, which was later taken over by the Board of Education. Her death followed an operation performed some time ago.

Dr. King was frequently called "the children's dentist," having pioneered the dental clinic work here. She was a member of the Women's Professional Club and of the Southern California Dental Society and the Women's Dental Society.

Dentist Succumbs.

Well-Known Resident Fails to Rally from an Operation.

Dr. Wallace H. McHardue, 33 years old, died August 25 at the Angelus Hospital, after an operation from which he failed to rally. Dr. McHardue, who has resided in Southern California for the past fifteen years, was well known in Los Angeles, having made many friends during his residence here. He was a graduate of the dental college of the University of Southern California. After his graduation from college he practiced for ten years at Colton. Two years ago he returned to Los Angeles and opened offices at his residence on West Twenty-third street. He was a member of the Southern California Dental Society, and of the Colton chapter of the Masons. Dr. McHardue is survived by a widow and two children.

MENDOCINO COUNTY.

A regular meeting was held on September 6th at Fort Bragg, in the office of Dr. Harper Peddicord. Present: Drs. C. L. Sweet, Harper Peddicord, F. McLean Campbell, L. C. Gregory and Oswald H. Beckmann; the president, Dr. C. L. Sweet, in the chair. The business part of the meeting was attended to, but as those on the program failed to materialize, their part of the meeting was turned into a social smoker. After the meeting we drove over to Dr. Peddicord's residence, where Mrs. Peddicord had prepared a very choice venison lunch. It received full justice from the partakers. All the credit for this banquet should not be showered on the mistress of the house; the doctor himself had supplied the venison by his prowess as a nimrod. It was all very well for Dr. Peddicord to bring down the buck with a rifle bullet, if it had been the County Society secretary it would not have been good form. That individual would have been expected to follow in the footsteps of his chief, the State Society secretary, and use the bow and arrow. Then what would have taken the place of the venison? This secretary is not even competent to bend the bow.) Thanks to Dr. Peddicord from the guests and a toast for his good wife.

ORANGE COUNTY.

The regular monthly meeting of the Orange County Medical Society for August met in the Library Building, Santa Ana, and was well attended. The paper of the evening was given by Dr. Wilson of Los Angeles, entitled "Repair of injuries of the bones of the upper extremity." The address was illustrated by many stereopticon views and proved to be of much interest to all. After the scientific part of the program was finished the members retired to James' Cafe to enjoy a delicious luncheon.

Dr. John Wehrley was the chief speaker at the September meeting. The doctor's paper, entitled "The laboratory as an aid in medical practice," brought out a most interesting and profitable discussion. Having had a wide experience in the war and an opportunity to study many cases, the doctor's experiences held his audience to a late hour. His research work in gastric ulcer developed a

new diagnostic symptom which was referred to several times by different speakers as "Wehrley's sign," which may yet place the speaker among the immortals.

Drs. Burlew and Maroon have just returned from a visit to Eastern clinics.

Dr. V. P. Osburn has accepted a position with Drs. Johnston and Wickett as internist.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY.

A splendid tribute was paid to the organization and progress of the League for the Conservation of Public Health by a large meeting of physicians of San Diego and adjoining counties, held in the Medical Library rooms, San Diego, on the evening of Tuesday, September 9th.

Dr. F. A. Burton, president of the San Diego County Medical Society, presided, and after two hours of excellent speeches a profitable evening was terminated by light refreshments and a social session.

Dr. John C. Yates of San Diego, president-elect of the State Society, briefly outlined the events leading up to the organization of the League, which auspiciously occurred in San Diego about two years ago.

The chief speaker of the evening, Mr. Celestine J. Sullivan, executive secretary of the League, was then introduced, and after tracing in eloquent words the early history of the development of freedom in California, touching with a master hand the outstanding figures from Junipero Serra to the present day exponents of liberty, he emphasized the absolute necessity of organization in the development of any movement and strongly urged his hearers to bend their energies to the securing of a more desirable medical practice act to replace the worn-out vehicle that now serves as an apology for one.

While detailing some of the triumphs of the League during the brief period of its existence in the matter of curtailing vicious legislation in matters medical, he tersely expressed the objects of the League by saying that all acts and plans of the League must stand the acid test, "Is it for the public good?"

After outlining the various classes of League membership he stated that many of the hospitals in California had already become members of the League and that the ideals of hospital standardization in California through the League's efforts would be rapidly realized. The rallying to the support of the League on the part of the doctors, lawyers, druggists, nurses, business men, manufacturers, corporations and institutions of learning, all express belief in not a "medical trust" but a high trust in the profession of medicine. He exhorted the physicians before him to awaken to the fact that much of the public health work which is so popular at the present time begins and ends largely with the exploitation of the doctor. The time has come for the doctor to take the initiative in the organization and conduct of public health crusades. The speaker repeatedly urged the physicians to educate their legislators to a proper conception of the relations between the medical profession and the community in order to pave the way for a more intelligent discussion of a stronger and better medical practice act to comport with the enlightened vision of the people of our great commonwealth of California.

He closed by quoting from Roosevelt that admirable dictum: "Every man owes to his profession a portion of his time and some of his money to aid in its upbuilding."

Dr. W. T. McArthur of Los Angeles gave a brief resumé of how the profession of Los Angeles organized itself in support of the League. While expressing the belief in the absolute need of unity and organization, he declared that there was room for the individual giving of time and money on the part of every licensed medical man in the state.

Dr. G. G. Moseley of San Francisco, one of the group of founders of the League, spoke briefly on the demand for organization and centralized power. He also drew attention to the splendid opportunity which the profession enjoys through an organization like the League in enabling it to give to the people, through the press and other proper means of publicity, valuable knowledge on matters of personal and public health.

Dr. G. L. Cole of the Los Angeles Medical Society gave a brief but forceful testimony of his conversion from an attitude of skepticism regarding the League at the time of its formation to one of utmost faith and enthusiasm at the present time.

Dr. Harlan Shoemaker, secretary of the Los Angeles County Medical Society, spoke glowingly of the cordial relations developing between the various county units as the result of the League's activities drawing them more closely together than the State Society had previously succeeded in doing.

Dr. D. C. Strong of San Bernardino also paid tribute to the accomplishments of the League in the brief eighteen months of its initial effort.

Major J. F. Percy of Camp Kearny spoke of some of his experiences and observations while head of the committee on medical legislation of the Illinois State Medical Society. He characterized the California League movement as the most potent attempt indirectly to express medical progress that he had ever seen.

Dr. H. P. Newman of San Diego expressed his thorough endorsement of the movement.

Dr. Martha Welpton of San Diego enthusiastically stated that the medical women of San Diego were a unit in their support of the League.

Dr. P. M. Carrington, one of the founders of the League, expressed himself as feeling that the time was ripe for an appeal for members and financial suport from those present.

On formal motion the chair appointed a membership committee of three to receive voluntary contributions for the support of the League. Several hundred dollars were promptly raised in this way.

As a generator of enthusiasm and confidence in the League's future, this meeting was a pronounced success.

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY.

Dr. Ernest C. Dickson has returned to the Stanford University Medical School from military service overseas. While abroad. Dr. Dickson was posted with No. 4 Canadian General Hospital, the University of Toronto unit, having charge of the acute medical service, and being supervisor in internal medicine.

Dr. William Palmer Lucas, Professor of Children's Diseases at the University of California Hospital, chief of all the work at the University for children, has received the notification from Monsieur Andre Tardieu, French Minister in charge of his government's American affairs, that the French government has conferred upon Dr. Lucas Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur, with the gratifying comment that the French people with whom Dr. Lucas had worked for the children of France, had asked that he be decorated. At the same time Dr. Lucas was notified that the Minister of the Interior had conferred upon him France's highest medical decoration, "La Medaille de Vermeil des Epidemies," for services rendered to children of France.