

be inclined to contend at first thought, but a convincing proof as to the rôle of the mosquito in the transmission of the disease. It teaches a lesson, too, as to the great care that should be exercised in experimental work with these insects, particularly when they are infected with the more dangerous estivo-autumnal parasites. One of the nine victims in this endemic was a sufferer from typhoid, and a second succumbed to pneumonia. Secondary or mixed infection with malaria is a serious matter.

Medical News.

ILLINOIS.

Chicago.

Smallpox.—Only two new cases of smallpox were received in the Isolation Hospital during the week ended June 20. One child, 28 days old, died in the hospital, fifteen were discharged recovered and eighteen remained under treatment at the close of the week.

Low Mortality.—The remarkably low mortality rate of the month continued during the week ended June 27. The 454 deaths reported represent an annual rate of 12.54 per 1,000. For the twenty-seven days of the month the rate has been 12.70, as compared with 13.12 for June, 1902, and with an average of 14.12 for the ten Junes of 1893-1902 inclusive.

Personal.—Dr. Rachelle Yarros has gone to Europe for a year of study.—Dr. William L. Ballenger has been elected to the chair of otology, rhinology and laryngology, made vacant by the resignation of Dr. Moreau R. Brown.—Dr. Frank Allport has been elected clinical professor of ophthalmology in the Northwestern University Medical School.

Exercises at Rush.—On June 17, 180 students, including 6 women, received degrees at the convocation of Rush Medical College. Dr. Simon Flexner, Philadelphia, made the doctorate address on "An Era of Medical Discovery." Dr. Frank Billings, dean of the faculty, announced that the major portion of the \$1,000,000 required to secure the \$8,000,000 required for hospital and advanced clinical work had already been secured.

Englewood Hospital Incorporated.—A new corporation has been organized, known as the Englewood Hospital and Training School. This will succeed the Englewood Union Hospital, which will surrender its charter. The new institution is not for pecuniary profit. The plan contemplates the purchase of land for \$20,000, on which will be erected a hospital building to cost \$80,000, and to accommodate 148 patients, and this building will be equipped at a cost of \$20,000.

MARYLAND.

Personal.—Dr. Lawrence C. Freeny, Pittsville, Wicomico County, has been elected resident physician and superintendent of the Peninsular Hospital, Salisbury.

Sanitarium for Liquor and Drug Habitues.—Dr. Edwin Geer of Baltimore has purchased 68 acres for \$30,000 in Green Spring Valley, Baltimore County, and will build thereon a sanitarium for the treatment of persons addicted to liquor and drug habits. It will be called the Cecil Heights Sanitarium and will accommodate 23 patients. The consulting staff consists of Drs. H. M. Hurd, T. A. Ashby, C. G. Hill, J. D. Blake, Geo. J. Preston, John W. Chambers and Thos. S. Latimer, Baltimore.

Selects Site for Naval Hospital.—Surgeon-General Rixey, U. S. Navy, visited Annapolis last week to select a site for the naval hospital to be erected in the Academy grounds. The highest point in the grounds was chosen. A building several stories in height, with accommodations for about 100 persons, and to cost from \$100,000 to \$150,000, is contemplated. The "open-air" plan will be followed, and the wards will be separated so as to secure abundant light and ventilation. Wards for officers and men will be in different parts of the building.

Baltimore.

Operating Rooms Opened.—The new operating rooms of St. Agnes' Hospital were opened with formal ceremonies and a banquet June 25.

Adopts Standard Classification.—Health Commissioner Bosley, in order to preserve uniformity, has adopted the system

of mortality statistics in use by the U. S. Census Office and approved by the American Public Health Association.

University Appointments.—At the University of Maryland Dr. John R. Winslow has been made clinical professor of diseases of throat and nose, Dr. R. H. Johnston demonstrator in the department, and Dr. Hubert Richardson demonstrator of physiologic chemistry.

Lowered Death Rate.—The cool weather kept down the death rate last week. The deaths numbered only 135, 26 being from consumption and 9 from pneumonia. The death rate per 1,000 was 12.50, the usual proportion of 1 to 2 between whites and colored being observed.

Echoes from the Crim Sale.—The medical books belonging to the Crim collection of antiques, etc., were sold last week, and with them the entire collection has been disposed of. The entire receipts amount to about \$80,000. The 400 charts belonging to the late Professor Robey and used by him in his anatomic lectures brought only \$32. The Bourgerie anatomy eight volumes folio, brought only \$24. As previously stated the University of Maryland Medical School ultimately received the great bulk of the estate. Dr. Crim's house brought only \$100 at public sale, but it was much out of repair, and there was a large ground rent on it.

Personal.—Among those who sailed from this port to Bremen on June 27 were Drs. Henry L. Hilgartner, A. Crawford, W. A. Jack, Anna Johnston, and M. P. Tilley.—Dr. A. Kerr Bond has gone to England, where he will spend a month in the Manchester Children's Hospital.—Dr. T. P. McCormick will spend July at Groton, Conn.—Drs. Thomas McCrae and W. G. McCallum sailed for Europe June 27.—Dr. B. B. Laniel will spend the summer at the White Sulphur Springs, Va., and Dr. John A. Luetscher at Ocean City, Md.—Dr. A. H. White ridge is in London.—Dr. John Turner is in London.—Dr. C. C. Bombaugh will spend the summer at Newport.—Dr. L. McLane Tiffany sailed for Bremen on June 16.—Dr. J. J. Abell has received the degree of A. M. from the University of Michigan.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Boston.

Resignations Demanded.—Because of disobedience to rules the resignations of the three senior surgical house officers of the Massachusetts General Hospital were demanded by the trustees and received by them. The trouble originated in a disturbance in the house officers' quarters, for which the seniors were held responsible.

The City's Health and Mortality.—Two weeks of rain have given Boston a death rate of 12.71 per 1,000 for the two weeks ending June 27, or a total of 283 deaths. Of this number 57 were under one year old and 85 under 5 years old. Pneumonia caused 26 deaths; heart disease, 26; bronchitis, 5, and marasmus, 5. There were reported 80 cases of diphtheria with three deaths; 55 of scarlet fever, with 1 death; 50 of typhoid fever, with 3 deaths; 103 of measles, with 4 deaths, and 29 of tuberculosis, with 32 deaths.

Floating Hospital in Commission.—The Boston Floating Hospital opens again for patients on Tuesday next. Dr. Robert W. Hastings will again serve as resident physician, and will be assisted by Drs. Milton G. Sturgis, John F. Fennessy, and Nathaniel L. Berry. Two junior house officers and six medical assistants, all advanced medical students, complete the house staff. Drs. Samuel Brick, Frederick Coggeshall and Arthur W. Fairbanks are the visiting physicians for this season. Arthur I. Kendall is to serve as the Fellow of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, working to determine the relation of the Shiga bacillus to the cases of ileocolitis in the vicinity of Boston. No marked changes have been made in the hospital boat, but the various departments have been perfected for the best use of space in the very limited quarters.

NEW YORK.

A Gift from Rockefeller.—A gift of \$25,000 has been received from John D. Rockefeller toward the fund of \$60,000 being raised for a central building for the Stony Wold Sanitarium at Lake Rushaqua, New York.

Health Officer Dismissed.—At a meeting of the Rochester Common Council the recommendation of the public safety committee which has been investigating the recent smallpox epidemic in the city that Health Officer George W. Goler be dismissed, was adopted by the council.

Dr. Didama an Octogenarian.—On June 17, Dr. Henry D. Didama, Syracuse, dean of the medical profession of

Onondaga County; dean of the faculty of Syracuse Medical College; a member and once vice-president of the American Medical Association; some-time president of the New York State Medical Association, celebrated his eightieth birthday anniversary. Numbers of his friends called on the venerable physician, bearing congratulations and gifts. Save for his abundant white hair there was little in Dr. Didama's appearance to indicate the advanced age which he had attained. He entertained his guests with reminiscences of his early experiences when, fifty-two years ago, he entered on the practice of medicine.

Syracuse College Commencement.—On June 10, a class of 29 received diplomas and had the Hippocratic oath, as modified by Dr. Didama, administered by the adapter, at the commencement exercises of the Syracuse College of Medicine. The text of the oath is as follows:

JUSJURANDUM.

You, and each of you, do solemnly promise that, according to your ability and judgment, you will keep this obligation and stipulation.

That you will follow that regimen which, according to your best judgment, you consider to be for the benefit of your patients and abstain from whatever is injurious. That you will give no deadly medicine to anyone if asked, nor suggest any such counsel. That, with purity and holiness, you will pass your life and practice your art. That into whatever houses you enter you will go for the advantage of the sick, and will abstain from every act of mischief and corruption. That whatever, in connection with your professional practice, or not in connection with it, you may see or hear, you will not divulge, holding that all such things should be kept secret.

Do you so promise?

While you continue to keep this promise inviolate, may it be granted to you to enjoy life and the practice of your art, respected always by all men; but should you break through and violate this obligation, may the reverse be your lot.

Improvement in Care of Insane.—The New York State Commission of Lunacy has inaugurated a number of measures of improvement in the care of the insane during the past few months, including the reorganization of the Pathologic Institute where more than 60 medical men connected with the hospitals have been instructed during the past winter in clinical pathologic and physiologic psychiatric work. A system of medical internship has been inaugurated in the hospital and nearly 30 have entered during the present year. Through the efforts of the commission, the legislature has recently passed an act appointing a medical inspector to the insane with 39 institutions under charge, which has never been inaugurated before, especially in the case of private asylums. Certain conditions and changes are projected, such as the foundation of a hospital on the colony system, the attachment of a tuberculosis hospital to three of the existing state institutions, the enlargement of the working colony, the inauguration of summer camps, the building of nurses' homes, officers' residences, etc. A bill providing for emergency commitments, as recommended by the Lunacy Commission, was passed by the legislature at its last session, which it is thought will be of great benefit, especially as regards urgent cases which were heretofore sent to jails and station houses. The food supply has been improved, and through the efforts of New York State, the federal government has passed a law making a limit of three years instead of one for deportation of alien insane, that is to say, immigrants becoming insane within three years after landing may be sent back to the country from which they came. The movement for the establishment of a reception hospital for acute curable cases in large cities has gained strength, and while the bill for a psychopathic hospital in New York City failed to pass, the attempt will be renewed with the next legislature, and it is hoped with success.

Buffalo.

Pure Water Investigation.—The Board of Aldermen has voted an appropriation of \$2,000 for experts to investigate the requirements of a pure water supply for Buffalo.

Personal.—Dr. Roswell Park is ill with erysipelas.—Dr. Harvey R. Gaylord of the New York State Cancer Laboratory has recovered from his recent illness and has sailed for Europe.—Dr. Burt C. Johnson has returned from Europe.—Dr. Max Keiser will spend the summer in Vienna.—Dr. A. L. Benedict sailed for a six weeks' visit to Europe.

May Health.—The monthly health report for May shows an annual death rate of 15.69 per 1,000. The principal causes of death were as follows: Consumption, 39; diphtheria, 6; typhoid fever, 8; debility, 36; cancer, 14; apoplexy, 16; meningitis, 23; endocarditis, 10; valvular disease of the heart, 26; pneumonia, 48; appendicitis, 8; nephritis, 26; and violence, 40. Total deaths for May, 497, as compared to 422 for May, 1902.

Protest Against Goodsell-Bedel Bill.—At the regular quarterly meeting of the Erie County Medical Association, held June 8, 1903, Dr. A. A. Jones presiding, the following resolutions, presented by the committee on public health and charities, Dr. Julius Ullman, chairman, were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, There has recently been passed by the legislature of the State of New York an act to amend the public health law in relation to the establishment of public sanatoria, hospitals or camps for the treatment of tuberculosis; which act reads: "A hospital, camp or other establishment for the treatment of patients suffering from the disease known as pulmonary tuberculosis shall not be established in any town, by any person, association, corporation or municipality unless the board of supervisors of the county and the town board of the town shall each adopt a resolution authorizing the establishment thereof and describing the limits of the locality in which the same may be established.

WHEREAS, This bill, known as the Goodsell-Bedel bill, which has become effective by the signature of his excellency, the governor, makes it impossible for any city in the state, fraternal order or individual to establish such an institution except under conditions which are practically prohibitive; and

WHEREAS, Such sanatoria, hospitals and camps for consumptives, properly conducted, have proven most valuable in the treatment of tuberculosis, greatly decreasing the mortality rate and, by the observation of hygienic laws, have prevented the spread of the disease; and

WHEREAS, The location of such sanatoria actually relatively decreased the mortality from this disease in villages where so located as compared to other villages of like inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, There are in the State of New York many consumptive poor who are in urgent need of such sanatoria treatment; and

WHEREAS, This law, as enacted, is detrimental to the lives of thousands of citizens of this state now suffering from tuberculosis; and

WHEREAS, The spread of this disease, especially in crowded cities, will be augmented, thus making it an act of great injustice and inhumanity; therefore

Resolved, That the Erie County Medical Association urgently petition the legislature of the State of New York for its immediate repeal; and

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be sent to his excellency, Governor Odell, the executive officers of the state and the senators and assemblymen representing this district at Albany.

New York City.

Cornell Commencement.—The fifth annual commencement of Cornell Medical College was held in New York, June 3.

Dog Muzzling Ordinance Passed.—Despite considerable opposition the board of aldermen, in response to a demand from the New York County Medical Association and from others familiar with what such legislation has accomplished in the way of controlling hydrophobia, has enacted the following ordinance:

Hereafter it shall be unlawful to permit any dog to go abroad at large in any of the streets, highways or public places in the City of New York unless such dog shall be securely muzzled so that it be impossible for it to bite, tear or otherwise wound with the teeth any human being or other animal.

Alleged Antitoxin Frauds.—As a result of the prosecution of a number of physicians for alleged procuring of antitoxin for sale under the pretense of distributing it without cost to indigent people, considerable indignation has been aroused among members of the profession, and this has found expression in resolutions of protest adopted by the East Side Physicians' Club, which are in part as follows:

Resolved, That the physicians of the East Side, in mass meeting assembled, deplore the circumstances and emphatically protest against the unmerited and summary procedure of the department of health, a procedure which demoralizes the community, offends the profession, and gravely injures the accused physicians and their families by branding them as common criminals.

So far, the defense has been that the physicians only charge a proper fee for the administration of the antitoxin, and did not charge for the antitoxin itself.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Gift to Hospital.—On May 14, the twenty-fifth anniversary of their wedding day, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Brock of Lebanon signified to the board of managers of the Good Samaritan Hospital their intention to present to the institution a home for nurses.

State Board Examinations.—From June 16 to 19, inclusive, the State Boards of Medical Examiners held simultaneously sessions in Pittsburg and Philadelphia. There were 391 applicants for license before the regular board. Announcements of results of the examinations will be sent to the applicants on July 31.

Legacy to University of Pennsylvania.—By the will of the late Dr. Spencer Morris, Mount Morris, a university graduate of 1871, the university is made his residuary legatee. The interest of the sum bequeathed, amounting to about \$400, will be given each year to the student who shall pass the best examination for the degree of Doctor of Medicine.

Crusade Against Impure Foods.—The Dairy and Food Bureau, through its commissioner, continues its crusade against impure

foodstuffs. Retail dealers have recently been put under bail to answer in court to the charge of selling impure lard, cocoa and vinegar. There is a rumor that dealers will test the constitutionality of the law creating the Dairy and Food Commissioner.

Philadelphia.

Bathhouses Open for Season.—The thirteen public bathhouses of the city were opened for the season June 15. During the first week they were patronized by 122,086 persons.

Voodoo Doctor Guilty.—George P. Hossey, the negro herb doctor, charged with furnishing the wife of William G. Danz arsenic for the poisoning of the latter on June 26, was pronounced by the jury guilty of murder in the first degree.

Enforce Anti-Spitting Ordinance.—The superintendent of police has recently ordered police lieutenants strictly to enforce the ordinance of March 9, 1903, imposing a fine of \$1 and costs for each offense of spitting on sidewalks, in public conveyances or places of public resort.

Physician Gets Fraction of Fee.—Dr. Walter C. Browning, it will be remembered, presented a claim of \$350,000 for professional services against the estate of the late State Senator Chris L. Magee. The court's decision recently rendered in Pittsburg allows Dr. Browning \$34,163.

Typhoid on the Wane.—Typhoid fever, which for months has been almost epidemic, has shown a marked decrease in the past few weeks. For the week ended June 20, 147 new cases were reported, as against 238 for the previous week. For the same period 37 new cases of smallpox were reported.

The Late Dr. Thomas G. Morton.—The faculty of the Philadelphia Polyclinic and College for Graduates in Medicine has recorded by resolutions its sense of deep loss in the death of Dr. Thomas George Morton, one of the founders of the institution and throughout the period of its existence successively professor and emeritus professor of orthopedic surgery.

University Commencement.—At the one hundred and forty-seventh commencement of the University of Pennsylvania, June 17, a class of 107 graduated in medicine. Honorary degrees were conferred on seven distinguished men. One of the latter was Colonel William Crawford Gorgas, U. S. Army, to whose sanitary administration at Havana is due in large measure the comparative immunity of that city from yellow fever and other contagious diseases. The degree of Doctor of Science was fittingly bestowed on Colonel Gorgas.

Strauss Gives Pasteurizing Plant.—In accordance with the plans of Dr. Edward Martin, director of the Department of Health and Charities, a central plant to provide at cost pasteurized and modified milk for infants is being established on Filbert, near 15th street. The proposed plant will prepare 10,000 gallons of milk daily. Private subscriptions will defray the expense of preparation. The plant is said to be the gift of Mr. Strauss of New York, and the Children's Aid Society will have charge of the distribution of the milk. Milk will probably be provided free of charge where parents are too poor to pay. A census of infants under one year is being taken by the police to determine where distributing stations are most needed. Four additional milk inspectors have been appointed, and it is the purpose rigidly to enforce the laws against the selling of impure or adulterated milk. Shops will be closed and fines imposed where fraud is detected.

Pollution of the Schuylkill.—The recent inspection of the Schuylkill River by Dr. A. C. Abbott, chief of the bureau of health, and a corps of assistants, in order to determine sources of pollution, has led to the conclusion that the water supply of Philadelphia could not be worse, and that its quality has not improved in the last five years, since the agitation for purity began. Filth of all description is thrown into the river, and as much of the pollution is outside the city limits, if any practical good is to come from the inspection, it must be by co-operation of the State Board of Health. The latter body will be asked to unite with the city officials in using all lawful means to prevent contamination of the river. Upper Roxborough's filter plant was placed in operation on June 26. It will finally filter about 18,000,000 gallons a day. It is at present limited to 8,000,000 gallons a day to allow the beds to ripen. To stop pollution of the Schuylkill, steps have been taken by the department of health to abate 76 nuisances in Manayunk. Chief Abbott has had printed and distributed to every householder "boil water" cards. The cards are provided with hangers, and are to be hung on water faucets. The notices read: "Important to householders.—Water containing typhoid germs is rendered harmless by boiling one minute.

Boil water in the evening. Keep it in a clean, cool place over night. Keep free from dust."

GENERAL.

Colleges Combine.—The consolidation of the Saginaw Valley Medical College, Saginaw, with the Michigan College of Medicine and Surgery, Detroit, was consummated, June 29.

The Health of Cuba.—The monthly report of Dr. Carlos J. Finlay, chief sanitary officer for the Island of Cuba, says the showing for 1902 and the beginning of 1903 is very satisfactory, not only in regard to the complete exemption from yellow fever and smallpox, but also in the number of deaths from malaria and in the total mortality. There has been no smallpox on the island since July, 1900, nor yellow fever since September, 1901.

Frauds on Physicians.—A correspondent in Wisconsin has requested THE JOURNAL to warn its readers against two firms whose silvery-tongued solicitors have made him and many of his professional brethren yield their signatures and their money. The first is a "Medical Exchange," in which physicians are invited to buy stock, thereby securing the privilege of purchasing surgical instruments and supplies at considerably below market price. The exchange, it seems, is migratory, and is believed by some of its stockholders to be a fraud, as they have been unable to get money, goods or satisfaction from the concern. The second firm is a so-called "Art Publishing Company" of Chicago, which, he avers, has furnished him with engravings from worn-out plates, and thus far has failed to keep the promise implied in its contract of furnishing him in addition, free of charge, a premium ranging from a set of dishes or stem-winding watch (metal not being defined) to a musical instrument.

CANADA.

High Infant Mortality.—The Montreal health department has announced that one-half of the deaths in that city last week were of infants. The normal weekly death rate is about 115, but the total deaths last week amounted to 186, of which number 93 were children. It is considered that this high death rate is due to the inferior quality of the water supply.

No Federation of Universities in Maritime Provinces.—The alumni of King's College, Windsor, N. S., held an important meeting June 17, at which 300 members were admitted to the Alumni Association. The proposal to consolidate with Dalhousie University was warmly discussed and voted down. It is proposed to reorganize King's College, to reconstruct the faculty and to have a new dean.

Amalgamation of Trinity and Toronto Medical Colleges.—Progress has been made in this matter to the extent that the corporations of the two medical faculties have agreed to amalgamation. It now depends for final consummation on the action of the corporation of Trinity University whether they will accept federation with the University of Toronto. The meeting for this purpose will be held in the early part of July.

Vaccination By-Law Illegal.—Judgment has been rendered by Mr. Recorder Weir of Montreal declaring the vaccination by-law illegal in so far as it tends to prevent an employer from allowing his employees to enter any office or factory without holding a certificate of vaccination. Action had been taken by the city against a life assurance company for allowing an employee to frequent the office without the necessary certificate of vaccination.

Personals.—Dr. A. E. Garrow, Montreal, has returned home after three months spent in German hospitals.—Dr. R. Ernest McConnell of Volksrust, Transvaal, is visiting his father, Dr. J. B. McConnell of Montreal.—The following Toronto physicians have gone to England for the summer: Drs. F. LeM. Grasett, R. A. Reeve, Alexander McPhedran, D. King Smith, and Mr. Irving H. Cameron.—Dr. Arthur Jukes Johnson has been appointed chief coroner for the city of Toronto.

FOREIGN.

Mortality of European Capital Cities.—London's mortality for 1902 was at the rate of 18.64 per 1,000; that of Paris, 18.4; of Vienna, 19.4, and of St. Petersburg, 23.

Memorial Meeting in Honor of Gerhardt.—The late Prof. Carl Gerhardt of Berlin would have been 70 years old if he had lived to May 5. On that date a memorial ceremony was held at the Berlin Charité, addressed by Professor Martius of Rostock. A portrait of Gerhardt was presented by his assistants, to be placed in the medical clinic formerly under his charge.

New University Buildings at Berne.—The installation of the Berne University in its new quarters was duly celebrated June 4. The buildings have cost about a quarter of a million dollars, and on the campus a statue of Alb. von Haller is to be erected.

The Divided Twin Dying.—The young Hindoo, Radica, is slowly succumbing to the disease which caused the death of her twin sister from whom she was separated a year or two ago. She is confined to her bed and has been admitted to the "Cancer Home" at Paris as an incurable.

Study of Malaria in Russia.—The Russian National Medical Association, which honored the memory of Pirogoff by changing its name to that of the "Pirogoff Association of Russian Physicians," has equipped and sent out two expeditions for the study of malaria, one in the Caucasus and the other in the Woronesh province. The latter is in charge of the private docent of bacteriology at Moscow, Dr. Berestnew.

Adulterated Milk.—A writer in the *Journal des Debats* attributes the high and increasing infant mortality of Paris and the provinces to the use of watered milk and the failure of the authorities properly to inspect the milk supply to hospitals. In Hanover, otherwise a healthy city, the infant mortality is said to be 60 per cent. higher than that of Washington, D. C., where strict inspection of milk is maintained.

Foreign Medical Students in France.—There are only four medical students from the United States inscribed in the French medical colleges at present. The number has not been above six since 1896 and 1897, when it was respectively 14 and 10. The more stringent regulations since then have reduced the total number of foreign students from about 1,054 to 585. The total number of French medical students has also diminished from 7,779 to 6,960.

Convalescent Home for Physicians in Germany.—The appeal for funds to erect a resort for convalescent members of the profession in Germany has been mentioned in these columns. It has already met with a response, as the director of the stock company exploiting the baths at Salzschlirf has donated a beautiful tract of land for the purpose at Ilbeshausen, Hess. Hills, dales and virgin forest combine to render it an ideal spot. A committee is to be appointed to solicit subscriptions and the project will probably soon be realized.

A Paris Physician Condemned for Larceny.—The *Journal de Méd. de Paris* gives the particulars of a case which has been pending in the courts for two years. A physician was accused of stealing some statuettes, an umbrella and some cosmetics at a large department store. He confessed that he took the goods to pawn them to get food to eat. He stated that he had only a single patient and that the latter was ill only at long intervals. The case was appealed, but the decision of the lower court was confirmed, condemning the physician to six months' imprisonment.

Medals for Victims of Professional Duty.—The Paris authorities have bestowed medals on seven nurses in the hospitals who during the past year have contracted a contagious disease from some patient in their care. The medal is awarded to "victims of professional duty." A pension is given the family of persons who have died "victims of professional devotion," referring to some exceptional act of self-sacrifice. This pension was recently awarded to the family of a young French physician in Algiers who himself proceeded to disinfect the premises where plague had occurred when no one else would approach the place.

The New Cancer Research Institute at Berlin.—In order to provide better facilities for von Leyden's research on cancer in connection with his medical clinic, the Berlin University authorities have erected a laboratory and two wards in the grounds of the Charité Hospital, near Koch's barracks, for this purpose. Each ward has eight beds with two private rooms. The institution was formally inaugurated June 8. Dr. F. Blumenthal has charge of the work, assisted by F. Meyer, L. Michaelis and the chemist Wolf. Loewenthal and Braunstein are voluntary assistants.

French Committee on Public Hygiene at St. Louis.—Professor Brouardel of Paris is president of the committee and Boix of the *Archives Gén. de Méd.* is secretary, with Ledé and Manson as assistants. The vice-presidents are E. Besnier, L. Labbé and Leroy des Barres. Bordas and A. Josias have been appointed to deliver addresses. All are prominent and well-known scientific workers. Josias' address on serotherapy of typhoid fever was one of the most interesting communications at the Madrid Congress. Labbé has been recently elected a member of the Institut, and his friends collected subscriptions to

present him with a medal as a souvenir of the occasion. Brouardel's fame is international as a leader in hygiene and forensic medicine.

Measures Against Dispensary Abuse at Paris.—Lermoyez states that at the Saint-Antoine clinic of laryngology, etc., in his charge all applicants suspected of being capable of paying are given some soothing prescription and told to return in a week, urgent cases excepted. Their names and addresses are taken as usual, but are written on a pink slip as "suspects," and the pink slips are sent to the office, where they are given to the persons connected with the investigating force of the "medical aid at home" service. In due time the pink slips return marked "treatment refused" or "granted," as may be. These measures have been found necessary by the authorities in the various hospitals as the placards warning that the service is restricted to the poor have proved insufficient to check this abuse. Lermoyez's article in the last *Presse Médicale* is a very amusing sketch of the subject, describing his surprise when his attention was called one day to the fact that his charity service seemed to be becoming a gathering point for society people. He condemns in strong terms the practice which seems to be widespread at Paris for practitioners to send to this free service some of their pet, well-to-do clients with a letter commending them to the special attention of the physicians in charge. The dispensary abuse injures the poor, the tax-payers, and above all, the members of the profession. It is like making the man who is to be hung send out and buy the rope. He relates some curious examples of the abuse, and refutes the arguments that might be raised against the present plan, among others the plea that putting the patient off for a week might conflict with his leaving town if he lived in the country: "Why should the tax-payers of Paris pay for dilating the urethral strictures or curetting the adenoid vegetations of people who reside at the other end of France?"

Death Rate of British Towns.—Merthyr Tydvil, according to the registrar-general's report for 1902, is the deadliest town in Great Britain. It has an infant mortality of 185 per 1,000; it led all towns for death by violence, and was near the unenviable top as regards smallpox, fever and diarrhea. In order of decreasing deadliness come Liverpool, Wigan, Manchester, Middlesborough, Burnley, Hanley, Bostle, St. Helens, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Oldham, Preston, South Shields, Rhondda, Stockport, Sunderland and Birmingham. The healthiest of 76 great towns is Hornsey, where the death rate is only 9.80 per 1,000. This is much better than the whole of England and Wales, whose death rate is 16.28, and better even than the smaller towns and rural districts, whose rate is 14.80. Other most healthy great towns are Walthamstow, Leyton, East Ham, Willesden and Croydon; and the healthiest seaside towns of size are Bournemouth (13.05), Hastings (13.91), Yarmouth (15.50), and Brighton (15.59). London's rate is 18.64, which is well above the average, and places the metropolis forty-eighth on the list. The worst towns for measles were Burnley, Bristol, Barrow and Cardiff, and for scarlet fever West Bromwich, Burnley, Bolton, St. Helens and Wigan. Diphtheria was worst in Hanley, Rhondda and Middlesborough, and whooping cough in South Shields and Barrow. In London itself the healthiest suburbs are Hampstead (10.8—a shade below Hornsey), Stoke Newington (13.4), Wandsworth (13.5), Lewisham (13.6), Paddington (14.6). The worst places to live in are Finsbury, Southwark, Holborn, Bermondsey, Bethnal-green, Shoreditch, Stepney and the city. The year was a healthy one for London, and disease was much below the average, excepting smallpox, cancer, suicide and homicide. There were 329 deaths from horses and vehicles, 3,410 from other violence, 535 suicides, 71 homicides and 7 executions.

Correspondence.

The Transmission of Yellow Fever.

A REPLY TO DR. AGRAMONTE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 26, 1903.

To the Editor:—In connection with my paper published in THE JOURNAL of May 23 several statements made by my esteemed colleague, Dr. Aristides Agramonte, in his letter published in the JOURNAL of June 13, call for reply, and I beg to be permitted to submit the following necessary explanations: With manifest feeling Dr. Agramonte takes exception to the omission of his name in the early part of my paper—and natur-