

LETTER TO THE EDITORS.

TO THE EDITORS,

The Journal of Laryngology and Otology.

SIRS,—In the November number of the *Journal*, 1923, a debate on the after-treatment of Empyema of the Maxillary Antrum is reported. Several speakers stated that they never packed the antrum, and that they did not carry out post-operative irrigation.

I hold that the omission is harmful in both instances. By omitting the insertion of a temporary pack, the antrum is liable to get filled up with clots, particularly in cases where a polypoid lining membrane has been removed, and a troublesome oozing may take place from the counter-opening into the nasal cavity. By omitting the irrigation, shreds of polypi and portions of clot may remain in the antrum.

When the Caldwell-Luc operation is performed with the surgical engine and burrs, the openings are smooth and do not entangle the temporary gauze packing, so that it is easily removed. After the operation is completed, a long single strip of bismuth gauze has a portion of its distal end passed from the antrum into the floor of the nose: this end can be caught in forceps and drawn forward to the entrance of the nostril. The remainder of the strip is then packed into the antrum. Twenty-four hours later, the gauze is withdrawn through the buccal opening, and no further dressing is inserted. The patient is now given some warm boracic lotion, or normal saline solution, which he injects from the mouth through the antrum and out of the nose. He does this three times a day for about a week, by which time the buccal opening has closed and fluid will not pass. This, as a rule, is the end of any treatment required. The bismuth gauze has the advantage that it is easily withdrawn, and it keeps sweet.

ANDREW J. BRADY.

SYDNEY, 11th January 1924.

GENERAL NOTES

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE,

1 Wimpole Street, London, W. 1.

Section of Laryngology—President, Mr H. J. Banks-Davis, M.B., F.R.C.P. *Hon. Secretaries*, Mr J. F. O'Malley, F.R.C.S., and Mr E. D. D. Davis, F.R.C.S.

The next Meeting of the Section will be held on Friday, 4th April, at 4.45 P.M. Members desirous of showing patients or specimens should give notice of the same to the *Senior Hon. Secretary*, Mr J. F. O'Malley, 6 Upper Wimpole Street, London, W. 1.

General Notes

Section of Otology—*President*, Mr Sydney Scott, M.S. *Hon. Secretaries*, Mr Archer Ryland, F.R.C.S.Ed., and Mr T. H. Just, F.R.C.S.

The next Meeting of the Section will be held on Saturday, 3rd May (*Annual Meeting*), at 10 A.M. Members proposing to read papers must send a copy of the same at least twenty-one days in advance, and those desirous of showing patients or specimens must intimate the same to the *Senior Hon. Secretary*, Mr Archer Ryland, 50 Harley Street, London, W. 1, at least twelve days before the Meeting.

During the Session 1923-24, the *Sections of Laryngology and Otology* will meet upon the following dates:—

Section of Laryngology, on 4th April and 2nd May (*Annual Meeting*).

Section of Otology, on Saturday morning, 3rd May (*Annual Meeting*).

A Conjoint Summer Meeting of the two Sections will be held in London on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 26th, 27th, and 28th June 1924.

Arrangements are now being made to hold the above upon three days, and the details will be announced in a future number of the *Journal*.

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The Annual Meeting of the American Laryngological, Rhinological, and Otological Society will be held at St Louis on 29th, 30th, and 31st May. *President*—Dr H. W. Loeb, St Louis. *Hon. Secretary*—Dr W. H. Haskin, New York City.

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The Annual Meeting of the American Laryngological Association will be held at Swampscott, Mass., on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th June. *President*—Dr J. Payson Clark, Boston. *Hon. Secretary*—Dr George M. Coates, Philadelphia.

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The Annual Meeting of the American Otological Association will be held at Swampscott, Mass., on 4th, 5th, and 6th June. *President*—Dr J. M. Rae, New York. *Hon. Secretary*—Dr Thomas J. Harris, New York.

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The Annual Meeting of the American Medical Association will be held at Chicago from 9th to 13th June. The Section of Laryngology, Rhinology, and Otology will meet under the Presidency of Dr Wendell C. Phillips of New York, with Dr Samuel Iglauer of Cincinnati as Honorary Secretary.

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The American Academy of Ophthalmology and Oto-laryngology will meet in Montreal, Canada, on the 16th, 17th, and 18th September. *President*—Dr W. B. Lancaster, Boston, Mass. *Hon. Secretary*—Dr Luther C. Peter, Philadelphia.

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BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, BRADFORD, 1924.

The Ninety-second Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association will be held in Bradford from 22nd to 25th July, under the Presidency of Mr J. Basil Hall, M.Ch. (Cantab.).

A Combined Section of Laryngology and Otology will meet on two days, the 24th and 25th. *President*—W. Jobson Horne, M.D. *Vice-Presidents*—W. Appleyard, F.R.C.S.; C. A. Scott Ridout, M.S., F.R.C.S.;

General Notes

W. S. Syme, M.D., F.R.F.P.S. (Glasg.). *Hon. Secretaries*—T. H. Just, F.R.C.S., 16 Upper Wimpole Street, London, W. 1; Donald Watson, F.R.C.S., 103 Manningham Lane, Bradford.

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THE LUMLEIAN LECTURES, 1924.

The Lumleian Lectures upon "Foreign Bodies in the Air Passages" will be delivered at the Royal College of Physicians of London, Pall Mall East, S.W. 1, at five o'clock on the 3rd, 8th, and 10th April, by Dr Thomas M'Crae of Philadelphia. The attention of laryngologists, to whom the lectures should be of special interest, is drawn to the fact that the first of these lectures will be given on the day preceding the Meeting of the Section of Laryngology on 4th April.

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THE JOURNAL OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY, LTD.

The Third Annual Ordinary General Meeting of the Company was held at 11 Chandos Street, London, W. 1, on Friday, 7th March. Sir William Milligan, Chairman of Directors, occupied the Chair, and submitted the General Report and Balance-Sheet of the Company. The latter showed that the publication of the *Journal* for the year 1923 had resulted in a substantial profit, the bulk of which had been applied towards the reduction of the expenses connected with the purchase of the *Journal* in 1920, while a small balance was carried forward. The Report was approved, and Mr Herbert Tilley, Mr W. M. Mollison, Sir James Dundas-Grant, Mr W. G. Howarth, with Sir William Milligan as Chairman, were re-elected Directors.

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THE ANNUAL "JOURNAL" DINNER.

The success which attended the *Journal* Dinner held at Pagani's Restaurant on the evening of Friday, 7th March, fully justified the hope, which had been previously expressed, that such a function would materially assist in furthering the interests of the *Journal*. Mr Archer Ryland, who carried through the preliminary arrangements, is to be congratulated upon the result of his efforts. The shareholders, subscribers, and others who attended, about forty in number, were representative of the specialty both in London and in several of the provincial centres.

Sir William Milligan, who presided, was supported by Sir Squire Sprigge, Editor of *The Lancet*, and by Sir Charles Ballance. In proposing the success of the *Journal*, the Chairman drew attention to the excellent financial condition which now existed, and pointed out the necessity of increasing the interest in the *Journal* amongst the younger members of the specialty, in whose hands lay the future progress of Laryngology and Otology. Dr Logan Turner, in replying on behalf of his colleagues upon the Editorial Staff, supported the Chairman's appeal, and showed that there existed in the country considerable potential resources apparently still untouched, which, if stimulated, ought to furnish both scientific and clinical material to augment the *Journal* and to raise its status amongst its contemporaries. In his reply to the toast of the guests, proposed by Dr Anthony M'Coll, Sir Squire Sprigge pointed out how, with the gradual

General Notes

development of the specialties, it became no longer possible for the general medical journals to deal adequately with the literature emanating from the special departments, so that special journals developed as a natural course of events. The general journals, however, could still assist the specialties and their journals by means of editorials and by abstracting what was best in their literature.

The toasts of the subscribers, the contributors, and the abstractors were proposed by Dr James Horgan and Mr Ernest Waggett, to which Dr Douglas Guthrie replied, and Sir James Dundas-Grant thanked Mr Archer Ryland for his services as Secretary.

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FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF OTO-RHINO-LARYNGOLOGY, COPENHAGEN, 1925.

We regret to have to inform our readers that the Danish Oto-Laryngological Society, at a recent Meeting, decided to postpone indefinitely their invitation to the above International Congress.

Owing to the continuance of the unsettled conditions in Europe, this decision has been, very reluctantly, considered advisable. Although the Congress will not be held in 1925, as originally intended, the members of the Danish Oto-Laryngological Society express the hope that they may have the pleasure of welcoming to their capital, on a future occasion, their numerous friends and confrères. We reciprocate the hope, and look forward to the time when the invitation will be issued.

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LECTURESHIP IN OTOTOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

Mr Richard Lake, F.R.C.S., Surgeon to the Ear and Throat Department, University College Hospital, has been appointed to the recently established Lectureship on Otology in the University of London.

In the *Journal* of December 1923, we drew attention to the gift of Mr Geoffrey E. Duveen, which made it possible for the University to endow the above Lectureship.

Mr M. J. Gibson, M.B., F.R.C.S.Ed., has been appointed Assistant Aural Surgeon to the Dundee Royal Infirmary, and Clinical Tutor in the Diseases of the Larynx, Nose, and Ear in the University of St Andrews.

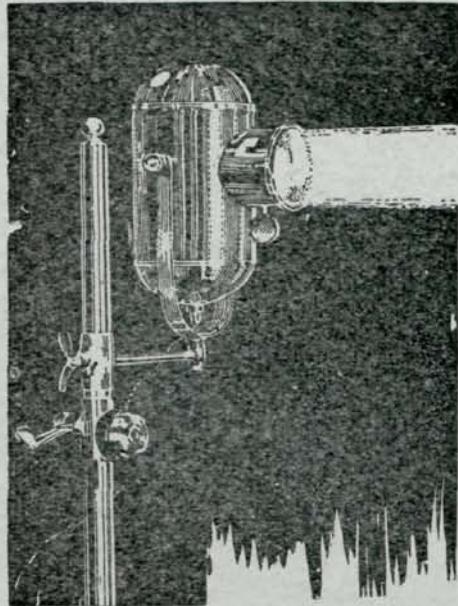
Dr W. Wilson (Clinical Assistant in the Throat and Ear Service, King's College Hospital, London) has been appointed Surgeon-in-Charge of the Throat and Ear Department at the German Hospital, Dalston, London, N.

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We desire to express our sympathy with Sir St Clair Thomson on account of the injuries which he received in the recent accident to the Paris-Ventimiglia Express, and, at the same time, to congratulate him upon his most fortunate escape. We understand that Sir St Clair was able to continue his journey to the south of France after resting for a few days at Lyon.

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