

GENERAL NOTES

OLD ILLUSTRATION BLOCKS

It is our custom to destroy blocks after three years. It may be that some authors would like to have their blocks for possible future use. In such case would they write Headley Brothers, Ashford, Kent, as soon as possible, and in any case within three years of their first being used.

THE INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY (UNIVERSITY OF LONDON)

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COMPLETE CLINICAL COURSE (whole-time) especially suitable for D.L.O. Part II students: June 20th to November 25th, 1955. Fee £31 10s.

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Detailed syllabus obtainable from the Dean.

THE attention of members is drawn to the *EXCERPTA MEDICA* Section XI which is a most valuable international abstracting service as it gives each month abstracts of all the important papers in Oto-Rhino-Laryngology. The subscription is £4 8s. od. a year and the agents for Great Britain, the Dominions and the Commonwealth (excluding Canada) are E. and S. Livingstone Ltd., 16 and 17 Teviot Place, Edinburgh. We regret that in previous issues the price was incorrectly stated as five dollars or the equivalent.

General Notes

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

THE COURT of Examiners reports to the Council that at the recent Final Examination for the Fellowship; 19 candidates presented themselves for the Examination in Otolaryngology, 5 of whom acquitted themselves satisfactorily.

The following are the names of the 5 candidates who are, therefore, entitled, subject to the approval of the Council, to the Diploma of Fellow:

Orton, Peggy Kathleen Lillian	L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. Royal Free.	19 Queen Court, Queen Square, W.C.1.
Brown, Betsy	M.B., Ch.B., Glasgow, 1945. Glasgow.	Erdington, 89 Anstruther Street, Glasgow, E.2.
Eastes, Claude Neville d'Este,	M.B., B.S., London, 1948 Guy's.	50 Owlstone Road, Cambridge.
Brain, David John	M.B., Ch.B., Bristol, 1949. Bristol.	17 Glen Ross, Belsize Road, N.W.6.
Williams, Richard Guilfoyle	M.B., B.S., London, 1949. St. Mary's.	49 Manor Court Road, W.7.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF OTOLARYNGOLOGISTS

ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS AND EAR, NOSE AND THROAT OPERATIONS

THE attention of members is drawn to the Medical Memorandum on Poliomyelitis, No. 93222/7/63, dated July, 1954, issued by the Ministry of Health and Department of Health for Scotland. The relevant passages in this report, which are of interest to Otolaryngologists, are as follows :

I. EPIDEMIOLOGY.

(a) The present evidence suggests that the portal of entry is usually the mouth and that the primary site of infection is in the mucosa of the oropharynx or the small intestine.

(b) In bulbar poliomyelitis following tonsillectomy it seems that the virus most probably travels to the medulla along the cranial nerves supplying the pharynx.

(c) It is fairly generally accepted that specific trauma, especially tonsillectomy, may precipitate paralysis.

2. CONTROL MEASURES : AVOIDANCE OF CERTAIN TRAUMA.

(a) *Tonsillectomy.* The postponement of tonsillectomy when poliomyelitis reaches unusual proportions in a locality is strongly advised, particularly because when poliomyelitis follows recent tonsillectomy, serious illness, with bulbar involvement, appears to be more frequent. The Medical Officer of

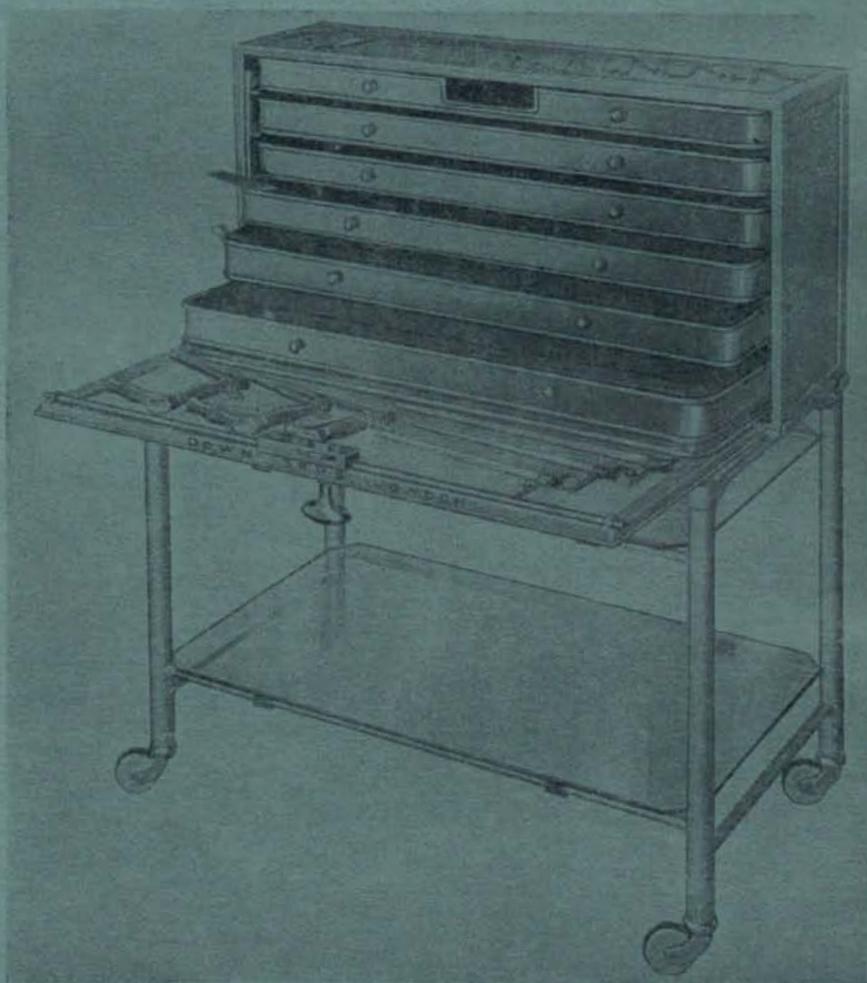
General Notes

Health can assist by informing local hospital authorities when and where the incidence of the disease is unusually high, so that the surgeon may then take this hazard into account before deciding to operate.

(b) *Tooth Extractions.* There is very little evidence that tooth extractions may predispose to bulbar poliomyelitis. Nevertheless as with ear, nose and throat surgery the possibility should be kept in mind by dentists undertaking non-urgent extractions in areas of epidemic prevalence.

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