

CONGENITAL HYDROCEPHALUS TREATED BY INTRA-CRANIAL DRAINAGE. (*Lancet*).—Dr. Sutherland and Mr. Watson Cheyne contributed a paper to the Clinical Society. The patient, an infant, aged 6 months, was suffering from congenital hydrocephalus and hereditary syphilis. No improvement after three months' medical treatment, the head steadily increasing in size. At the time of operation there was very marked hydrocephalus, the vertex occupied by a large membranous space, measuring 9 inches in its widest diameters. The operation consisted in making a small opening in the dura mater, opposite the left lower angle of the anterior fontanelle and introducing a catgut drain, one extremity of which was passed between the brain and the dura mater for a distance of one inch, and the other pushed through the substance of the brain into the expanded lateral ventricle. The opening in the dura mater was closed with catgut and the scalp wound sewn up. On the 5th day after operation, the dressings were removed for the first time and the wound found healed. From the date of operation there was a steady and uniform diminution in the size of the head, without the occurrence of any bad symptoms, and within a few weeks, the spaces between the cranial bones were entirely obliterated. Later symptoms of basal meningitis developed, and the infant died three months after the operation. At the necropsy, the membranes at the base of the brain were found to be thickened and adherent, and a considerable quantity of fluid was present in the sub-dural space. The brain was small and cystic in parts, but there was no distension of the ventricles. By establishing a permanent communication between the ventricles and the sub-arachnoid space, it was hoped, that however much fluid was secreted in the ventricles, it would be carried off at once by the veins, and in the absence of injurious pressure the brain would be left free to develop if it could. The result of the operation has shown that in hydrocephalus, the excess of ventricular fluid can be removed by this method of intra-cranial or sub-dural drainage.

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HYGIENE.

In a paper on "*The Sanitary Administration of Belfast*," Mr. F. W. Lockwood gives a brief summary of the regulations for the erection of new buildings as follows:—

1. Good materials and especially mortar.
2. No made ground is to be allowed; or at least if in the opinion of the officer it is bad, it is to be removed, and in other cases covered with asphalt, concrete, or similar damp-resisting material. It appears that the rule has been frequently violated. Section 361 of the Bill

to amend the law relating to the Municipal Affairs of the Town and Suburbs of Calcutta, etc., empowers the Chief Engineer to examine such sites and grant certificate of fitness or otherwise to be built upon from a sanitary point of view. Surely the Health Officer would be the more competent to grant such certificate by virtue of his sanitary qualifications. We doubt very much whether the Chief Engineer's opinion from a sanitary point of view would be accepted in a court of law.

3. Rules to prevent dampness.
 4. Every apartment occupied as a dwelling or work-room to be of reasonable size, and no ceiling to be less than 8 feet in height.
 5. Means of ventilation.
 6. No drain to pass under a dwelling except by special leave, when it must be an iron pipe surrounded by concrete.
 7. Modern traps and disconnecting traps of Buchan's type.
 8. Soil pipes must be outside and of full 4 inch diameter.
 9. All wastes must be outside and discharge over gullies 18 inches from wall.
 10. All water-closets must be in outside wall and ventilated.
 11. Must have separate flushing cisterns, and types of water-closet must be approved of.
 12. Belfast Water Commissioners, in addition to their water-waste regulations, have a set of stringent bye-laws upon these points.
 13. Privies and ashpits are discouraged, but must not be nearer than 4 feet to any house, and
 14. Not nearer than 5 feet to any domestic water-supply.
- The proposed distance from buildings in Calcutta is 6 feet and 50 feet from tanks and water-courses.

15. No ashpit, etc., to be allowed, which would necessitate removing its contents through a dwelling-house.

16. All privy pits must allow of dry ashes being mixed with the other contents.

17. All ashpits must be covered from rain, ventilated and have impervious bottoms above the level of the yard.

18. They should communicate directly, or through an open yard, with a back lane.

19. For many years no street has been permitted of less than 30 feet in width, and every street must, since 1886, have a back lane 9 feet wide.

20. In addition to this lane every yard must contain, free of all covered buildings, a clear superficial area of 100 square feet, and be otherwise of suitable dimension.

Mr. Lockwood also discusses the bye-laws for the sanitary control of "lodging-houses," "Seamen's Lodgings," "Piggeries," "Cowsheds

and Dairies." The bye-laws pertaining to the latter are as follows:—

1. They must be well-lighted, drained, and ventilated;
2. There must be a proper supply of water;
3. Floor to be properly paved;
4. Space for each cow 6 feet by 3 feet in addition to passage, etc.;
5. Or equal at least to 400 cubic feet for each which is inadequate;
6. No entrance through dwelling-house, or passage for manure or animals through the same;
7. The yard to be properly paved;
8. Proper dung pit, manure to be removed every second day, and provision for disinfection in case of disease;
9. All places to be swept and cleaned twice a day, and lime-washed twice a year (preferably once a month);
10. All dairies and milk shops to be cleaned daily, and the vessels twice a day;
11. No cooking, meals, sleeping, or food taken in places devoted to the sale or storage of milk;
12. Rules as to disease and closing, if necessary;
13. Exclusion of persons having disease from contact with animals, or from such places.

The questions of turning stable-fed cows into a compound during the day, washing the udders and adjacent parts before milking, grooming of cows like horses, sterilisation of the milk and delivery of supply in close cans, were all discussed, and in consideration of the numerous diseases which can be acquired through milk are at least worthy of attention.

THE SANITATION OF DOMESTIC BUILDINGS. (*The Sanitary Record*).—In a note on the internal sanitary fittings of a domestic building, Mr. Frank Latham, C.E., etc., remarks: "The simpler the construction of the water-closet apparatus, the easier it is to maintain in order." Mr. Latham describes the pan water-closet as by far the worst form of apparatus now found in use, and the D trap as a highly objectionable arrangement. The old hopper water-closet, he says, is another insanitary contrivance, and he objects also to the plug or plunger closet, and to that more modern form of apparatus the wash-out closet. The form of closet to be preferred is one so constructed as to give ready access for cleansing, and to serve the three purposes of water-closet, urinal, and slop sink. It should be fitted with a balanced seat so that the inconvenience caused from the spilling of slops may be avoided, and which, when required, can readily be put into position for use. The soil should be immediately immersed in a good volume and deep seal of water, and delivered directly into the drains without coming into contact with any exposed surfaces; there should be no sharp angles nor ridges which would collect filth or in any way interrupt the easy flow of the flush.

The up-to-date pedestal valve closet, constructed on the wash-down principle, is specially adapted for private houses and places where they are not subjected to rough usage. This form and the Jennings, "Era," and Dent and Hellyer's "Optimus" which are also good forms, should, like them, always be provided with an efficient well-trapped overflow. The syphon action apparatus is equally efficient, but different in construction; Jennings' "Century" being highly spoken of. Ordinary wash-down closets, such as Doulton's "Simplicitas" have been fixed under Mr. Latham's supervision, and given great satisfaction.

All closets should have proper flushing rims, the outlet pipes should always be connected to the branch soil pipe above the floor, half S traps should be used when the apparatus is to be jointed with a soil pipe branch through a wall, as by so doing the joint remains in sight, and the outgo will form a good angle with the soil pipe. The S traps should be used when connecting directly up with drains on the ground floor. Red lead and putty bound round with cloth joints should be discarded in making these connections. We would commend Mr. Latham's note on such an important subject to those who have to frame rules for the construction of water-closets.

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Service Notes.

EXAMINATION FOR THE INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.—The following is the list of the candidates for Her Majesty's Indian Medical Service who were successful at the competitive examination held in London on February 4th and the following days. Thirty-six candidates competed for fifteen appointments, and thirty-three were reported qualified.

Names.	Marks.	Names.	Marks.
T. Hunter ...	3,470	G. F. S. Genge ...	2,904
W. R. Battye ...	3,345	E. F. G. Tucker ...	2,886
H. B. Meakin ...	3,215	W. G. Liston ...	2,876
G. Hutcheson ...	3,157	F. S. C. Thompson ...	2,805
R. W. Anthony ...	3,066	H. J. R. Twigg ...	2,770
G. E. Stewart ...	3,046	C. W. McG. Orpen ...	2,745
H. Boulton ...	2,994	T. S. Novis ...	2,721
J. W. Watson ...	2,962		

EXAMINATION FOR THE ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE.—The following is a list of the successful candidates for commissions in the Army Medical Staff at the recent examination in London. The number of commissions advertised was forty but the number of candidates who competed for the appointments is not stated.

Names.	Marks.	Names.	Marks.
W. H. S. Nickerson ...	2,775	E. J. Dobbin ...	2,154
A. E. Walter ...	2,693	A. R. O'Flahertie ...	2,148
G. S. Nickerson ...	2,617	H. Herrick ...	2,127
A. E. Weld ...	2,504	C. W. Mainprise ...	2,103
J. S. Gallie ...	2,474	G. J. S. Archer ...	2,069
G. B. Crisp ...	2,439	R. S. H. Fuhr ...	2,066
H. B. G. Walton ...	2,324	B. O. Hall ...	2,058
W. Jagger ...	2,323	F. J. C. Heffernan ...	1,994
A. B. MacCarthy ...	2,275	J. Cowan ...	1,965
R. Selby ...	2,196	E. P. Hewitt ...	1,943
A. E. Thorp ...	2,163		