

bers of the Branch, informing them that the members of that Order must be charged uniformly 10s. 6d. a consultation or visit. Considerations of expense prevented the Council from making this observation more widely known by circular, so this opportunity has been taken of also instructing the country members.

Notices.

The Scientific Committee of the Victorian Branch announces the following papers to be read at meetings of the Branch in July and August, 1921:

July 6, 1921.—Mr. Victor Hurley, C.M.G., Mr. Alan Newton and Mr. W. D. G. Upjohn, O.B.E.: "Blood Transfusion; Indications for Transfusion; Testing of Donors; Preparations of Patient and Donor; Technique of Operation; After Care."

August 3, 1921.—Mr. A. Fay Maclure, O.B.E.: Paper and Demonstration at the Alfred Hospital: "On the Making and Fitting of Modern Splints and Fracture Beds, Together with a Display of Splints."

William Keith Muston, Esq., M.B., Ch.M., 1920 (Univ. Sydney), has been nominated for election as a member of the New South Wales Branch.

The undermentioned have been elected as members of the Victorian Branch:

Lawrence Victor Eiszele, Esq., M.B., B.S., (Univ. Melb.), 1920, Parkville.

Harry Lawrence Stokes, Esq., M.B., B.S. (Univ. Melb.), 1921, Alfred Hospital.

Ernest Harold Britten, Esq., M.B., Ch.E. (Univ. Melb.), 1917, Cheltenham.

Correspondence.

ETHER ANÆSTHESIA.

Sir: In the recent discussion at the Victorian Branch of the British Medical Association reported in the *Journal* of May 21, the advisability of a preliminary administration of alkaloids to ether anæsthesia caused some difference of opinion amongst the anæsthetists.

This question is an important one and your readers should be encouraged to offer their opinions thereon.

In my student days at the Melbourne Hospital it was all chloroform and artificial respiration, varied by inversion of the patient and bumping his head on the floor.

At this period at the Women's Hospital, however, these gymnastic performances were not given, as ether was the routine anæsthetic and one gained an early appreciation of ether anæsthesia conducted so skilfully by Dr. Paul Farmer.

My first experience with preliminary medication was with atropine in small doses with a Clover's inhaler and the results were highly satisfactory in checking excessive mucous secretion.

Later on, following Hewitt's instructions in his admirable work, morphine in varying amounts was added with good results; but for the last ten years morphine and hyoscine have displaced morphine and atropine, as hyoscine has all the advantages of atropine with some additional benefits of its own.

The dose is never larger than one-sixth of a grain of morphine sulphate and one hundred-and-fiftieth of a grain of hyoscine hydrobromide given one hour before the administration is commenced, and it is important that the patient be kept quiet and encouraged to drowse after the injection.

Morphine and hyoscine abolish the patient's apprehensions, cause a pleasant somnolence and favour a quiet and even induction and maintenance of anæsthesia by open ether without salivation or secretion of mucus in the air-passages. Ocular signs are not unduly interfered with unless the

morphine and hyoscine be given in an unbalanced dose. The quantity of ether absorbed into the patient's circulation is lessened, post anæsthetic vomiting is rare and tendency to operation shock is diminished by the preliminary administration of morphine and hyoscine in correct doses.

In winter anæsthesia is advantageously maintained by warmed ether vapour from Shipway's portable apparatus, which I have modified to give a warmer vapour and moistened if necessary.

In my experiences open ether or warm ether vapour without preliminary injection of morphine and hyoscine after about three-quarters of an hour's administration tends to cause salivation and excessive mucous secretion in the air passages.

In such a case it is best to discontinue the pure ether and use either Dudley-Buxton's alcohol-chloroform mixture or Hewitt's C.E. mixture.

Many anæsthetists condemn mixtures but in their proper sphere and given properly on an open gauze-covered mask, they are admirable additions to one's armamentarium. On a semi-open mask, like Shield's mask, they are very dangerous.

These are briefly my views on this important subject, though the question covers such an amount of ground that it is difficult to express one's views in a few sentences and I hope that others interested in anæsthetics will have something to say on the matter.

Yours, etc.,

A. G. McGOWAN.

Dallarat,

May 29, 1921.

Proceedings of the Australian Medical Boards.

VICTORIA.

The undermentioned have been registered under the provisions of Part I. of the *Medical Act, 1915*, as duly qualified medical practitioners:

Brown, John Noel, M.B., B.S., Melb., 1919, Ringwood.
Ellis, Carlton Atkinson, L.R.C.P., Lond., M.R.C.S., Eng., 1907, F.R.C.P., Edin., 1909, Flinders Naval Depot, Western Port.

Hecker, Stewart Roy, M.B., B.S., Adelaide, 1919, Murrayville.

Hodges, Feo. Agincourt, L.R.C.P. et S., Edin., L.R.F.P.S., Glas., 1913, c/o. Union Bank, Collins Street, Melbourne.

Anderson, Esme Vivienne, M.B., B.S., Melb., 1921, "Charlton," Harcourt Street, Auburn.

Cameron, Winifred Barbara, M.B., B.S., Melb., 1921, 87 Powlett Street, East Melbourne.

Darby, Louis Victor, M.B., B.S., Melb., 1921, 155 Church Street, Hawthorn.

Dunkley, John Francis, M.B., B.S., Melb., 1921, St. Arnaud.

Eddy, Violet Gertrude, M.B., B.S., Melb., 1921, 30 Beaconsfield Parade, St. Kilda.

Fulton, Robert Leo, M.B., B.S., Melb., 1921, 78 Kinkora Road, Hawthorn.

Furnell, Herbert Giblin, M.B., B.S., Melb., 1921, St. Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne.

Greer, Clive Mansley, M.B., B.S., Melb., 1921, 182 Rathmines Road, Upper Hawthorn.

Hallam, Keith Holly, M.B., B.S., Melb., 1921, Alfred Hospital, Prahran.

Harbison, Harold William, M.B., B.S., Melb., 1921, Numurkah.

Hembrow, Charles Hugh, M.B., B.S., Melb., 1921, Pooronga Road, East Caulfield.

Hudson, Sydney Bernard, M.B., B.S., Melb., 1921, Corowa, New South Wales.

Kelly, John Horace, M.B., B.S., Melb., 1921, Melbourne Hospital.

Longden, Norman Anderson, M.B., B.S., Melb., 1921, Buninyong.

Lyle, Mary Ranken, M.B., B.S., Melb., 1921, "Lisbuoy," Irving Road, Toorak.