reviews, and the book should not stray from the custody of the scientifically minded. In the case of at least one of the eighty-four individuals whose benefits from the operation are recorded, the interests of the general public might have been better served by the performance of an operation more radical in nature than vasoligation. However, marked physical and mental rejuvenation is stated to follow vasoligation in selected cases, and this improvement has remained for five years at least.

The book presents an authoritative survey of Professor Steinach's and practice, together with a reasoned summary of the results of the theories operation, and a bibliography.

M. B. H. R.

Correspondence.

DIPHTHERIA IN SECUNDERABAD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS."

SIR,—Captain S. Smith in his article on "Diphtheria in Secunderabad" in the October Journal describes a most interesting case of a young soldier who died from a disease very similar to the acute form of beriberi.

It was suggested that, as the patient had been on a generous diet, and as also the external ocular muscles were affected, the condition was possibly due to the K.L. bacillus and not to beriberi.

Ocular paralysis however occurs in beriberi, and in this connection the following extract from Colonel Elliot's lectures on "Tropical Ophthalmology," 1920, Oxford University Press, may be of interest. In detailing the eye conditions associated with this disease he states:

"Paresis of the ocular muscles is met with in this disease. The external rectus is that most often affected."

Such a sporadic case of acute beriberi, occurring under the circumstances related in the article, would be of very great interest indeed.

I am, etc.

William H. Dye,
Captain, R.A.M.C.

Balham, S.W.
November 4, 1924.

NOTES ON RECRUITS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS."

SIR,—I have been enabled to add to the figures regarding the development of recruits published in my "Notes on Recruits" in the October number of the Journal by a collection of similar data from the same regimental depots as those previously referred to, and extending over a further period of six months. The following results refer to the whole period of one year.
Correspondence

Of 351 men drafted to their battalions, the average factor (Balcke-Foote's modification of Pignet's factor) at the time of enlistment was 94·13, and at the end of their period of training in the depot, 103·70; or, taking the figures in detail for 283 of these men, the average chest circumference, height and weight on enlistment was 35·05, 65·20, and 124·09, and on the completion of training, 35·82, 65·92, and 133·71 respectively—measurements being in inches and pounds.

It will be noted that the individual measurements are smaller than those given in my paper, which were, after all, for very small numbers, but the general build of those recruits who survive training, as calculated from these measurements, remains practically the same.

I am, etc.,

R.A.M. College, London,
November 7, 1924.

R. A. MANSELL,
Captain, R.A.M.C.

THE COMPARATIVE COST OF LIVING IN LONDON AND IN INDIA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS."

SIR,—We are all, I believe, born "grousers," and perhaps the commonest subject for a "grouse" at present is Pay and Cost of Living, especially among married officers.

Having done a five years' tour of duty in India since the war, and having now served at home for just a year, it has interested me to compare the cost of living for a married officer at home and in India. I have therefore worked out a comparative set of figures which I give below, in the hope that it may be of interest to brother officers, and especially junior married Captains like myself. The figures may not be accepted by everyone and may prove controversial, but I can only say that they are neither fictitious nor the fruit of a "chronic grouser's" imagination, but are worked out from my own actual experience in consultation with my wife, round figures being given for convenience.

The figures only include actual necessities of life, and I have not allowed for amusements or social amenities, nor have I made any provision for clothing for oneself and one's family, nor for tobacco and "drinks."

If the figures given appear exaggerated or unduly high, this may perhaps be explained by the fact that my last station in India (to which the figures refer) was an expensive seaport city with a large civil and military European population, and the home station is London. No doubt the figures would be smaller in a country station at home, or an "up-country" station in India, but this does not alter the comparative value, in fact it would probably only emphasize it, as the reduction would be greater in India than at home.