

Correspondence.

INTENSIVE TREATMENT °OF GONORRHOEA WITH M & B 693.

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

SIR,—Having read with interest in the April number of the Corps Journal an article by Buist and Simon on the Intensive Treatment of Gonorrhœa with M & B 693, it occurred to me that Major Buist might be interested to hear my results of the treatment of 115 cases with a similar intensive course.

Like Major Buist, my " massive dose method " was commenced in May, 1939, as a result of reading an article by Bowie, Anderson, Dawson and Mackay in the *British Medical Journal* of April 8, 1939.

The treatment was the same as that used by Major Buist, except that I gave one extra day's treatment—giving six tablets divided into four doses on the fourth day. The patients were kept in hospital until (1) They had been off treatment for at least four days; (2) they had given two negative prostatic smears; (3) they were dry; (4) the urines were clear.

Out of 115 cases treated 105 (91·3 per cent.) were out of hospital within an average of 10·33 days. Only 45 of these cases were given irrigations and only four relapsed. All cases were kept on surveillance for at least two months after leaving hospital.

The ten cases which failed to respond to this massive dose method responded to M & B 693 at a later date and were discharged hospital in an average of forty days.

Very few cases showed toxic effects and these were all trivial in character and disappeared as soon as the drug was stopped.

In my opinion the massive dose method is the one of choice for acute anterior infections, as it not only is the quickest, but seems to give rise to fewer failures and to less toxic results than the longer course with a smaller dosage.

Several instances can be quoted of men playing football for their battalion within forty-eight hours of leaving hospital without any ill-effects as a result.

Kowloon, Hong Kong.

Combined Military Hospital.

June 6, 1940.

I am, etc.,

J. M. OFFICER.

Major, R.A.M.C.

MILITARY HOSPITALS—CHOICE OF SITE AND DESIGN.

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

SIR,—The accommodation for the dental officer as proposed in the site plan for a general hospital, 600 beds (page 106 of your August issue), would, I fear, be inadequate and unsatisfactory.

A north light should be provided for dental operative work, and as numbers of out-patients invariably attend for treatment it would be very

undesirable that they should be in such close proximity to the resuscitation ward.

A suitable lay-out for the dental department of a general hospital, 600 beds, is depicted in War Office D.F.W. drawing No. H.832/38, and such a building would best be located in the space to the north-east of the board room if the proposed plan were adopted. A corridor from the dental department should be connected with that shown for medical and surgical walking cases in order that cases from the medical and surgical wards may reach the dental officer under cover.

*The War Office,
Hobart House,
Grosvenor Place, London, S.W.1.
August 15, 1940.*

I am, etc.,
D. CLEWER, Colonel,
Director, Army Dental Service.

Notices.¹

“TABLOID” PHENOBARBITONE AND BROMIDE.

THE simultaneous administration of potassium bromide and phenobarbitone is thought to be a valuable therapeutic measure in the treatment of nervous diarrhoea and other types of gastro-intestinal dysfunction in which sedative and antispasmodic medication is indicated. These medicaments are combined in “Tabloid” Phenobarbitone and Bromide, a recent addition to the range of products issued by Burroughs Wellcome and Co. Other conditions in which it may be prescribed include epilepsy and allied disorders involving hyper-excitability of the motor cortex, delirium tremens, nervous insomnia, and thyrotoxicosis.

KRAMSOL.

BOOTS PURE DRUG COMPANY have sent us the following information about a new preparation Kramsol, a sterilizing agent for surgical and dental instruments. Kramsol (instrument sterilizing fluid) is a solution of very high germicidal potency containing the powerful antiseptic amyl-metacresol, formaldehyde, and other ingredients. It is recommended as a sterilizing agent for surgical and dental instruments. Extensive tests have shown Kramsol to be free from corrosive properties and, providing the plating is intact, most metal instruments may remain immersed in the fluid for weeks without harm. Bacteriological experiments have shown that instruments heavily infected with blood-serum containing numerous sporing and non-sporing bacteria and allowed to dry, will be freed from living non-sporing bacteria in less than fifteen minutes, and from all bacteria in four hours after immersion in Kramsol.

¹ These notices are for the purpose of acquainting officers with the latest developments in therapeutics, but do not imply that the preparations mentioned have been added to the list of authorized drugs.