the larynx, I may refer to the following case: A child, one year and nine months old, developed a croupy cough, dyspnœa of a very threatening nature rapidly ensued, so that tracheotomy had to be performed. The fauces presented none of the characteristic appearances of diphtheria, nor was there present any glandular swelling in the neck. Cultures made on two different occasions from the mouth yielded no diphtheria bacilli. After tracheotomy was performed, some membranous-looking material was coughed up through the wound; this was examined for diphtheria organisms with negative results, staphylococci only being present. The case was none the less regarded as one of diphtheria, and treated as such with injections of antitoxin, but without a fatal issue being averted. At the post-mortem examination no membrane was present in the pharynx or larynx; the tracheal wound was healthy, except that the edges were surrounded by an adherent whitish membrane. In cultures I made on serum-agar directly from the freshly exposed surfaces of the larynx and the trachea, I failed to find diphtheria organisms, but in cultures made on the same media from the interior of the ventricles of the larynx, I succeeded in obtaining a growth of diphtheria bacilli.

Since then a second and precisely similar case has come under my notice. Such cases, I think, go to show that the ventricles of the larynx may at times form harbours for diphtheria bacilli, and that those fatal cases of so-called membranous laryngitis, which, owing to the organism not having been met with, have been regarded as non-diphtherial in nature, may really be cases of true diphtheria. Moreover, facts such as I have mentioned may explain some of those recurrences of diphtheria in which external sources of infection can almost certainly be excluded in the second attack.

NOTES.

A LARGE number of the members of the OTOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM were present at a meeting of the Society held at Edinburgh on May 11, 1901. The proceedings are given in abstract on another page, and it will be seen that, so far as scientific interest was concerned, the time was valuably expended.

Mr. Charles A. Ballance, opening a discussion with a paper replete with literary and technical interest, paid an eloquent tribute to the associations of the town in which the meeting took place, specially to Dr. John Brown, author of "Rab and His Friends"; Sir James Y. Simpson, and Lord Lister, the main part of whose life's work had been carried on in the Metropolis of the North.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S1755146300169562 Published online by Cambridge University Press

It will be seen that the subject under consideration excited the liveliest interest among the members present, and although it cannot be said that any very strikingly new principles or methods were formulated, the subject was very instructively ventilated, and much valuable interchange of opinion and experience with regard to the vital questions involved took place. When circumstances permit of the publication of Mr. Ballance's paper *in extenso*, we are sure it will be read with interest and profit, and that both it and the discussion which we have here sketched will form a valuable contribution to the proceedings of the Otological Society.

The weather was most favourable, and the beauties of the romantic town were to be seen in their highest perfection. The visiting members were entertained most hospitably by their Edinburgh confrères, and a large number were conducted over the Forth Bridge, where the points of interest were demonstrated to them by the engineer. Extra-metropolitan meetings are, as a rule, difficult to organize, but this one may be considered to have been in every respect successful.

A German Committee in furtherance of the objects of the Tuberculosis Congress, to be held in London at the end of July, has been formed, with His Serene Highness the Duke of Ratibor, His Excellency Count von Posadowsky, and His Excellency Minister Dr. Studt, as Honorary Presidents. The other members of the committee are Ministerial Director Dr. Althoff, Privy Councillors and Professors Eulenburg, Ewald, Gerhardt, Heubner, Kirchner, President Koehler, President Gäbel, Government Councillor Professor Kossel, His Excellency Dr. von Leuthold, Privy Councillor von Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Staff Surgeon-Major Pannwitz, Professor Posner, Surgeon-General Schaper, Surgeon-General Schjerning, Privy Councillor Schmidt, and Privy Councillor Virchow. The Secretary of the Committee is Surgeon-Major P. Jacob.—*British Medical Journal.*

According to the *New York Medical News*, American medical scientists will be both numerous and prominent at the Congress. Professor William Osler, of Johns Hopkins University, has been invited to organize the American contingent. Among those who have already signified their intention of attending are Dr. Trudeau of New York, Professor Solly of Colorado, Dr. Herman Biggs of New York, and Professor McEachran of Quebec, head of the Dominion Veterinary Service.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S1755146300169562 Published online by Cambridge University Press