

N. J. I. and would be timely in view of the forthcoming I. C. N. at Paris-Brussels in 1933. Assoc. Ed.).

Miss Genevieve Gullison, daughter of Rev. R. E. Gullison of Bimlipatam, India, has just graduated from Victoria Hospital, Moncton, N.B., Canada.

Miss Gullison took highest standing in her year and gained four prizes. Congratulations from India! Miss Gullison is a graduate of Brecks School, Ootacamund.

Grateful acknowledgement is made for snapshots for the T.N.A.I. album to the following: Sister Josephine of Bombay; Miss Dunn, Tilaunia; Miss Bullock, Shillong; C.E.Z.M.S. Hospital, Ratanpur; Mrs. Gazdar of Calcutta.

PIONEERS OF MEDICINE¹

Edward Jenner

(Born May 17th, 1749—Died January 26th, 1823).

'His true memorial is to be found on the arm of every baby born in England today, and in every civilized country of the world.'

(Mrs. M. E. M. Walker).

Edward Jenner was the son of a clergyman in Gloucestershire. He had constant opportunities for the study of nature, and as a boy he spent much of his time in making all sorts of collections. Blond and blue-eyed, he combined common sense and great pertinacity with extreme simplicity of character. He was not typical of the usual conception of a brilliant genius; and what ultimately brought him fame and the gratitude of all mankind was, above all, his courageous and pertinacious devotion to a discovery which at first all the world and most of his colleagues wanted to ignore.

The lad was first apprenticed to a doctor near Bristol, and it was during this introduction to medicine that he obtained the first clue to his great discovery. A country woman who had sought the doctor's advice remarked: 'I cannot take small-pox for I have had cow-pox.'

For many centuries and, indeed, long before the Christian era, attempts had been made from time to time to protect human beings from small-pox by inoculating them with a mild form of it. Lady

¹ Supplied by the Secretariat of the League of Red Cross Societies.

Mary Wortley Montague, the wife of the British Ambassador to the Sublime Porte, had seen the benefits which were often derived from this dangerous practice, and she had her children artificially inoculated with small-pox. In spite of the obvious dangers of this procedure, the dread of small-pox was such that men were ready to take the greatest risks. Now cow-pox is a disease which runs a comparatively mild course and causes little discomfort in human beings, whether they be milk-maids accidentally infected, or other human beings intentionally inoculated with the virus of cow-pox.

With the idea of protective inoculation against small-pox revolving in his mind, young Jenner went to London in 1770 to complete his studies at St. George's Hospital. He had the great fortune to live for two years in the house of the famous surgeon John Hunter as a resident pupil. The friendship thus established lasted a lifetime. Hunter's was a giant's intellect; his contributions to medical science cover a very wide field, whereas Jenner's one claim to fame rests with his work on small-pox. Yet Jenner has become a great international figure while John Hunter is little known outside his own country and the medical profession.

In 1772 Jenner returned to Gloucestershire to practise in his own village, although John Hunter had offered him great things in London. Among his colleagues in the country, Jenner began to become a prominent figure; and at meetings of the local medical society he hammered away constantly at his pet theory till at last he was warned that unless he dropped it he would be expelled from the society!

Jenner's first vaccination was performed on May 14th, 1796. A milk-maid, Sarah Nelmes, who had contracted cow-pox in the usual way, provided the material with which a country boy, James Phipps, was vaccinated. It is pretty certain that neither Sarah Nelmes nor James Phipps had any idea at the time that they were making history! On July 1st of the same year, Jenner exposed Phipps to infection with small-pox and showed that he had become immune to it. By 1798 he had vaccinated 23 persons and his claims began to attract attention, not so much at home as abroad.

On the continent and in America his tests were repeated on a large scale, and by 1800 as many as 6,000 people had been vaccinated. By 1802 the opposition to Jenner at home had broken down so completely that Parliament was petitioned for a grant of money to Jenner who, instead of making a fortune out of his discovery, had spent most of his time on unremunerative research. Parliament voted him 30,000 pounds.

A less tangible but more picturesque tribute to his work came from Napoleon. A certain number of Englishmen having been detained in France as prisoners of war, Jenner was asked to petition for their release. Napoleon was about to reject this petition when Josephine remarked: 'Do you see from whom this comes—Jenner?' Napoleon's reply was: 'What that man asks must not be refused'. Another tribute came from the Empress Dowager of Russia, who not only presented Jenner with a diamond ring, but also endowed the first child to be vaccinated in Russia with a pension for life and the name of Vaccinoff. The last few years of Jenner's life were spent more or less in retirement. In 1820, he was siezed with a fit of apoplexy. A second fit in 1823 proved fatal. He lies buried in his native village in Gloucestershire, in the quiet country surroundings which did so much to form his character during the most impressionable years of his life.

Jenner's discovery is applied to-day throughout the world. It is valued by the man in the street as well as by doctors and nurses largely because of the educational propaganda conducted by health authorities working in many countries in close co-operation with the Red Cross. In Siam, for example, according to the report of the Siamese Red Cross Journal for January 1931, a performance entitled 'God's Verdict' was given on the King's birthday, before an audience of 900, with the object of educating the public in the use of vaccines and the work of the Scientific Section of the Siamese Red Cross. In Greece, members of the Junior Red Cross have helped the school medical officer in vaccinating against small-pox.

MY DIARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF NURSES, MONTREAL: 1929

BY MISS C. F. SLATER, T.N.A.I. DELEGATE

(Concluded)

I think I have now come to the end of my long letter, as we shall soon be arriving at Colombo. We got to Hong-kong early in the morning of the 21st, and a lady whom I had known at Poona met me, and a little later Mrs. Moore, sister-in-law to our Miss Moore of Hazaribagh, came and took me to her house for the day. First we did some shopping, going about in rickshaws, and then went up to the Cathedral in light bamboo carrying-chairs, which are much more comfortable than a dandy. Then in a cable-tram up a very steep ascent 1,300 feet to the Peak, where the houses are built terraced