

therefore, we have had no right or title to expect him to give full service. In a vast number of cases he has given his services for nothing or for payment which was utterly inadequate. There is no man here who does not know doctors who have been attending poor people without any fee or reward at all. I have got three conditions which I am going to lay down as the result of this increased provision. One is that the doctor who acts on the panel shall agree to give, without further charge, those medical certificates which an insured person will require to enable him to get sickness or disablement benefit; the certificate, in the first place, that he is unfit for work; the certificate, where necessary, that he continues to be unfit for work; and when he is returned to health, a certificate from the society to this effect. Secondly, we also ask that those practitioners who act on the panels will keep simple records of the patients whom they treat, the illness from which they suffer, and the attendances given. That is new in respect to the industrial practice of this country. Though we are providing increased remuneration, I frankly admit we are also asking for increased service.

We know that doctors dislike book-keeping above all things, but we know also that they desire the advancement of medical knowledge, and we feel confident that they will co-operate with us in this matter. We on our part undertake that the records required shall be of the simplest character that will give us the necessary information. Thirdly, and chiefly, the service must be improved in certain definite respects, as compared with what it has been possible to give in the past.

It will be the duty of the Commissioners when setting out the conditions for the new grant and disbursing it to the committees, to see that a proper standard is reached and maintained, not merely in respect of the amount of time and attention given, and also that where necessary the practitioner should resort to those modern means of exact diagnosis, the importance of which I am advised is increasingly recognized in the profession.

We think it is better that we should try these arrangements as an experiment, and see how they work. I propose, therefore, that the arrangements which are made on

this basis shall be made for a term of years, not too long, and not too short, otherwise we do not get the experience. It is no use trying a year's experiment. I think you must have at least three, and I suggest, therefore, that the financial arrangements shall be for three years, made on this basis, and that at the end of that period there should be a reconsideration of the whole position.

We submit these proposals to you for your consideration; we think they are fair in the interests of the medical profession; we wish to be fair to that profession; I say so in spite of everything that has fallen in controversy, and I think we are fair; indeed, I venture to say that our proposals are liberal. I do not say that we are proposing anything in the way of remuneration which is beyond their merits or deserts, but we want a good efficient service for the industrial population of this country.

Sir Clifford Allbutt, in thanking the Chancellor for his statement, said he could not but think they had now before them a scheme which ought to be acceptable to members of the profession at large.

Indian Sanitary Administration.

In November last, replying to Lord Curzon's criticisms on the proposals for the abolition of certain Imperial posts in India with a view to promoting the policy of decentralization, Lord Crewe stated that the Government of India had recommended that the office of Sanitary Commissioner should be merged in that of Director-General of the Indian Medical Service, thus returning to the arrangement existing before 1904. The Secretary of State announced that the India Council held it was desirable to retain the Sanitary Commissionership, but the question of its relations with the Director-General of the Indian Medical Service was to be reconsidered, since the complete separation of sanitation and medical research had created a great deal of difficulty.

The decision of the Government on this question has now been announced by a resolution published at Simla. It points out that his separation has led to the loss of administrative efficiency and also to the unpopularity of the specialized bacteriological and sanitary departments. More-