

# Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh

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## EXAMINATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

OCTOBER 1913

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### PUBLIC HEALTH

#### 1. *Public Health Law and Procedure.*

- (a) What special statutory powers do British Public Health Authorities possess for the prevention of Plague, Cholera, and Yellow Fever?
- (b) What is meant by a plague-infected ship?
- (c) When a ship infected with plague arrives at a British sea-port, what are the duties (1) of the Master, (2) of the Customs Officers, (3) of the Medical Officer of Health?

#### 2. *Vital Statistics.*

- (a) What is the Standard Death-rate of a town? Explain (1) how it is obtained; (2) why it is important.
- (b) In 1899, the Standard Death-rate for England and Wales was 19.15 per 1000, and for Birmingham it was 17.33. In that year, the Recorded Death-rate for Birmingham was 20.84 per 1000. From these data, find (1) the Factor for correction for age and sex; and (2) the corrected death-rate, for Birmingham.
- (c) In a town of 100,000, the death-rate is 15 per 1000; in another town of 5000, the death-rate is 20 per 1000. What is the death-rate of the combined populations?
- (d) Name one infectious disease in which the case-death-rate has fallen within the last fifty years, and explain generally the causes of the fall.

#### 3. *General Sanitation.*

- (a) Describe a method of purifying sewage, and explain the principles involved.
- (b) Discuss briefly the available methods of filtering water (1) for a town supply, (2) for an isolated house.
- (c) Explain the principles involved in the process of disinfection by steam.

#### 4. *Epidemiology.*

- (a) What is the seasonal incidence of (1) scarlet fever, (2) diphtheria, (3) enteric fever, (4) small-pox?
- (b) Indicate possible explanations in each case.