

D. Stevenson, Secretary of the B.M.A., said: "This will be the much needed breakthrough for disenfranchised consultants. Hospital staffs know that the British Medical Association has for some time been pressing for a complete reappraisal of the consultants' contract by setting up a working party for this purpose. We welcome the fact that the Government has recognized the strength of our argument and we look forward to co-operating to the full."

"We know that the working party will also be looking at private practice in the National Health Service and we shall put the B.M.A.'s views on the important contribution private medicine makes to the N.H.S."

MEDICAL NEWS

Inpatient Costs in N.H.S. Hospitals

Hospital Costing Returns for 1972-3 has just been issued by the Department of Health. Average costs per inpatient week in English hospitals increased by about 16% compared with the previous year, the long-stay hospitals showing increases of 18% and the acute ones 15%. For acute non-teaching hospitals the Oxford region had the highest cost per patient per week and the Liverpool region had the highest cost per patient treated. Costs in the London teaching hospitals were much higher for both. The figures for 1972-3 are as follows:

Acute Non-teaching Hospitals Regional Comparisons	Average cost per patient per week	Average cost per patient treated
	£	£
Newcastle	88.05	123.40
Leeds	87.70	120.07
Sheffield	96.25	116.41
East Anglian	99.55	120.71
N.W. Metropolitan	88.50	138.82
N.E. Metropolitan	92.89	132.68
S.E. Metropolitan	93.50	136.71
S.W. Metropolitan	94.80	145.72
Oxford	98.71	115.67
South Western	97.04	120.02
Birmingham	91.03	120.27
Manchester	85.12	113.43
Liverpool	81.06	144.52
Wessex	94.71	117.98
London Teaching Hospitals	129.14	212.66

For all acute non-teaching hospitals in England the national average cost per patient per week in the period reported was £91.54 compared with £78.58 the previous year, and the national average cost per patient treated was £125.36 compared with £108.78 in the previous year. The report is available from H.M.S.O., price £1.70.

Parliamentary Appointments

Dr. David A. L. Owen, M.P. for Plymouth Devonport, has been appointed Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Health.

Mr. Jack Ashley, M.P. for Stoke-on-Trent South, has been appointed Parliamentary Private Secretary to Mrs. Barbara Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services.

Photography in Medicine

An exhibition of photography in medicine and the life sciences by the medical group of the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain is open from 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

daily until 26 April in the Claire Wand Gallery of B.M.A. House. The exhibition was opened on 7 March by Sir Ronald Tunbridge who presented the special awards for different classes of work.

COMING EVENTS

British Thoracic and Tuberculosis Association.—Spring meeting, 28-30 March, Cirencester, jointly with Thoracic Society of Wales and West Country Chest Society. Details from the secretary, B.T.T.A., 50 Portland Place, London W1N 3AJ. (Tel. 01-636 3810.)

Blair Bell Research Society.—Annual general meeting, followed by scientific meeting, 1 April, 2 p.m., Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. Programme includes Duphar lecture by Professor D. Poswillo, "New Concepts in Developmental Pathology." Details from the honorary secretary, Dr. I. R. McFadyen, Northwick Park Hospital, Watford Road, Harrow, Middx.

M.R.C.Psych. and D.P.M. Revision Courses.—3-10 April, Surrey University. Details from the organizing secretary, Mrs. O. L. Wellden, Belmont Hospital, Brighton Road, Sutton, Surrey. (Tel. 01-642 0054, extn. 37.)

Guild of Catholic Doctors.—Symposium, "Conflicts in Medical Ethics," 6 April, Heythrop College, Cavendish Square, London W.1. Details from the honorary secretary, Dr. K. P. Roche, White Lodge, Radnor Road, Bristol BS9 4DX. (Tel. 0272 628788.)

London Hospital Computer Project.—Case study in the "Installation of a Major Real-time System," 24 April, London Hospital Medical College Hall. Details and registration forms from the administrator, John Ellicott Centre, Cavell Street, London E1 2BW. (Tel. 01-247 5454, extn. 610.)

SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

For attending lectures marked * a fee is charged or a ticket is required. Applications should be made first to the institution concerned.

Tuesday, 26th March

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5 p.m., Hunterian lecture by Professor A. G. Johnson: Cholecystectomy and Gallstone Dyspepsia—the Clinical and Physiological Study of a Symptom Complex.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.—4.15 p.m., Dr. Ove Lundgren (Sweden): The Possible Role of Villous Counter Current Mechanisms in Absorption from the Gut.

Wednesday, 27th March

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—4.30 p.m., Arnott demonstration by Dr. W. Hewitt: The Human Cerebrum and its Ancestors.

ROYAL POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL.—2 p.m., Professor P. L. Mollison: Rh Immunization.

Thursday, 28th March

INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY.—4 p.m., Professor S.I. Zacks (Pennsylvania): MED Myopathy—a Model of Gene Regulated Delayed Myopathy.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON.—5 p.m., Langdon Brown lecture by Dr. J. W. D. Bull: What is Radiology's Place in Medicine?

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5 p.m., Joseph Henry lecture by Dr. M. D. Kipling: Oil and Cancer.

Friday, 29th March

MEDICAL SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF VENEREAL DISEASES.—At 11 Chandos Street, London W.1, 7.30 p.m., Dr. J. Dominian: Causes of Marital Discord.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

CAMBRIDGE

Sc.D.—In the Faculty of Medicine: P. J. Lachmann.

LONDON

M.D.—Enid Bennett, C. M. H. Nunn.

Ph.D.—In the Faculty of Medicine: A. H. O. Ishag, R. B. Johns, D. R. E. Reeve, R. Rosedale, Hazel A. Atherton, J. P. A. Giroud, A. H. Kissabah.

M.Phil.—In the Faculty of Medicine: Vivian M. Barral-Dodd.

M.Sc.—In the Faculty of Medicine: J. A. Bisby, J. T. Carter, D. B. Douglas, I. E. Eustace, Z. I. Fakhri, J. R. Greig, A. N. Haniffa, K. M. Kywe, G. P. C. Miluge, H. Myint, D. R. Paul, J. A. Thom, Wan Kar Han.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

At an ordinary meeting of the council held on 14 March, with Mr. Rodney Smith, president, in the chair, the Clement Price Thomas award for 1974 was made to Mr. R. H. R. Belsey, of Bristol, in recognition of his outstanding services to the understanding and treatment of thoracic disease.

The unopposed return of Dr. J. F. Nunn to the Board of Faculty of Anaesthetists for an eight-year period, commencing in March 1974, was noted.

Sir Terence Ward was appointed the MacIndoe lecturer for 1974.

A Hallett prize was awarded to Dr. R. H. L. Down, of Luton, and Hancock prizes were awarded to Dr. P. Jenkins, of London, Dr. M. I. Levene, of London, Dr. N. P. Silvertown, of Leeds, and Dr. P. D. Lumb, of London.

The forty-fourth and forty-fifth MacLoughlin scholarships were awarded to Mr. D. A. Parker, of Oldbury, and Mr. C. L. Gwinnutt, of Derby, respectively.

F.F.A.R.C.S.—Janet E. Goold, I. K. Stanley-Jones, V. Kanagasabai, G. W. Grayling, W. O. H. Thomas, I. P. Hine, D. L. Leaming, R. J. Palmer, T. G. C. Smith, D. J. Wright, Dorothy P. Walton, D. C. Laidlow, Valerie K. Hill, R. P. H. Dunnill, Christine Bailey, Jasmine G. Davies, R. C. Desborough, A. D. Logan, T. R. Williams, A. R. Pook, Z. Zych, Joan A. Whelan, Gwenda N. Elliott, S. F. Rizk, M. T. Bryant, B. D. Daghlian, A. Hussain, M. Ihsanullah, A. A. Olivelle, Govinda-wamy Dhanalakshmi, J. Kessell, Usha S. Wagh, B. K. Chettur, June B. Cooper, Anthea H. Hatfield, P. Brownridge, Saroj N. Rodrigo, P. Thongvanit, Chitra R. Wisesurendra, P. E. R. De Silva, W. O. Roberts, P. K. Ballard, Carol M. Blandford, R. L. Eyres, Gillian A. Kings, Christina Sui-Lin Lian, K. C. MacIntosh, R. G. McLaren, T. L. Moody, P. J. Nash, Susan E. Brown, S. A. Hargrave, J. E. Harrison, K. G. Hickling, M. A. Marshall, J. E. Moodie, Agnes L. Rennie, R. M. Scott, M. J. Tisdall, J. R. W. Waley, W. D. C. Williams, Y. Adu-Gyamfi, Nancy Baker, J. A. Bourne, K. F. Buchmann, C. J. Cronjé, K. H. Davies, M. J. Harrison, R. P. E. Hebblethwaite, J. R. Lehane, I. R. MacDiarmid, A. H. McKee, B. H. Maule, T. P. Nash, T. E. Oh, N. I. Palmer, Frances M. Pratt, B. S. Stuart, G. R. Talbot, Vivien J. Thomas, D. L. Trickey, M. D. C. Truscott, J. M. Baden, A. W. Duncan.

Corrections

Jaundice after Halothane

We regret that a printing error occurred in the letter from Dr. J. S. Robinson and others (16 March, p. 515). In the fourth line of the third paragraph the concentration of halothane detected should have read " 1.7×10^{-5} ", not " 1.7×10^{-7} " as printed. In addition, in the preceding paragraph the grade of Universal packing used should have read "80-100 mesh", not "8-100 mesh" as printed.

We also regret that in the letter on the same subject from Professor J. G. Robson and others (p. 516) Professor Robson's initials were wrongly printed.

Death during Dental Anaesthesia

We regret that a printing error occurred in the letter from Dr. J. G. Bourne (16 March, p. 516). The second sentence of the fourth paragraph should have read: "He gave the position of the chair as between 50° and 55° from the vertical, but later put it at 'something in the order of 50°', indicating with his arm a tilt of about 45°."

Notice to Authors

When original articles and letters for publication are not submitted exclusively to the *British Medical Journal* this must be stated. Accepted articles may subsequently be selected for publication in the North American monthly edition.

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