

# MEDICAL NEWS

## Health priorities

On 24 March the Department of Health published *Priorities for Health and Personal Social Services in England, a Consultative Document* (HMSO, £1.60). In her introduction Mrs Barbara Castle states that her intention is to give health and local authorities more say in planning but that the document sets out her proposals for broad policy guidelines. The main proposals are based on giving current expenditure priority over the building programme, so allowing a 1.8-2% annual increase in expenditure on the NHS and social services. Within the NHS, services for the elderly and mentally handicapped would be given priority over acute and general hospital services, and expenditure on the hospital maternity services would fall by 1.8% per year. These proposals are based on projections by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys that between 1973 and 1985 there would be a drop in the numbers of children aged 5-15 and a levelling off of the birth rate.

## Postgraduate courses

Details of the medical courses and diplomas offered by British universities and postgraduate institutes, and open to both British and overseas graduates, are given in the latest issue of *Summary of Postgraduate Diplomas and Courses in Medicine*. This edition has been revised by the BMA Commonwealth and International Bureau, but responsibility for its publication has now been taken over by the Council for Postgraduate Medical Education. Copies of the 50-page booklet are available price £2.50 (including inland postage) from the CPME, 7 Marylebone Road, Park Crescent, London NW1 5HA.

## Chair of anaesthesia, Glasgow

Dr Donald Campbell has been appointed to the chair of anaesthesia in Glasgow University, from a date to be arranged. Dr Campbell graduated from Glasgow in 1952, and after house appointments there he spent three years in Canada. He returned to Glasgow in 1956 to the Royal Infirmary and then Stobhill General Hospital. In 1960 Dr Campbell was appointed lecturer in anaesthesia at Glasgow University, and in 1961 he became consultant anaesthetist at the Royal Infirmary. Dr Campbell is a member of the council of the Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland and of their research committee, a founder member of the Scottish Standing Committee of the Faculty of Anaesthetists of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and an examiner for the College's Fellowship in Anaesthesia. His main research interests are clinical pharmacology in anaesthesia and respiratory intensive care.

## COMING EVENTS

**Royal College of Physicians of London**—Teach-in on "Asbestos and its health hazards," 6 April, London. For details see advertisement at p ix.

**Royal Society**—Discussion meeting on "Mineralogy: towards the Twenty-first Century," 7-8

April, London. Details from the Executive Secretary, Royal Society, 6 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG. (Tel 01-839 5561, ext 278.)

**British Institute of Radiology**—34th Annual Congress, 8-9 April, London. Details from the Institute, 32 Welbeck Street, London W1M 7PG. (Tel 01-935 6237.)

**Action for Disaster International Conference**—13-14 April, Glasgow. Details from Emergency Planning Section, Strathclyde Police, 71 Oxford Street, Glasgow G5 9EP. (Tel 041-429 2696.)

**First International Congress on Patient Counselling**—Organised by the Excerpta Medica Foundation, 21-23 April, Amsterdam. Details from the Secretariat, First International Congress on Patient Counselling, PO Box 1126, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

**North-west Regional Council, BMA**—Day symposium on "Changing aspects of obstetrics," 25 April, Cheadle. Details from Symposium Committee, British Medical Association, Boyd House, Upper Park Road, Victoria Park, Manchester M14 5RH.

**Medical Arts Society**—32nd Annual Exhibition, 26 April-8 May (Mon-Fri, 11.00 am-6.00 pm; Sat, 11.00 am-5.00 pm), Leighton House Art Gallery, 12 Holland Park Road, London W14.

**Manchester Medical Society**—Details and copies of the programme April to May are now available from the Society, the University, Manchester M13 9PL. (Tel 061-273 6048.)

**Exeter Postgraduate Medical Centre**—Details of the programme for the Summer term are now available from the centre, Barrack Road, Exeter, Devon. (Tel 0392 70018.)

## 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.

### Monday, 29 March

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND—6 pm. Mr Selwyn F Taylor: Goitre, indications for and complications of operation.

### Tuesday, 30 March

CAVENDISH MEDICAL CENTRE AND THE AIR LEAGUE—At Royal College of Physicians, 5.30 pm, Dr Charles Berry.

INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH—5 pm, Drs Ruth and Victor Sidel: Child in China.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND—6 pm, Mr J A Shepherd: Diagnosis and management of acute colonic conditions.

### Wednesday, 31 March

INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY—5.30 pm, Dr H de F Webster (USA): Multiple sclerosis: CSF myelinotoxic activity tested in optic nerves.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND—5 pm, Hunterian Lecture by Professor M H M Harrison: Perthes disease—new perspectives of aetiopathology.

6.15 pm, Mr N Tubbs: Injuries round the knee joint. ROYAL SOCIETY OF HEALTH—7 pm, Dr P J Nicholls: The physiological disposition of drugs in the aged.

### Thursday, 1 April

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND—6 pm, Mr A N Nicolaidis: Thrombo-embolism and surgery.

### Friday, 2 April

MEDICAL SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF VENEREAL DISEASES—At Royal College of Physicians of London, 5 pm, Professor R B Turner (USA): Sexually transmitted diseases as a medical specialty. (Guests are welcome.)

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND—5.15 pm, Mr J L Williams: Neoplasms of the bladder and penis. 6.30 pm, Professor R Shields: Problems after gastric surgery.

## BMA NOTICES

### Diary of Central Meetings

MARCH	
31 Wed	Council, 10 am.
APRIL	
1 Thurs	Executive Subcommittee (CCCM), 10.15 am.
1 Thurs	General Purposes Subcommittee (GMSC), 10.30 am.

8 Thurs	Anaesthetists Subcommittee (CCHMS), 2 pm.
9 Fri	Clinical Meeting, Exeter.
10 Sat	Executive Subcommittee (CCHMS), 10 am.
15 Thurs	General Medical Services Committee, 10 am.
15 Thurs	Joint Consultants Committee (BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1), 9.30 am.
20 Tues	Committee on the EEC, 2 pm.
14 Wed	

### Division Meetings to be Held

Members proposing to attend meetings marked\* are asked to notify in advance the honorary secretary concerned.

**Brighton and Cuckfield Division**—At Brighton General Hospital, Wednesday, 31 March, 7 for 7.30 pm, combined meeting with Brighton, Hove and District Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, Mr Brian Mead: "Intrauterine device." (Followed by buffet supper.\*)

**Chesterfield Division**—At Shoulder of Mutton Inn, Hardstoft, Tuesday, 30 March, 7 for 7.30 pm, Chairman's dinner.\* (Guests are invited.)

**Eastbourne Division**—At Central Library Lecture Hall, Tuesday, 30 March, 8 pm, Professor Sir David Smithers: "Cancer—meeting the challenge."\* (Open to all medical and non-medical personnel.) An invitation has been extended to all general practitioners and their wives to tour the District General Hospital on Sunday, 28 March, 2.30 pm, Tuesday, 30 March, 7 pm, or Wednesday, 31 March, 11 am. Please contact Mr H Miller, Sector Administrator, District General Hospital, King's Drive, Eastbourne.

**Exeter Division**—At Postgraduate Centre, Wednesday, 31 March, 12.45 pm, agm.

**Lewisham Division**—At Forest Hill Banqueting Suite, Thursday, 1 April, 7.30 for 8 pm, annual dinner and dance.\* (Guests are welcome.)

**Manchester Division**—At Boyd House, Tuesday, 30 March, 8 for 8.30 pm, scientific meeting and buffet supper, Dr G Hambleton: "Asthma."\*

**North Birmingham, Lichfield and Tamworth Division**—At Good Hope Hospital, Saturday, 3 April, 9 pm, agm followed by talk by the Rt Hon Norman Fowler, MP. (Preceded by dinner.\*)

**Plymouth Division**—At Plymouth Medical Centre, Thursday, 1 April, 8 pm, agm.

**Swansea and West Glamorgan Division**—At Singleton Hospital, Monday, 29 March, 8 pm, general meeting.

**Wakefield Division**—At Holmfild House, Tuesday, 30 March, 7.30 pm, lecture/dinner, Mr J T Rowling: "Primus in chirurgia."\*

**Winchester Division**—At Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Friday, 2 April, 8 for 8.30 pm, dinner and agm.\* (Wives and husbands are invited.)

## Corrections

### Shiga dysentery in England and Wales

We regret that the name of Dr R J Gross, one of the authors of the article under this title, was mis-spelt when it appeared in our Epidemiology column on 28 February (p 532).

### Full-time Medical Teachers and Research Workers Committee

The second sentence in the second paragraph under the heading "Preclinical business" (13 March, p 669) should read: "The latest appointment to a consultant position in anaesthetics in Edinburgh had been shared by two women." We apologise for this error.

### Notice for authors

When original articles and letters for publication are not submitted exclusively to the *British Medical Journal* this must be stated. For detailed instructions to authors see page 6 of the issue dated 3 January 1976.

Correspondence on editorial business should be addressed to the Editor, *British Medical Journal*, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR. Telephone: 01-387 4499. Telegrams: *Aitiology, London WC1*. Communications will not be acknowledged unless a stamped addressed postcard is enclosed.

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