



Mr Harry Ewing, Scottish Under-Secretary of State (Health) (left), and Mr Peter Heatly, chairman of the Scottish Sports Council, jogging in the snow in Edinburgh when the "Fit for Life" campaign was launched last week by the Scottish Sports Council and the Scottish Health Education Unit. For two months 50 people will do simple exercises, with regular testing. The results will be published when phase two, for the general public, is launched.

The social services

The Personal Social Services Council, the independent body that advises the Government on social services policy, has warned the Government that without additional resources local authorities will not maintain the standards of the social services. Commenting on the DHSS discussion document *The Way Forward* (published in September 1977), the council pointed out that the strategy outlined in the preceding consultative document of 1976 was not being carried out. Resources were not being transferred from the acute and general hospital sector to priority groups (such as the elderly, the mentally handicapped, and the mentally ill) or to community care, and capital spending in community health and the personal social services had been further reduced; moreover, the costs of residential services were rising. This paper may be obtained from the council at Brook House, Torrington Place, London WC1E 7HN (01-323 4757).

Medical New Year Honours

We regret that the name of Mr J C Churcher was wrongly listed under MBE (Civil Division) (7 January, p 55). He was awarded an OBE (Civil Division).

People in the News

Professor A S Truswell has been appointed to the new Boden chair of human nutrition in the University of Sydney, Australia, a post which will entail both a clinical appointment in the teaching hospital and integration with the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. This is the first chair in human nutrition in a major Australian university.

COMING EVENTS

"Progress in the prevention of chest disease"
—Symposium in memory of Dr Horace Joules, 27 January, London. Details from Dr K Ball, Central Middlesex Hospital, Acton Lane, London NW10 7NS: (Tel 01-965 5733 day, 01-997 4765 evening.)

Nutrition Society—Details and copies of the programme for 1978 are now available from the Society, Chandos House, 2 Queen Anne Street, London W1M 9LE.

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, 23 January

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY—4.30 pm, Dr M F Spittle: Radiotherapy of benign skin disease.

Tuesday, 24 January

BALINT SOCIETY—At Royal Society of Medicine, 8.30 pm, Balint Memorial lecture by Dr Tom Main: Some medical defences against involvement with patients. UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON—1.20 pm, Dr Ursula Mittwoch: Virgin birth reassessed.

Wednesday, 25 January

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY—4.30 pm, Dr P D Samman: Nail formation and growth.
INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY (QUEEN SQUARE)—Sandoz Foundation advanced lectures, 6 pm, Professor L Weiskrantz: Residual vision after striate cortex damage in man and monkey. 7 pm, Dr J C Meadows: Higher cerebral disturbances of vision.
INSTITUTE OF ORTHOPAEDICS—6 pm, Mr C L Colton: Cerebral palsy—upper limb surgery. 7 pm, Mr G E Fulford: Cerebral palsy—lower limb surgery.
INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY—5.30 pm, Professor H J Eysenck: The conditioning theory of neurosis revisited.
KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL—5 pm, Professor Jan Stjernsward (Lausanne): The role of immunotherapy in breast and lung cancer.
KING'S FUND COLLEGE—At 21 Palace Court, 8 pm, Professor E Jaques: Professionalism in the Health Service.
ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL—5 pm, Professor R Mahler: The fat, the bad, and the ugly.
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD—At Radcliffe Infirmary, 5 pm, Professor L G Lajtha: Hierarchy and interdependence: cell sociology of haemopoiesis.

Friday, 27 January

DOCTORS AND OVERPOPULATION GROUP—At Central Hall, Westminster, 6.30 for 7.30 pm, annual general meeting, theme "Future roles for the Doctors and Overpopulation Group." (Guests are welcome.)
INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOLARYNGOLOGY—5.30 pm, Dr L H Capel: The stuffy nose, allergic and otherwise.
ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF EDINBURGH—4.30 pm, Professor D C Berry: Muscles: function and dysfunction.

BMA NOTICES

Central Meetings

JANUARY	
24 Tues	Joint Consultants Committee (Royal Institute of British Architects, 66 Portland Place, London W1), 9.30 am.
24 Tues	Scottish General Medical Services Committee (7 Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh EH3 7QP), 10.30 am.
25 Wed	Finance and General Purposes Committee, 10 am.
25 Wed	Committee on the EEC, 2.30 pm.
FEBRUARY	
1 Wed	Scottish Council (7 Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh EH3 7QP), 10.45 am.
1 Wed	GMC Working Party, 2 pm.
2 Thurs	General Purposes Subcommittee (GMSC), 10.30 am.
2 Thurs	Dermatologists Subcommittee (CCHMS), 11.15 am.
8 Wed	Executive Committee of Council, 10 am.
8 Wed	Scottish Committee for Community Medicine (7 Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh, EH3 7QP), 10.30 am.
9 Thurs	Central Committee for Hospital Medical Services, 10 am.
10 Fri	Central Committee for Community Medicine, 10 am.
15 Wed	Occupational Health Committee, 10.30 am.
16 Thurs	General Medical Services Committee, 10 am.
16 Thurs	General Purposes Subcommittee (CCHMS), 10.30 am.

Division Meetings

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

Aldershot and Farnham—At Frimley Park Hospital, Thursday, 26 January, 7 pm, symposium on "Aspects of naval medicine."*

Birmingham—At Birmingham Medical Institute, Wednesday, 25 January, 8 pm, open meeting.

Bradford and Alredale—At Bradford Royal Infirmary, Wednesday, 25 January, 8.30 pm, Dr C W Marsden: "The ethical problems of introducing a new drug."

Brighton and Cuckfield—At Brighton General Hospital, Friday, 27 January, 8.30 pm, combined meeting with Sussex Law Society, Dr M Yaffe: "Is pornography beneficial?" (Preceded by dinner, 7 for 7.30 pm.)

Burton upon Trent and District—At Stanhope Arms Hotel, Tuesday, 24 January, 7.15 for 7.30 pm, dinner/lecture, Mr W H Bond: "Chemotherapy in the treatment of malignant disease."*

Kingston/Richmond/Epsom—At Epsom District Hospital, Saturday, 28 January, 8 pm, wine and cheese party.

Manchester—At Boyd House, Tuesday, 24 January, 8 for 8.30 pm, Mr G A Morewood: "Hormone replacement therapy."* (Supper provided.)

North and Mid-Staffordshire—At North Stafford (Station) Hotel, Saturday, 28 January, 8 pm, annual dinner/dance.*

Ormskirk and Skelmersdale—At Ormskirk and District General Hospital, Tuesday, 24 January, 7.45 for 8 pm, agm.

Plymouth—At Plymouth Medical Centre, Friday, 27 January, 8.45 pm, joint meeting with the Plymouth Medical Society, speaker Dr J A Hobbs. (Preceded by dinner, 7 for 7.15 pm.* Guests are welcome.)

Scarborough—At Scarborough Hospital, Thursday, 26 January, 8.30 pm, Mr R H D Quinlan will talk on the development of housing through the ages.

South Warwickshire—At Chesford Grange, Tuesday, 24 January, joint dinner/lecture with Coventry Division, speaker Professor Stacey: "Doctors as others see us."*

Worcester and Bromsgrove—At Abbey Hotel, Malvern, Wednesday, 25 January, 7.30 for 8 pm, joint BMA/BDA dinner.* (Guests are invited.)

South-west Wales—At Diplomat Hotel, Felinfoel, Friday, 27 January, 7.15 for 7.45 pm, medicolegal dinner meeting, speaker Professor Keith Simpson: "On handling the lawyers in Court."* (Guests are invited.)

Wakefield—At Holmfild House, Monday, 23 January, 7.30 for 8 pm, dinner/lecture, speaker Mr Goodchild, City Archivist.* (Guests are invited.)

Worcester and Bromsgrove—At Abbey Hotel, Malvern, Wednesday, 25 January, 7.30 for 8 pm, joint dinner with Worcestershire Branch British Dental Association, speaker Mr Robert Dougall: "In and out of the box."*

Regional Meetings

Merseyside Regional Committee for Hospital Medical Services—At Clatterbridge Hospital, Monday, 23 January, 8 pm.

Northern Regional Committee for Community Medicine—At Dryburn Hospital, Friday, 27 January, 4.30 pm.

Trent Regional Committee for Hospital Medical Services—At Nottingham City Hospital, Thursday, 26 January, 7 pm.

Welsh General Medical Services Committee—At Hotel Metropole, Thursday, 26 January, 2.30 pm.

Wessex Regional Committee for Hospital Medical Services—At Odstock Hospital, Monday, 23 January, 4 pm.

Notice to 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 7 January 1978.

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 or an international reply coupon is enclosed.

Authors wanting reprints of their articles should notify the Publishing Manager, BMA House, Tavistock Square, WC1H 9JR, on receipt of proofs.

© British Medical Journal 1978

All Rights Reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the *British Medical Journal*.