

and Marriages (HMSO, Edinburgh; £1.50). Deaths from heart diseases, accounting for 35% of all deaths, totalled 21 619—a decrease of 424. Of the 13 021 deaths from cancer (394 fewer than in 1976), cancer of the lung, bronchus, and trachea accounted for 3651 compared with 3817 the previous year. Deaths from all forms of tuberculosis fell from 205 to 141. Congenital anomalies and diseases of early infancy accounted for 870 deaths, an increase of 71. Deaths from accidents in the home also increased—from 739 to 831—but the number of suicides fell from 430 to 183.



The US 13 cent postage stamp, designed by Paul Calle, dedicated on 18 May to Dr George Papanicolaou, the man who developed the "Pap test" cancer detection procedure. Mrs Rosalynn Carter offered the White House for the dedication proceedings, hoping that "American women avail themselves of medical tests that reveal the presence of cancer early

enough for it to be treated successfully." Copyright US Postal Service 1978.

Abortion statistics

In 1975 there were 139 702 legal abortions, compared with 162 940 in 1974, according to the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys' *Abortion Statistics 1975: England and Wales* (HMSO; £1.75). Three deaths occurred (the smallest number since the Abortion Act), giving a rate of 2.15 per 100 000 legal abortions. Two followed vacuum aspiration with curettage after 13 or more weeks' gestation and the other followed medical induction, also after 13 or more weeks. Two of the women were in the 25-9 age group and the other in the 20-4 group.

People in the news

Professor Edward McCombie McGirr, dean of the faculty of medicine at Glasgow University, has been appointed chairman of the Scottish Health Service Planning Council until 31 March 1981.

Sir John Brotherston has been named to the Society of Scholars at the Johns Hopkins University, Maryland.

Dr John J A Reid, chief medical officer of the Scottish Home and Health Department, has been elected chairman of the executive board of the World Health Organisation.

COMING EVENTS

Hospital for Sick Children—Seminar on "New anticonvulsant drugs," 22 June, London. Details from Dr G Pamphiglione, Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JH. (Tel 01-405 9200.)

Royal College of Psychiatrists—Annual meeting, 4-6 July, London. Details from the secretary of the College, 17 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG. (Tel 01-235 2351.)

Institute of Religion and Medicine—Annual assembly and conference, 18-20 July, Birmingham. Details from the organising secretary of the Institute, St Margaret's Vicarage, St Margaret's Road, Oxford OX2 6RX.

World Health Organisation—International conference on primary health care, 6-12 September, Alma-Ata, USSR. Details from Mr C W Morrow, Director,

Division of Public Information, World Health Organisation, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.

14th International Congress of Internal Medicine—15-19 October, Rome. Details from the British representative of the International Society for Internal Medicine, Dr D T D Hughes, Royal College of Physicians, 11 St Andrew's Place, Regent's Park, London NW1.

International Conference on the Child Under Stress—Sponsored by the British Association of Social Psychiatry, 15-21 October, Monte Carlo. Details from Caroline Roney, Medical Conference Organisers, 100 Park Road, London NW1 4RN. (Tel 01-723 6722.)

Fifth International Meeting in Pediatric Neurology and Neurosurgery—24-27 January, Mexico. Details from Hospital del Niño Dif Congress Office, Insurgentes Sur 3700, Mexico 22, D F. (Tel 905 573-53-48.)

SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

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

Monday, 19 June

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY—4.30 pm, Professor J S Calnan: Lymphoedema.

Wednesday, 21 June

REHABILITATION TRUST OF GREAT BRITAIN—At Royal College of Physicians of London, 3 pm, Dame Georgina Buller Memorial lecture by Dame Josephine Barnes: Rehabilitation in gynaecology and obstetrics.*

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE—5 pm, Dr C Tasman-Jones (San Francisco): Dietary fibre.

Thursday, 22 June

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE—5.30 pm, inaugural meeting of the section of medical and dental hypnosis.

Friday, 23 June

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE—12.30 pm, mini-symposium, Dr I R Mackay (Melbourne): The genetic component in chronic hepatitis. Dr A I Sutnik (Pennsylvania): Viral hepatitis.

BMA NOTICES

Central Meetings

JUNE	
21 Wed	Council, 10 am.
22 Thurs	Executive Committee (Junior Members Forum), 10 am.
22 Thurs	Central Committee for Hospital Medical Services, 2 pm.
23 Fri	Conference on HJS contract, 9 am.
24 Sat	Hospital Junior Staff Conference, 10.15 am.
26 Mon	Medical Academic Staff Conference, 10.30 am.
26 Mon	Annual Conference of Hospital Medical Staffs, 2 pm.
27 Tues	Annual Conference of Hospital Medical Staffs, 9.15 am.
27 Tues	Negotiating Subcommittee (CCCM), 10.30 am.
28 Wed	Annual Conference of Representatives of Local Medical Committees, 10 am.
29 Thurs	Annual Conference of Representatives of Local Medical Committees, 9 am.
30 Fri	Board of Science and Education, 10.30 am.
30 Fri	Executive Subcommittee (CCCM), 1.30 pm.

JULY	
1 Sat	Annual Conference of Community Medicine, 10 am.

Division Meetings

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

Barking and Havering—At Oldchurch Hospital, Wednesday, 21 June, 8 for 8.15 pm, agm.

Brighton and Cuckfield—At Bevendean Hospital, Tuesday, 20 June, 8 pm, general meeting.

Burnley—At Holme Country Club, Cliviger, Friday, 23 June, 8.30 for 9 pm, summer dance.*

Coventry—At St Mary's Hall, Council House, Saturday, 24 June, 6.30 pm, annual cocktail party.* (Wives/husbands invited.)

East Surrey—At Redhill General Hospital, Tuesday, 20 June, 8.30 pm, business meeting to brief member to ARM.

Enfield—At Nuffield Hospital, Thursday, 22 June, 7.30 pm, tour of hospital.* (Husbands/wives invited.)

Halifax—At Royal Halifax Infirmary, Monday, 19 June, 8 pm, meeting to consider agenda for ARM. At Shipley Wharf, Friday, 23 June, 7.30 pm, dinner cruise.*

Mid Essex—At Chelmsford and Essex Hospital, Wednesday, 21 June, 8 pm, meeting to discuss agenda for ARM, etc.

Instructions to authors

The following are the minimum requirements for manuscripts submitted for publication.

(1) **Typing** should be on one side of the paper, with double or triple spacing between the lines and 5-cm margins at the top and left-hand side of the sheet.

(2) **Two copies** (or preferably three) should be submitted.

(3) **Spelling** should conform to that of *Chambers Twentieth Century Dictionary*.

(4) **References** must be set out in the style used in the *BMJ*, and their accuracy verified before the manuscript is submitted.

(5) **SI units** are used for scientific measurements. In the text they should be followed by traditional units in parentheses. In tables and illustrations values are given only in SI units, but a conversion factor must be supplied. For general guidance on the International System of Units, and some useful conversion factors, see *The SI for the Health Professions* (WHO, 1977).

(6) **Authors** should give their names and initials, their current appointments, and not more than two degrees or diplomas. Each author must sign the covering letter as evidence of consent to publication.

(7) **Acknowledgments** will not be sent unless a stamped addressed envelope or an international reply coupon is enclosed.

(8) **Detailed instructions** are given in the *BMJ* dated 7 January (p 6).

Oldham—At Oldham and District General Hospital, Tuesday, 20 June, 8.30 pm, agm.

Sheffield—At University Medical School, Tuesday, 20 June, 8 pm, Mr John Timson: "The lighter side of BBC TV reporting."

Woking and Chertsey—At St Peter's Hospital, Wednesday, 21 June, 8 pm, general business meeting.

Worcester and Bromsgrove—At Ronswood Hospital, Monday, 19 June, 8.30 pm, divisional meeting.

Regional Meetings

Area Liaison Committee Manchester Metropolitan—At postgraduate Medical Centre, Preston, Wednesday, 21 June, 7.45 pm, agm.

Northern Regional Committee for Community Medicine—At Northern Regional Health Authority Offices, Newcastle upon Tyne, Friday, 23 June, 4.30 pm.

Northern Regional Council—At Medical Institute, Newcastle upon Tyne, Monday, 19 June, 7.30 pm.

North-west Regional Council—At Postgraduate Medical Centre, Preston, Wednesday, 21 June, 8 pm, meeting followed by agm.

Welsh General Medical Services Committee—At Hotel Metropole, Thursday, 22 June, 2.30 pm.

Yorkshire Regional Committee for Hospital Medical Services—At Pontefract General Infirmary, Wednesday, 21 June, 2.30 pm.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

SURREY

Dr T J Coleman appointed jointly by the PHLS and University as consultant microbiologist and senior lecturer in the department of microbiology, University of Surrey.

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