

MEDICAL NEWS

BMJ/ELSE conference in Bath

Some places are still available for the *BMJ*/European Life Science Editors conference on editing conference proceedings, which is to be held at the Beaufort Hotel, Bath, from 1600 on 9 November to 1600 on 10 November 1978 (*BMJ*, 15 July, p ii). This will be of particular interest to publishers as well as to doctors who edit conference proceedings, and the sessions will include discussions on the views of publishers, technical editors, and secretaries. The afternoon session on Friday, 10 November, will be devoted to advances in a standardisation of style among medical journals and the proposals suggested by the medical editors' meeting at Vancouver in January. The fee of £39.50 (£35 for members of ELSE) includes a single room with private bathroom in the Beaufort Hotel, and all meals. Applications, including the fee, should be sent to the Editor, *British Medical Journal*, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR.

NHS staff to cut hours

Professional and technical staff in the NHS are to take unilateral action on Monday, 4 September to implement a shorter working week. The staff side of Whitley Council for the NHS claim that the management side has refused to honour an agreement, reached in March this year, to cut the working week from 38 to 37 hours. The management side argue that the pay policy prevents such a cut. On 4 September 26 000 staff—including laboratory scientific officers, hospital engineers and works staff, and various other technical staff—will stop work one hour early. After that local decisions will be made on how the weekly one-hour reduction will be effected. Emergency cases, say the seven unions concerned (ASTMS, COHSE, NALGO, NUGSAT, NUPE, STAMP, and USDAW), will be provided under existing emergency duty agreements.

New regulations for radioactive substances

From July 1980 those wishing to administer radioactive substances to patients for diagnosis, treatment, or research must hold a certificate authorising them to do so. This regulation, which was laid before Parliament on 27 July, will apply to all doctors and dentists. It has been introduced to conform to an EEC directive. Application forms will be available from the Department of Health and Social Security, Alexander Fleming House, Elephant and Castle, London SE1, from the middle of 1979.

£100 000 for research to help old people

The Hayward Foundation has allocated a further £100 000 to the University of Birmingham to endow a lectureship in bioengineering in the subdepartment of geriatric medicine, headed by Professor Bernard Isaacs. This brings to a total of about £600 000 the foundation's gifts to the university to promote care of the aged.

Charles Hastings Wine Club

The new suppliers to the Charles Hastings Wine Club, Saccone and Speed Ltd of London, wrote to club members on 7 July about a special offer. Some people may not have received this letter. Any member who has not heard from Saccone and Speed should notify the honorary secretary of the club, Dr H Graham Dowler, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP.

GPFC

The General Practice Finance Corporation's 12th report for the year April 1977 to March 1978 was published in July. During the 12 months 167 loans were made to 293 doctors for a total of £2 441 000. Since it started business in May 1967 the corporation has made 2488 loans to 5004 doctors for a total of £20 658 000. The lending rate was reduced to 13% in January—the lowest level for five years.

Community medicine: Review Body award

The BMA has reached agreement with the DHSS on the circular implementing the Review Body's recommendations for doctors in community medicine and the community health services. This had been held up pending agreement on the trainees' contract (12 August, p 498).

COMING EVENTS

Royal College of Radiologists and British Institute of Radiology—Hospital Physicists' Association annual conference including the Ray Oliver Symposium, 13-15 September, Cambridge. Joint radiological meeting, 15-16 September, Cambridge. Details from the meeting secretary, Royal College of Radiologists, 28 Portland Place, London W1N 4DE.

Department of Geriatric Medicine, University of Edinburgh—Seminar on "The elderly person with failing vision," organised jointly with the Disabled Living Foundation, 19 September, Edinburgh. Details from Mrs Joan Chopin, Department of Geriatric Medicine, City Hospital, Greenbank Drive, Edinburgh EH10 5SB.

Biochemical Society—Details of the 577th and 578th meetings, 20-22 September, Oxford, and 28-29 September, Galway, are now available from the Society, 7 Warwick Court, High Holborn, London WC1R 5DP. (Tel 01-242 1076.)

King's Fund Centre—Colloquium on "Chiropody—The Way Ahead," organised jointly with the Society of Chiropodists, 15 November, London. Details from the centre, 126 Albert Street, London NW1 7NF. (Tel 01-267 6111.)

International Symposium on Juvenile Hypertension—3-5 June 1979, Parma, Italy. Details from Fondazione Internazionale Menarini, Piazza del Carmine 4, 20121 Milan, Italy.

University of Lund—Symposium on "Non-invasive imaging in medicine, heart, liver, pancreas," 6-9 June 1979, Lund, Sweden. Details from the University Hospital, S-221 85 Lund, Sweden.

World Conference on Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics—3-9 August 1980, London. Details from Conference Associates CPT, 34 Stamford Road, London W8 5PZ. (Tel 01-937 7529.)

BMA NOTICES

Caithness and Sutherland Division

Amalgamation of Caithness and Sutherland Divisions

Notice is hereby given by the Council to all concerned that the Caithness Division and the

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).

Sutherland Division have been amalgamated to form the Caithness and Sutherland Division.

E GREY-TURNER
Secretary

This is a corrected notice for the one published last week (p 581).

Division Meetings

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

Burnley—At Stubblefield House, Brierfield, Sunday, 27 August, noon, lunch party in aid of BMA Medical Benevolent Funds.*

Lancaster—Leave Lancaster 8.45 am, Tuesday, 29 August, visit to Trentham Gardens and Wedgwood factory.

CONSULTANT APPOINTMENTS

CITY AND EAST LONDON AREA HEALTH AUTHORITY (TEACHING)—Dr D P E Kingsley (radiologist (neuro-radiology)).

WESSEX RHA—Dr A Hossenbocus (physician in general medicine).

GREATER GLASGOW HEALTH BOARD—Dr F G Cameron (radiotherapy and oncology).

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