

MEDICAL NEWS

Medical Research Council

The mutual benefits which flow from the close relationship between the M.R.C. and the universities are emphasized in the *Medical Research Council Annual Report*, published this week. The council establishments, says the report, often provide long-term support for research which, for reasons of scale, specialization of subject, and duration could not be organized as effectively within the university. Sometimes the M.R.C. would support an outstanding project or individual for that reason alone. The existence of M.R.C. units also gives the Council facilities and staff to carry out ad hoc investigations at the Government's request.

The report includes the evidence submitted by the M.R.C. to the Committee on Privacy, in which attention was drawn to the undoubtedly value of epidemiological research in fields such as smoking and lung cancer and oral contraceptives and thromboembolism. Threats to privacy implicit in computerized medical records had not as yet proved to be a reality.

Three reports by working parties are summarized in the report: on biochemical and pharmacological aspects of drug dependence, its epidemiology, and its treatment. The report also gives brief accounts of current research projects supported by the Council.

Consent by Minors

A deputation from the B.M.A. has succeeded in achieving a change of wording in the Family Law Reform (Isle of Man) Bill. As originally drafted the bill required that where a 16-year-old gave consent to medical treatment his parent or guardian should be told by the doctor what had been done. After representations by the B.M.A. the relevant clause has been modified to read: "The person to whom the consent of a minor has been given as aforesaid, shall use his best endeavours to obtain the authority of such minor to the giving of information by such person to the parent or guardian of such minor, of the nature of such treatment."

Cancer Treatment

Replanning of the treatment of cancer on a national scale is proposed in the report of the Central Health Services Council, published last week. Specialist oncological centres, each to be based on several general hospitals, are planned, each to be linked with services for cancer registration and research and local social services. The Secretary of State has announced that "as a first step the many interests involved are being consulted on the report's considerations."

Grants for Research

The largest medical grant made by the Nuffield Foundation in 1970 was of £77,700 to the new medical school at Southampton for studies in community medicine. The grant is to enable Professor E. D. Acheson to test and demonstrate new methods of providing medical care (including general practice) in units to be established in Southampton and neighbourhood. This was the

emphasis Professor Acheson gave in his inaugural lecture on introducing the undergraduate to patients' needs outside the hospital.

Other substantial grants were given to King's College Hospital Diabetic Clinic, the Department of Medical Biophysics at Dundee, the Department of Surgery at Glasgow, the Department of Biochemistry at Strathclyde, and the Department of Mental Health at Bristol.

During 1970 the Foundation held all the 39½ million shares with which Lord Nuffield created it in 1943, but recently the trustees sold 20 million of the British Leyland Motor Corporation shares. Two-thirds of the Foundation's income in 1970 came from the Nuffield Fund. The announcement in January 1971 that there would not be a final British Leyland Motor Corporation dividend for the year 1969-70 will be reflected, states the report, in the Foundation's accounts for 1971.

People in the News

Dr. J. M. Cameron, of the London Hospital Medical College, has been appointed honorary consultant in forensic medicine to the Army at Home.

Mr. J. Leigh Collis, university clinical lecturer in surgery and honorary reader in thoracic surgery, Birmingham, has had the title of honorary professor of thoracic surgery conferred on him.

Dr. Evan Fletcher, visiting professor of cardiology, Kentucky University, 1970-1, has resumed his appointment as physician-in-charge, Cardiovascular Unit, Belfast City Hospital. He has been elected a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology.

Sir Ludwig Guttmann has been awarded the Order of Merit of the State of Bavaria, and at a recent ceremony Liverpool University conferred on him the honorary D.Sc.

Dr. D. H. Mackenzie, of Westminster Hospital, has been appointed honorary consultant in histopathology to the Royal Army Medical College.

Dr. D. Richter, director of the M.R.C. Neuropsychiatry Unit, Carshalton, Surrey, has been awarded the Semmelweis medal for services to medical science by the Medical University of Budapest.

Mr. Selwyn F. Taylor, Royal Postgraduate Medical School, has been appointed civilian consultant in postgraduate medical training to the Royal Navy.

COMING EVENTS

7th International Congress of Chemotherapy—23-28 August, Prague. Details from the congress secretariat, Sokolská 31, Prague 2, Czechoslovakia.

Ninth International Conference on Medical and Biological Engineering—23-27 August, Melbourne. Details from the secretary general, 9th I.C.M.B.E., Melbourne University, Parkville, Victoria, Australia 3052.

3rd Annual Summer School on Alcoholism.—1-8 September, Brighton College of Education, Falmer. Application forms and details from the secretary of the school, 25 Camberwell Grove, London S.E.5. (Tel. 01-701 3129.)

British Cancer Council.—Third symposium, "Cancer Priorities," 3-4 September, Edinburgh University. Admission by ticket only (£2.50), obtainable with details from the general secretary, B.C.C., 2 Harley Street, London W1N 1AA. (Tel. 01-636 3291.)

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.

Wednesday, 28 July

INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY.—5.30 p.m., Kenneth Cameron memorial lecture by Professor E. J. Anthony (Stanford, California): Bridging Two Worlds of Research—the Harvest and Hazard Involved.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

DUBLIN

M.D.—E. G. Bennet, Doreen E. Dowd, Sheila Polakoff.

M.A.O.—J. R. W. G. Williamson, M.B., B.C.H., B.A.O.—J. G. Aylward, Linda F. H. King (formerly Barrett), Lesley A. Batchelor, T. D. S. Bell, M. J. Bleakley, J. N. Briscoe, G. O. Brow, Elizabeth C. Burns, A. S. Butler, J. P. H. Byrne, J. R. C. Carne, D. W. Carroll, Marilyn E. Casares, D. L. Crane, O. J. Delany, Ruth W. Eustace, B. P. J. Garson, A. J. R. Glover, J. C. G. K. Gould, Daphne M. Greene, W. A. L. Heaton, P. Heseltine, Margaret P. Jenkins, S. C. Kakar, J. P. Keenan, G. M. Kidd, T. G. Lewis, C. K. Ling, N. R. Loon, C. J. McCormick, Christine E. M. McMullan, Christine Mackie, Adrienne H. Malone, P. Marks, Pamela Marshall, B. R. Bannister, Martin, O. M. G. Murphy, J. R. O'Connell, P. S. O'Neill, D. J. Parker, T. R. Parkington, Patricia Y. Por, S. P. J. Reid, C. P. Robinson, A. M. Robson, Andreas Rydning, G. R. Sant, B. E. A. Scully, Frances E. Shaw, D. J. Sheridan, J. G. Sheridan, Margaret I. Simmons, H. A. Smyth, D. J. P. Stanley, W. A. Tanner, E. J. Taylor, P. J. Taylor, J. Tosh, J. P. Tracey, Susan G. Tyrrell, J. D. Watson.

DIPLOMA IN GYNAECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS.—Q. Ali Amin.

D.P.M.—Elizabeth J. Barnes, Máirín Doherty, I. N. Hosein, Margaret Day Jones, P. M. McAndrew, Máirín Ni Nualláin, P. P. Patel, Mary P. Russell.

FACULTY OF RADIOLOGISTS

On 21 May the following candidates, having satisfied the examiners, were admitted Fellows:

RADIODIAGNOSIS.—Rosemary Anderson, D. L. Asbury, N. S. Blake, M. A. Cheema, P. Davies, G. J. de Lacey, W. B. Evans, R. S. Ferguson, M. J. Gallant, A. J. Gould, Elizabeth A. Hewitt, F. O. Jensen, J. P. Laguna, M. I. Lavelle, G. Lawton, H. Ngan, M. C. Pearson, H. P. Pim, B. J. Preston, B. Ross, Nina Sacharias-Saarela, Louise Sheppard, P. Stanley, G. T. Vaughan, Jennifer M. Weller, Dilys Wills, J. R. M. Wilson.

RADIOTHERAPY.—Joan I. F. Dalton, R. N. Das, Shirley R. Drake, K. A. El-Ghamrawi, P. J. Froud, M. S. H. Motawy, J. V. Watson.

The Rohan Williams medal was awarded to Dr. K. A. El-Ghamrawi, of Glasgow, in radiotherapy.

Dr. M. A. C. Cowell and Dr. R. Astley were admitted Fellows without examination.

Notice to Authors

When original articles and letters for publication are not submitted exclusively to the *British Medical Journal* this must be stated.

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