

date of dispensing is shown on all containers for digoxin tablets.

"It is important to be aware that from 1 October 1975 prescriptions for digoxin tablets will be dispensed with tablets complying with the new specification. To ensure a trouble-free introduction of the new specification it is suggested that reassessment of maintenance dosages is undertaken for patients who may develop digoxin intoxication following the substitution of a better absorbed preparation. The Department has been advised that the following patients should be considered for reassessment:

"(1) The elderly and the young; (2) patients with impaired renal function; (3) patients with low blood potassium; (4) patients receiving concomitant diuretic therapy; (5) Patients with low absorption rates as evidenced by treatment with daily doses of 500 micrograms of digoxin or more.

"Prescribers are reminded that patients who have been given prescriptions dated before 1 October 1975 which are presented for dispensing after this date will be issued with the new standard of tablet. In such instances pharmacists will be advised to consult the prescriber prior to dispensing the prescription if the daily dose is 500 micrograms of digoxin or more, or the patient is a child."

New Vice-chancellor for Queen's University, Belfast

Professor Peter Froggatt, professor of epidemiology and dean of the Faculty of Medicine since 1971, has been appointed president and vice-chancellor of Queen's University, Belfast, from 1 October 1976. Professor Froggatt, who is 47, graduated from Trinity College, Dublin, and has experience of general practice in both Dublin and Northern Ireland, and of industrial medicine; since 1959 he has been successively lecturer, reader, and professor in the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine.

Mental Handicap Inquiry

Mrs. Barbara Castle in a parliamentary answer on 17 July announced the members and the terms of reference of the Committee of Inquiry into the Nursing and Care of the Mentally Handicapped, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Peggy Jay. The committee will "inquire into the nursing and care of the mentally handicapped . . . examine the roles and aims of nurses and residential care staff required by the health and personal social services for the care of mentally handicapped adults and children . . . [consider] the implications for recruitment and training"; and make recommendations.

Among the members of the committee, which contains nurses and social workers, are two consultant psychiatrists, Dr. G. Kerr and Dr. D. Rick.

New Chairman of U.C.C.A.

Dr. H. R. Pitt, vice-chancellor of the University of Reading, has been appointed chairman of the Universities Central Council on Admission from 1 October 1975. He succeeds Dr. G. Templeman, vice-chancellor of the University of Kent, who has been chairman since August 1964.

Amenity Bed Charges Up

From 1 August 1975 amenity accommodation in a single room will cost £3 a day and in a small ward with two or more beds £1.50 a day. When Mrs. Barbara Castle announced that the Government would be introducing legislation to phase out private beds from N.H.S. she also stated that it was the Government's policy "to maintain the system of amenity beds and to build on it" (10 May, p. 346).

People in the News

Professor H. E. de Wardener has been appointed honorary consultant physician to the Army in succession to Sir John Richardson, Bt.

COMING EVENTS

Vth International Conference of the International Association for Accident and Traffic Medicine and 3rd International Conference on Drug Abuse.—1-5 September, London. Details from Conference Services Ltd., the Conference Centre, 43 Charles Street, London, W1X 7PB. (Tel. 01-499 1101.)

10th British Congress on the History of Medicine.—"Social Support and Rehabilitation in Britain, 1725-1975," 2-6 September, York. Details from Dr. John Cule, the Library, St. David's Hospital, Carmarthen, West Wales.

20th Congress of the World Union of Medical Writers.—1-5 October, Amsterdam. Details from Dr. E. Pereira-d'Oliveira, Jacob Obrechtlaan 13, Bussum-1351, Netherlands.

Winchester and Central Hampshire Medical and Dental Federation.—Copies and details of the programme for September to December, 1975, are now available from the Postgraduate Medical Centre, Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, Hants. (Tel. 0962 63535, ext. 422.)

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND

At the quarterly meeting of the council held on 10 July, Sir Rodney Smith was re-elected president, and Mr. R. H. Franklin and Mr. R. S. Handley were re-elected vice-presidents for the ensuing year.

Mr. A. W. Badenoch and Mr. A. S. Frere were admitted to the Court of Patrons.

Mr. G. Qvist was re-admitted and Mr. Ian Todd and Professor G. Slaney were admitted as members of the council of the college. Dr. B. Sellick was admitted to council as an invited representative of the Faculty of Anaesthetists.

Sir Stanley Clayton was admitted as the newly co-opted member of council representing obstetrics and gynaecology.

Professor G. R. Seward was admitted to the Board of Examiners in Dental Surgery.

Dr. A. J. Whitaker was elected to the Fellowship. Professor N. L. Browne and Mr. C. V. Mann were elected to the Court of Examiners in general surgery, and Mr. V. T. Hammond in otolaryngology. The Nuffield prize was awarded to Dr. David J. Gwilt.

At the extraordinary meeting of the council held on 9 July, with Sir Rodney Smith, president, in the chair, Professor E. Polak of Prague was admitted to the honorary Fellowship.

Dr. D. Dooley, Dr. F. Kohn, Dr. R. G. W. Ollerenshaw, Mr. Giles Romanes and Mr. N. Rowe were elected to the Fellowship.

The following were admitted to Fellowship: I. R. Fraser M. C. Bishop, J. H. Cook, P. G. Wragg, D. L. Boase, F. Fisher, M. G. Hoffman, G. J. Benke, W. N. Bodey, P. M. H. Cherry, Helena J. Frank, J. E. Lovegrove, I. S. Fyfe, D. A. Berstock, M. A. Clifton, N. J. R. George, R. H. C. Markham, S. Sircar, R. Bourne, M. M. Henry, A. C. John, R. W. Motson, K. Pearman, P. J. Spalton, C. R. J. Woodhouse, P. R. Allen, P. M. Thompson, R. B. Smith, I. W. Bintlcliffe, D. McK. Craig, D. M. Davies, B. R. Kenning,

F. W. Martin, J. A. Rennie, N. Rushton, A. R. Mundy, Deirdre C. T. Watson, I. G. Kidson, R. E. Mansel, G. D. Rooker, N. S. Bamrah, D. J. Mukherjee, M. Z. U. Khan, N. A. Gibson, K. Nagasayana Rao, O. F. Hanna, M. A. Edalat, S. Mohan, M. R. Weedon, M. S. Abdul Hameed, M. A. J. Al-Ani, J. L. Cooke, S. R. Khan, A. F. C. Pinto, J. P. Dhasmana, B. Balakrishnan, E. F. D'Costa, B. A. R. Falahi, M. R. Fansa, O. du P. Fehrsen, M. R. M. Foda, G. el-D. H. Kazem, M. Masieh-ud-Din, L. S. Monga, K. A-D. Abulata, N. A. Attar, M. A. T. Cook, A. El T. El Tahir, R. I. Hill, B. Hopkinson, D. B. Innes, S. N. Kassis, N. S. Parulekar, K. S. Toor, Meena R. Agrawal, Z. Ahmad, G. W. Arthur, F. J. Bonar, R. K. Chopra, A. K. Chowdhury, Y. E. M. El-Arabi, H. R. Glennie, F. P. Houlihan, R. Nadaraja, S. Sagar, M. K. Souri, D. Vella, C. R. Baldock, R. A. Cartmill, F. M. Charnock, R. F. Dale, J. P. Fleetcroft, P. D. Fogarty, I. W. Forster, D. M. Grosser, W. S. L. Gunasekera, J. S. Harvey, J. R. Hindmarsh, B. K. Kalapesi, A. J. Khan, E. M. Kiely, Maeve A. McDermott, Hymavathy Raman, R. D. Rawlins, K. K. Ray, B. O. O. Songonuga, R. N. Telang, A. Bianchi, P. J. Bore, R. A. Buxton, J. S. Davies, C. P. Forrester-Wood, P. M. G. B. Grimaldi, D. P. Josa, M. S. Kokri, E. R. Lippey, H. W. B. Litchfield, P. Malycha, A. R. Scott, I. H. K. Scott, J. L. Talbot, K. A. Attara, E. T. Bainbridge, R. Baker, A. F. Bedford, H. N. Blackford, R. J. Blunt, W. J. Brawn, R. L. Cable, K. K. Chan, R. G. M. Duffield, A. N. Edwards, J. R. Farndon, D. C. Fermon, S. W. Fountain, P. M. Foy, M. M. S. Glasgow, R. J. R. Goodall, H. P. Henderson, R. J. D'A. Honey, A. J. Howcroft, D. M. Ingram, J. L. Jay, D. J. Leaper, J. R. C. Logie, D. M. Matheson, K. F. Parsons, D. A. Price, L. Rangecroft, V. A. C. Reece, C. Roberts, W. A. M. Saikali, S. D. Singh, P. Stanforth, M. H. Thorneloe, R. R. Ullal, D. Valerio, T. H. Walsh, G. S. E. Dowd, A. R. Hearn, P. J. Milewski, C. Swain, D. M. Thomas, P. Whelan, J. H. N. Wolfe, J. R. Pepper.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH

At the quarterly meeting held on 17 July with Professor J. W. Crofton, president, in the chair, the following were admitted to Fellowship: H. H. Stott, M. Medalie, R. A. Bustamante, G. I. Robertson, A. C. A. Coombes, W. Cooper, S. Sachdev, A. R. Elmubarak, G. M. Lurie, H. M. P. Perera, R. C. Parikh, J. H. Learmonth, L. H. Field, W. D. Elliott, A. M. I. Wasfi, N. J. W. Royston, P. K. Roy, R. G. Mitchell, D. Pittaway, F. P. Retief, L. L. Wilson, W. G. Wenley, T. D. P. G. Pillai, S. Kumar, J. D. W. Fisher, K. P. Sinha, S. M. O. Hilal, H. Ranasinghe, B. Simpson, I. M. Breckenridge, Alice Shun-Han Chau, A. C. Ikeme, Oon Swee Yeoh, J. A. Aitken, R. S. Mellick, J. Schneeweis, M. S. Grewal, K. B. Harveyson, N. R. M. Buist, N. T. A. Byam, C. G. Uragoda, F. C. O. Adi, H. H. Youssef, R. G. Luke, C. C. Kar, A. L. Bass, G. M. Cochran, J. M. C. Williamson, S. Gopalakrishnan, G. M. McAndrew, K. S. Shubair, A. H. Al-Abasi, A. N. Patel, P. W. Kershaw, M. K. Strelling, J. Le Gassick, B. H. R. Stack, P. J. L. Holt, A. V. Shetty, H. N. Khatri, N. R. Pal, S. E. Siddiqui, J. J. Huston, I. B. Sardharwalla, J. B. Morley, E. D. Silove, P. D. Bewsher, N. Mackay, J. J. B. Petrie, B. E. Marshall, E. T. Young, M. C. Gupta, T. B. Stephens, M. F. El-Islam, T. I. McBride, J. K. Campbell, P. C. Ganguli, W. P. U. Kennedy, E. M. R. Critchley, J. D. Briggs, T. R. W. Hampton, T. C. Hindson, T. F. P. Mackintosh, G. P. Duffy, N. M. Baker, A. S. T. Wee, A. W. Blair, A. J. Akhtar, D. M. Roberts, A. J. Radford, S. Nagaswami, H. Ikram, Myo Min (Tan, Cyril), M. A. Salmon, El-S. K. Assem, A. M. Patel, J. K. Brown, Anne E. Walker, T. K. Chan, D. H. Lawson, V. Mikian, A. M. Martin, R. L. G. Sutcliffe, D. N. S. Malone, A. L. Muir, S. K. Kajubi, A. G. Mowat, M. W. C. Yeung, C. Y. Yeung, W. G. M. Ritchie, F. Harris, A. R. Milne, A. R. Cini, R. Astley, E. Housley, A. B. Kay.

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