

greater concentration of resources on preventive measures and on child dental health, according to the *Report of the Working Party on Integration of Dental Services* published recently by the Scottish Home and Health Department. A working party of dentists under the chairmanship of Dr. J. L. Trainer, Chief Dental Officer of the Scottish Home and Health Department, considered the organization of the dental role in the Health Service in Scotland in the context of N.H.S. reorganization in April 1974. The dental profession, the Secretary of State, and the health authorities are not committed to the report's recommendations, which are intended as a basis for discussion.

The report states that though oral health has improved since the N.H.S. began dental disease still affects the great majority of the population and the state of children's teeth is a matter of special concern. Among the matters requiring study the working party suggest the increased use of ancillary staff, arrangements encouraging dentists to join more widely in health centre practice, and the development of an emergency service.

#### National Health Service Ombudsman

Sir Alan S. Marre, C.B., Second Permanent Secretary for the Department of Health and Social Security since 1968, has been appointed Health Service Commissioner (Ombudsman) for the National Health Service in England, Scotland, and Wales after the passing of the National Health Service Reorganization Bill which was introduced in the House of Lords last week (see *Leading article* at p. 444). Sir Alan who is 58 was educated at St. Olave's and St. Saviour's Grammar School, Southwark, and Trinity Hall Cambridge. He joined the Ministry of Health in 1936, becoming principle in 1941. He was assistant secretary from 1946 until 1952 when he was appointed under-secretary. He was transferred to the Ministry of Labour as under-secretary in 1963 and in 1964 became Deputy Secretary at the Ministry of Health. In 1966 he was appointed Deputy Secretary at the Ministry of Labour. Sir Alan is to combine his present post with that which he already holds as Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration.



Universal Pictorial Press

was appointed Health Service Commissioner (Ombudsman) for the National Health Service in England, Scotland, and Wales after the passing of the National Health Service Reorganization Bill which was introduced in the House of Lords last week (see *Leading article* at p. 444). Sir Alan who is 58 was educated at St. Olave's and St. Saviour's Grammar School, Southwark, and Trinity Hall Cambridge. He joined the Ministry of Health in 1936, becoming principle in 1941. He was assistant secretary from 1946 until 1952 when he was appointed under-secretary. He was transferred to the Ministry of Labour as under-secretary in 1963 and in 1964 became Deputy Secretary at the Ministry of Health. In 1966 he was appointed Deputy Secretary at the Ministry of Labour. Sir Alan is to combine his present post with that which he already holds as Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration.

#### Blind Children

Far-reaching recommendations for the education of blind and partly blind children were made last week in the report of the committee of inquiry set up by the Secretary of State for Education in 1968. The report, *The Education of the Visually Handicapped*, is published by H.M.S.O. price £1.00. It recommends that all children should have their sight tested at child health clinics and that while at school children should have repeat tests every year. Other recommendations include making genetic counselling available to parents and older children; regular links between school for the blind and child guidance services; and a suggestion that blind children should

have general medical examinations more often than sighted children. The recommendations on the organization of schooling for these children are based on the principle that every effort should be made to keep them at home and to give their parents guidance and help with their management. Boarding schools—possibly weekly boarding—would be used only if there was no suitable school within an hour's journey of the child's home.

#### Diabetics Register

Physicians and paediatricians throughout Britain will soon be receiving forms from the British Diabetic Association for the registration of newly diagnosed diabetics under the age of 16. The association aims to build up a comprehensive register which will give information on geographical and seasonal variations in the incidence of the disease. A fee will be payable for completing the forms: the costs will be met by the association.

#### Kidneys for Transplantation

General practitioners and hospitals are to be given supplies of a card on which the bearer can declare that he is willing for his kidneys to be transplanted after death. Announcing this in the House of Commons last week, Sir Keith Joseph said that the scheme had been introduced with the agreement of the representatives of the medical profession.

#### COMING EVENTS

**Royal College of Physicians of London.**—(1) Teach-in, "Chronic Bronchitis," 5 December, 8 p.m. (2) Growing points in medicine session, "Current Concepts in Diabetes," 6 December, 2.15 p.m. For details see advertisement on page xvi.

**Pakistan Medical Association.**—First joint clinical conference of P.M.A. Lahore and Multan Branches, 8-10 December, Lahore. Details from Dr. M. Kamal, P.M.A., Lahore Branch, Mela Ram Road, Lahore, Pakistan.

**Royal Medical Society, Edinburgh.**—Copies and details of the programme of lectures and meetings, 1972-3, are obtainable from the business convener, Royal Medical Society, 3 Hill Square, Edinburgh EH8 9DR. (Tel. 031-667 7969.)

#### 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.*

#### Sunday, 26 November

**INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOLARYNGOLOGY.**—10.15 a.m., Seminar for general practitioners by Mr. R. F. McNab Jones.

#### Monday, 27 November

**INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.**—4.30 p.m., Dr. M. Feivel: Control of Pigmentation.

**ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE.**—6 p.m., Jephcott lecture by Professor J. K. Galbraith (Harvard): Economics—Unequal Development and the Theory of Social Action.

#### Tuesday, 28 November

**INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.**—4.30 p.m., Dr. Y. M. Clayton: Role of Fungi in Disease.

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.**—5 p.m., Arris and Gale lecture by Mr. J. W. S. Rickett: Pierment Load after Surgery and its Relation to Jaundice.

#### Wednesday, 29 November

**INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY.**—6 p.m., Dr. G. Dean: Epidemiology of Multiple Sclerosis; 7 p.m., Dr. I. McDonald: Pathophysiology in Multiple Sclerosis.

**INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY.**—5.30 p.m., Edward Mapother lecture by Dr. C. P. Blacker: The Confluence of Psychiatry and Demography.

**INSTITUTE OF UROLOGY.**—5 p.m., Dr. G. A. Rose: Biochemical Aspects of Calculous Disease.

**OXFORD UNIVERSITY.**—At Radcliffe Infirmary, 5 p.m., Dr. D. T. Durack: An Experimental Study of Endocarditis.

#### Thursday, 30 November

**FACULTY OF HOMOOPATHY, LONDON.**—5 p.m., Dr. R. A. Hunter: Psychiatry and Neurology—Retrospect and Prospect (illustrated).

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH.**—2.30 p.m., John Matheson Shaw lecture by Professor G. W. A. Dick: Present Day Role of Immunization.

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.**—5.30 p.m., Mr. A. F. Wallace: Repair of Secondary Oropharyngeal Defects.

**ROYAL POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL.**—4 p.m., Professor R. Mahler: Studies in Diabetes.

**ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.**—5.15 p.m., Miss Madeleine Simms: Abortion Law and Medical Freedom.

**SOCIALIST MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.**—At House of Commons, 7.30 p.m., Dr. H. W. Whiles: Development of Adult and Child Psychiatry in India.

**INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY.**—6 p.m., Neuro-otological meeting on Neurological Causes of Dysphagia and its Treatment, with talk by Mr. P. Mills: Cricopharyngeal Sphincterotomy.

**INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOLARYNGOLOGY.**—At Royal College of Surgeons of England, 5.30 p.m., Mr. A. F. Wallace: Repair of Secondary Oropharyngeal Defects.

#### Friday, 1 December

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH.**—2 p.m., Sydney Watson Smith lecture by Professor A. L. Cochrane: Future of Preventive Medicine.

**ROYAL POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL.**—11 a.m., Surgical Oncology course.

#### UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

##### LONDON

The title of professor emeritus of pathology has been conferred on Professor I. Friedmann "for his services to the university and to his subject."

#### APPOINTMENTS

**NEWCASTLE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.**—Dr. A. R. Morley (consultant in pathology, Newcastle University group); Dr. C. E. Baptiste (consultant in anaesthetics, North and South Teesside group); Dr. G. Tildesley (consultant in general medicine, Hartlepool group); Dr. A. M. Hasan (consultant in geriatrics and general medicine, South Shields District group); Dr. M. S. Sutherland (consultant in psychiatry, North Teesside and Winton, and Sedgefield groups).

**NORTH-EAST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.**—Mr. J. D. Jeremiah (consultant orthopaedic surgeon, Forest group); Dr. Ann F. Naylor (consultant anaesthetist, South Essex group); Dr. A. J. D. Farquharson (consultant geriatrician, South Essex group); Dr. C. D. Binnie (consultant clinical neurophysiologist, Runwell Hospital, joint appointment with St. Bartholomew's Hospital); Dr. G. H. Tomkin (consultant physician, Tottenham group); Dr. J. F. Britzman (consultant physician, South Essex group); Dr. D. S. Tunstall Pedoe (consultant physician, Hackney group, joint appointment with St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College); Dr. Vissarion Tsouliadis (consultant radiologist, Harlow group); Dr. C. B. R. Mohandas (medical assistant in the treatment of the mentally handicapped, Royal Eastern Counties group).

#### Notice to Authors

When original articles and letters for publication are not submitted exclusively to the *British Medical Journal* this must be stated. Accepted articles may subsequently be selected for publication in the North American monthly edition.

Correspondence on editorial business should be addressed to the Editor, *British Medical Journal*, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR. Telephone: 01-387 4499. Telegrams: *Aitiology, London, W.C.I.*

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

#### © British Medical Journal 1972

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*.