

E.B.S.

The King's Fund has issued its 36th annual report on the Emergency Bed Service for the year ended 31 March 1974. According to the report, 5,000 fewer applications were made to the E.B.S. than in the previous year, possibly because there was no serious outbreak of influenza in the winter concerned. One of the shortcomings of the service mentioned is that as many as one in six patients required the use of the medical referee to secure admission. The report is critical of the time wasted in admission being refused by a number of hospitals, with acceptance finally made at the hospital of first inquiry through invoking the services of the medical referee. Better record keeping in the hospital admissions office is recommended to help reduce these problems.

Despite the reorganization of the N.H.S. and the new four regional health authorities for London, the E.B.S. anticipates that its service will continue in the present form for the foreseeable future. *King's Fund Emergency Bed Service*, 36th Annual Report, is available free of charge from Mr. I. Roberts, Secretary, Emergency Bed Service, Fielden House, 28/42 London Bridge Street, London SE1 9SG.

Consultation Techniques

A grant of £38,000 has been awarded by the Leverhulme Trust to Professor J. Knox (department of general practice), Mr. A. Morrison (department of education), and Mr. D. Alexander (department of audio-visual aids), all of the University of Dundee, for a three-year study on medical interviewing. The award is to be used to form a team of clinician, social scientist, film technician, and secretary, which will work with doctors in hospital and in practice to study different techniques in medical interviewing. Doctors' opinions will be sounded and simulated interviews conducted in an effort to produce an audiovisual teaching programme on interviewing for medical students.

Advisory Commission on Alcoholism

The Minister of State at the Department of Health and Social Security, Dr. David Owen, is to set up a committee to advise the Secretary of State on Services connected with alcoholism. Professor Neil Kessel has agreed to be chairman, and the members will be selected on the basis of recommendations from the professional health services, local government authorities, and appropriate voluntary bodies. The committee will be set up for an experimental period of three years in the first instance, and one of its stated functions is "to appoint a subgroup especially charged with promoting the development of services for homeless alcoholics."

Swedish Research Scholarships

The Swedish National Association against Heart and Chest Diseases is to award three research scholarships tenable for one year in Sweden. Each is for 25,000 Swedish Crowns (approximately £2,350) and the scholarships are open to non-Swedish cardiologists and chest physicians.

Applicants should produce evidence of ability in research in cardiovascular or lung diseases, and should propose a particular problem which they would like to study in Sweden. Ability to speak and understand Swedish, English, French, or German is essential.

The World Health Organization is to assist in selecting candidates, and application forms (WHO 379) are available only from W.H.O. Headquarters: Office of Science and Technology, World Health Organization, Avenue Appia, 1211 Geneva-27, Switzerland. The forms must be received by W.H.O. Headquarters in Geneva before 28 February 1975.

Asthma and Emphysema

The tenth edition of *Breathing Control for Asthma and Emphysema* has recently been published in a completely revised and up-to-date form. Most of the illustrations are new photographs which explain the exercises described in the text. There are sections on general breathing exercises and relaxation, children's exercises, breathing control for older patients and during physical exertion, more advanced exercises, and graded exercises towards athletic fitness. Copies are available from the Asthma Research Council's offices at 12 Pembridge Square, London W2 4EH, price 60p., post free.

COMING EVENTS

"Diseases of Colon and Rectum."—Course of morning lectures, 14-18 October, St. Mark's Hospital, City Road, London EC1V 2PS. Fee £15. Application to dean of postgraduate studies, at the hospital. (Tel. 01-253 8821, extn. 36.)

University College of London.—Freud memorial public lectures, "Developments in Psychoanalysis—from Mechanisms of the Mind to Dynamics of the Person," by Dr. J. D. Sutherland, Mondays, 5.30 p.m., 14, 21, 28 October, 4, 11, 18, 25 November, 2, 9 December, at Christopher Ingold Laboratories, Gordon Street, London W.C.1.

National Association for the Welfare of Children in Hospital.—Annual conference, "The Child out of Hospital" (home-care for sick children), 16 October, Church House, London S.W.1. Fee £5.75 (including lunch). Applications to the conference secretary, N.A.W.C.H., 7 Exton Street, London SE1 8VE. (Tel. 01-261 1738.)

Society of Occupational Medicine.—Symposium, "Occupational Health in Hospitals," 25 October, Royal Society, London S.W.1, open to all medical practitioners. Details and tickets from the secretary, S.O.M., 11 St. Andrew's Place, London NW1 4LE. (Tel. 01-486 2641.)

Glasgow University Club, London.—Annual dinner, 31 October, 7 for 7.30 p.m., Cumberland Hotel, London W.1. Principal speaker, Sir Alec Cairncross. Applications to Dr. J. F. Heggie, 94 Wynchgate, Southgate, London N14 6RN.

Royal College of Physicians of London.—Clinicopathological conference, 31 October, 2.30 p.m. For details see advertisement on page 16.

B.M.A. (Welsh Council).—Meeting, 2 November, Welsh National School of Medicine, Cardiff, 2 p.m., clinical meeting arranged by Cardiff Division (tickets not required); 6.30 p.m., Welsh oration, "Is the End of the World at Hand?"; by Mr. John Maddox (guests are welcome and tickets are obtainable in advance); 7.45 for 8 p.m., dinner at Lakeside Restaurant (tickets £2 per person). Requests for tickets and further information should be made to the Welsh Secretary, B.M.A. House, 195 Newport Road, Cardiff CF2 1UE. (Tel. 0222 25336.)

Edinburgh Postgraduate Board for Medicine.—Copies and details of the programme of courses, 1974-5, are obtainable from the postgraduate dean of the board, Pfizer Foundation, Hill Square, Edinburgh EH8 9DR. (Tel. 031-667 1011, extn. 2502/3.)

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.

Monday, 7 October

B.B.C. 2 TELEVISION.—7.05 p.m., The National Health: 1948 and All That.
INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—4.30 p.m., Dr. C. D. Calman: Dermatologic Diagnosis.
INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Clinicopathological conference.
MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—At Edward Lewis theatre, 7.30 p.m., meeting: T-Suppressor Cells.

Tuesday, 8 October

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—4.30 p.m., Dr. A. Jarrett: Keratin Formation.
INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. A. Everette James (Johns Hopkins): Imaging Procedures as a Reflection of C.S.F. Physiology—Clinical and Experimental.

Wednesday, 9 October

INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. I. C. Lodge Patch: Treatment or Punishment—a Nineteenth Century Scandal.
ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF EDINBURGH.—3 p.m., Professor D. E. Poswillo: Some Facts and Fallacies about Facial Deformity.
ST MARY'S HOSPITAL, LONDON.—6 p.m. Dr. M. Morgan: Neuroleptanalgesia.

Thursday, 10 October

ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY.—5 p.m., Professor W. C. MacKenzie (Alberta): Quality of Life and Dignity of Death.
ST MARY'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—5.15 p.m., Professor J. J. Hoet (Louvain, Belgium): Adaptation of Fetal and Maternal Pancreas to Diabetes.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES**LONDON UNIVERSITY**

Dr. D. J. Evans, senior lecturer in histopathology at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, has been appointed to the readership in histopathology at that school.

The title of professor in the subject indicated has been conferred on the following:

Dr. Deborah Doniach (clinical immunology, Middlesex Hospital Medical School); Dr. A. E. Jones (radiotherapy, St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College); Dr. June K. Lloyd (paediatrics, Institute of Child Health).

The title of reader in the subject indicated has been conferred on the following:

Dr. P. D. Byers (morbid anatomy, Institute of Orthopaedics); Dr. J. R. T. Colley (paediatric epidemiology, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine); Dr. W. A. Lishman (neuro-psychiatry, Institute of Psychiatry).

APPOINTMENTS

MANCHESTER A.H.A.(T).—The following consultants have been appointed: Dr. E. G. Bradshaw (anaesthetics); Mr. M. Shafiq (general surgery, with interest in vascular surgery).

TRENT R.H.A.—Dr. Douglas Lee (deputy director, Regional Blood Transfusion Service).

Notice to Authors

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