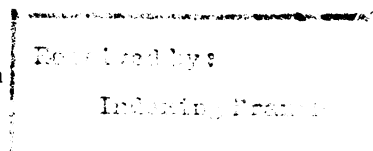




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| 530 Immunotherapy and hay fever<br>L M McEwen, BM; Sybil Birtwistle, MB; A B Kay,<br>FRCP, and others   | 535 Psychologists warn against community charge<br>K Nadesalingam, FRCPSYCH                                 |
| 531 Reducing junior doctors' hours<br>M D Flynn, MRCP; C Raine, MB, and J B Irving,<br>FRCP             | 535 Modified shooting sticks<br>A Ferguson, MRCP  |
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## 538 **Medicine and the Media** Nine days' wonder Margaret Cooter

## 539 **Personal View** Under siege in Kuwait Maurice Wooldridge

## 540 **Medicine and Books**

- 540 Alex Paton: *Preventing Alcohol and Tobacco Problems*. Vol 1. "The Addiction Market: Consumption, Production and Policy Development" (Ed A Maynard, P Tether). Vol 2. "Manipulating Consumption: Information, Law and Voluntary Controls" (Ed C Godfrey, D Robinson)
- 540 Jean Ginsburg: *Handbook of Drug Therapy in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility* (Ed M E Rivlin)
- 541 A S Mee: *Inflammatory Bowel Diseases*. 2nd edn. (Ed R N Allan, M R B Keighley, J Alexander-Williams, C F Hawkins)

## 542 **Minerva**

## EDITOR'S CHOICE

# BMJ

As philosophers have long known semantics is a fruitful source of argument. In response to Vandenberg's recent editorial on the use of the word "prospective" correspondents from around the world weigh in with admonitions and alternatives (p 528). The "Gardner effect" is more than a question of semantics: this week's *Medicine and the Media* describes the fallout from the paper we published a year ago linking childhood leukaemia to paternal exposure to radiation (p 538). Defining deprivation remains contentious, with Professor Brian Jarman responding to recent criticisms of his underprivileged

area score (p 527). Another persistent source of argument among general practitioners is the regulations on health promotion clinics. Though these have been eased recently, Dr S Amiel and colleagues voice the concern of many general practitioners about the whole concept of these clinics (p 527). Finally, as stories of atrocities continue to emerge from Kuwait city, Maurice Wooldridge's account (p 539) of hiding in the city after Iraqi soldiers invaded last summer reminds us of what Kuwaitis were already suffering—and of the courage of individual doctors and citizens.