

awards for outstanding ability in basic sciences and obstetrics. He worked in obstetrics for two years before entering general practice. He settled in permanent practice in Arundel, Sussex in 1960.

He initiated multidisciplinary team care in his practice and developed particular interests in geriatrics and medical education. He directed the West Sussex Vocational Training Scheme for three years and was a founder member of the Chichester Postgraduate Centre. He acted as college tutor for six years and was an important member of various postgraduate education committees.

In 1975, he and his family travelled to the University of North Carolina, USA, where he held the post, initially of Visiting Professor, and subsequently that of Vice-Chairman of the Department of Family Medicine. This was a period of great productivity and personal growth in which he developed interests in educational

evaluation and teaching. In addition he created, with his wife, Pam, a highly effective group approach to the treatment of psychosomatic disorders. Together they also initiated a practical curriculum in behavioural medicine for vocational trainees, with a special emphasis on the stresses experienced by doctors and their families.

In 1978, he moved to Ohio State University, Ohio, as a full Professor and Director of the residency training programme (vocational training), to take up the challenge of consolidating and enlarging the reputation of the Department of Family Medicine. At the time of his tragic death, he had entered a new and vigorous phase of publication and teaching and will be sorely missed by his family, friends, associates, and students. The discipline of family medicine has lost a fine teacher and educator.

PETER CURTIS

Dennis Vernon Duckworth, MB, BS, FRCGP

DENNIS Vernon Duckworth died on 16 April 1980, in his 58th year. He was born in Lahore and educated in India where his father was a member of the British Army.

In 1942 he joined the Indian Army Corps of Signals and served in the Far East, mainly in Burma, being mentioned in dispatches.

On demobilization in 1946 he entered Guy's Hospital Medical School from which he graduated MB, BS in 1953 having taken the LMSSA the previous year. He was House Officer at Bethnal Green Hospital and Resident Medical Officer at St Andrew's Hospital, Dollis Hill, and in 1954 joined his father-in-law, the late Dr A. J. Williamson, in general practice in Watford. On the retirement of his senior partners, Dr Duckworth amalgamated his practice with another group practice in Watford and his skill as a physician and his devotion to his patients became widely respected.

Always keen on continuing education, he pressed for the establishment of a Postgraduate Medical Centre in Watford and became an active supporter when it was opened.

He obtained the MRCGP by examination in 1972 and was elected to the fellowship of the College in 1978, an

honour of which he was proud. He was honorary secretary of the West Herts and Watford Medical Society for 10 years, a post he held with distinction.

For relaxation he climbed the mountains of Scotland and in 1972 his interest in radio was rekindled and he became a most enthusiastic radio ham with contacts around the world.

Early in 1976 weakness of his shoulder heralded the onset of motor neurone disease which forced his retirement from practice later in the year. He bore his progressive weakness with bravery, cared for in his home with great devotion by his wife, Julie, and his family. It was a joy to all that he was able to cradle his first grandchild, who was born two months before he died.

Dennis, in practice, showed us how to be a good family doctor and how to live life to the full; in dying he showed us how to face handicap and death with dignity and courage. His Christian faith showed in his living and his dying, and brought tranquillity to his home and to those who visited him.

To his wife, Julie, who cared for him throughout his illness, and to their two sons and two daughters, we extend our deepest sympathy and our admiration.

DAVID H. S. CANNON

Max Pearl, FRCGP

DR Max Pearl, of Auckland, was accidentally drowned on 27 April 1980, while trout fishing in the Waikato river at the fly-fishing resort of Taupo, New Zealand. He was aged 56.

As well as being a popular and respected general practitioner over the past 30 years, a clinical lecturer in general practice in the Department of Community Health in the University of Auckland School of Medi-

cine, and an officer of the Student Health Service, Max was Medical Director of the Himalayan Trust Board under Sir Edmund Hillary, and also Chairman of the Medical Committee of the New Zealand Volunteer Service Abroad scheme.

A large crowd, both medical and non-medical, gathered at St Andrew's Church in Auckland on 1 May to pay their respects to Max and to express sympathy to his wife, Lois, and his three daughters in their sudden and tragic loss.