

to my. The post is paid and there is a comfortable office, secretarial help and transport if necessary. Would any reader who knows anyone who might be suitable and would be interested to undertake this work write to me, J. A. Spencer, chairman, Colostomy Welfare Group, or to Miss Frances Goodall, chairman of the Steering Committee, at St. Luke's Hospital, Sydney Street, London, S.W.3.

London, S.W.3.

J. A. SPENCER.

Reviews of Recordings

Urinary trace neoplasms in rubber workers. Recording by DR JOHN MACDOUGALL. The College Medical Recording Service and Sound Library.

This is a brief recording (18 minutes) dealing with the serious problem of malignant neoplasm of the urinary tract. This disease is increasing faster than would be expected from the ageing of the population at large. It is more likely to occur in those who have been exposed to chemicals used in rubber manufacture 15 to 20 years ago.

Although the disease is relatively rare to the general practitioner, the fact that the prognosis is much worse if diagnosis is delayed makes it necessary for him to keep it in mind. He should always investigate carefully any patient who has been working with rubber in previous years if such a patient complains of haematuria or even dysuria.

Marital problems. Recording by DR SYLVIA DAWKINS. The College Medical Recording Service and Sound Library.

In this recording Dr Dawkins stresses that marital problems seldom present overtly to the general practitioner but appear in the guise of psychosomatic or psychosexual complaints—frigidity, dyspareunia, impotence etc.—which have little or no physical basis. The doctor can help most by being a sympathetic but perceptive listener, helping the patient to think out his or her problems but avoiding direct advice of the "if I were you" category.

In one respect Dr Dawkins views are, perhaps, controversial. She advises strongly against seeing each partner separately alone and suggests that either both partners are seen together or that one be referred to a colleague, thus avoiding the dangers for the doctor of being manipulated or forced to take sides. Marriage guidance clinics frequently interview spouses separately and many doctors may feel that they can be of more help by following this procedure, despite the risks involved.

The second side of the recording takes the form of a question and answer session, the questions being put by Dr Valerie Graves on common aspects of these problems as they arise in general practice. Is it worth probing into chronic marital discord if one feels the situation cannot be altered? When should one refer the patient to a psychiatrist? These and other questions are discussed fully and sympathetically.

Marital problems are commonplace in general practice and often produce a feeling of helplessness in the medical attendant. This recording should go a long way to increasing his knowledge and confidence and can be strongly recommended.