

important changes in the behavioural patterns of society, its rate of growth, and perhaps its quality. An investigation of these trends must be a very serious responsibility, but the study has been designed so that the effort demanded is within the capability of any general practitioner who accepts this challenge.

The special structure of the National Health Service and the collective research experience of the College have presented to general practitioners in the United Kingdom this unique opportunity to evaluate one of the most important medicosocial revolutions of our time, and we must not fail in our task.

REGISTER OF RESEARCH PROJECTS

In 1962 the Research Committee of The Royal College of General Practitioners compiled a register of research which was being undertaken in general practice. The purpose was two-fold. Experience had shown that much research was being carried out with little co-ordination between workers in any particular field, hence experience learned in one study might not be utilized another time. It was found that several projects were in progress at the same time on very similar subjects, but that owing to lack of co-ordination at the planning stage, the results were not comparable because different definitions and yardsticks of measurement had been employed.

At present there are 699 entries, of which 154 are of completed projects which are not to be published; 323 are of projects completed and being prepared for publication; 56 are projects in which either pilot or main study is proceeding and 26 studies are at the planning stage. The remainder are those which have been abandoned for various reasons at any stage and it is often from those with experience of unsuccessful projects that most helpful advice may be obtained.

This register depends for success upon being up to date in order to keep workers in similar fields in touch with one another, to the benefit of their work.

Information on research work at any stage from inception to completion is welcome for inclusion. Inquiries and information should be addressed to *Dr R. M. Griffiths, Honorary Registrar, The Research Committee of Council, The Royal College of General Practitioners, 14 Princes Gate, London, S.W.7.*