

## Correspondence

### Professional (vocational) training—the present position

Sir,

I have today received my copy of the *Journal*, and turned with some interest to read the letter from the chairman of the Vocational Training Subcommittee. I was surprised to see that the list of existing vocational training schemes did not include the scheme currently in operation in Kettering.

We started talking about our scheme early in 1968, and ever since the definitive formation of this department in November 1968, we have been most particular to include the Royal College in all our deliberations. Indeed, at our formative meeting the honorary secretary of the Thames Valley Faculty, was present, and played a constructive part. Further to this, Dr Slater, the honorary secretary to College Council, was informed of our intentions in November, 1968, and from early in 1969, we have been represented on the Thames Valley Faculty Education Subcommittee with whom our every move has been discussed. It is worth adding that we have also submitted all our ideas, plans, and final schemes to the Oxford University Committee for Postgraduate Studies who, in co-operation with the Regional Board, have had to approve everything which we have done.

There is a lot of interest in this sort of scheme amongst the junior hospital staff, and it is discouraging when interested doctors come up to me, with the current duplicated list, obtained from the Royal College, of the available schemes, and to have my attention drawn to the fact that our scheme is not included in this list. This, coupled with Dr J. Horder's letter in the *Journal* has prompted me to write this letter.

I do hope that the omission is an isolated one, and that other areas have not suffered in the same way; and that the Vocational Training Subcommittee will see to it that in future all information given to them directly, or via Faculty Education Subcommittees will be incorporated into its printed information at an early date. Above all, I hope that the omission is not due to

our relative isolation from the centres of power.

Can I take this opportunity to let your readers know that we have our first trainee in post, a second starting shortly, and a third currently being 'processed'.

General Hospital,  
Rothwell Road,  
Kettering,  
Northants.

NOEL CASH,  
Director,  
Department of  
General Practice  
Studies.

### Vocational training

Sir,

I am sorry that the Kettering scheme has not yet appeared in the list of vocational training schemes. This was a summary of information available to me on the 1 Sept. 1969. I first heard of the Kettering scheme on the 8 February, 1970—from Dr Cash himself. Communication between faculties and college headquarters needs to be closer.

The omission is almost certainly not an isolated one—indeed I hope it is not, because there are a number of schemes in other parts of the country in the stage of planning. Some may have started. Others may be unknown to me. I hope that this correspondence will cause other people to send information about schemes which did not appear in the list.

London.

JOHN HORDER,  
Chairman, Vocational  
Training Subcommittee.

### Public health examination combined with multiple screening tests in general practice

Sir,

Those of us who have, over the last few years, been advocating the value of screening as part of primary medical care, cannot but be encouraged by the experience of Dr Taylor and others who have managed to introduce some form of screening into their general practices.

In most warmly congratulating Dr Taylor