

Only two of them presented with a definite chest symptom, one with haemoptysis and one with chronic cough. Three just had general malaise and illustrate how important it is to think of carcinoma as a possible diagnosis in patients of this age. The sixth case suggested an abdominal complaint and the lesion was on the opposite side of the body to the symptoms.

It is interesting that two of the patients were reluctant to have special investigations.

Comment

Many articles have been written about this present day disease with pros and cons about causation and it is not my intention with these few cases to present anything new in this direction. Rather it is to emphasise its importance today and reflect on my opening remarks about typhoid. Will we be making a diagnosis of carcinoma of lung with such frequency thirty years hence? *What shall we think of next?*

Abstracts and Annotations

Annals of General Practice, Volume III, Part 3. (September, 1958), published by the Australian College of General Practitioners.

The Australian College is now autonomous but closely connected to its parent in the United Kingdom. The *Annals* is naturally largely given over to the consequent changes. Regulations are published for the government of the Australian College, and there are provisions for election to fellowship or honorary fellowship, and admission to associateship or membership. The rules for admission to membership are much the same as at present hold here.

The editor of the *Annals* writes some advice for intending contributors, and publishes a succinct article on the "Preparation of Manuscripts for Publication," valuable for its comments on usage and common errors. A scheme is also afoot for each Faculty "to contribute the whole contents of an issue except for routine notices, etc." and the *Annals* will start publishing abstracts on current therapy for the benefit of those who have little time for reading.

A detailed article deals with civil defence as it affects the general practitioner. News of council activities, faculty notes and some reports on research projects complete the issue.

How Important are Psychogenic Symptoms? JOHN HORDER, B.M.,
M.R.C.P. *The Practitioner* (January 1959), **182**, 96.

Dr Horder discusses the psychogenic type of illness and its management by the family doctor. He stresses the increasing attention given to functional states, and the necessity for their logical treatment. After condemning attempts to fob off such patients by treating their symptoms as if they had an organic basis, he admits the difficulty of finding enough time for psychotherapy. Some solution to the time problem must be found, he says, and he denies that taking neurosis seriously is likely to make it worse, nor will it thereby become more common.

A Note on Influenzal Complications in an Epidemic. W. P. GRIFFIN,
M.D. *The Practitioner* (November, 1958), **181**, 621.

Dr Griffin describes the treatment of epidemic influenza cases in a London practice. Of 660 seen, 9 per cent were bad risks through pre-existing disease or complications, and these more ill patients were given penicillin and sulphonamide therapy without any delay. Dr Griffin discusses the advantages of this course and gives his results—one fulminating case not diagnosed in time, but no other severely ill patients.

Public Welfare Foundation Prize Competition 1959

The Council is glad to be able to announce that this competition will again be held in 1959. Six prizes of £40 each will be awarded to the six most successful candidates in a competition which is open to senior students of all Medical Schools in the United Kingdom and Eire. The closing date for entries is August 1st, 1959.

We invite the co-operation of all members and associates who are in touch with students from their local Medical School to give these students every possible assistance in preparing material for this Competition. They are reminded that further information about this Competition can be found on pages 10-12 of the booklet *On Undergraduate Education and the General Practitioner*, which was issued in August 1958 as a supplement to the Journal of the College.