

so planned as to bring out the personality of the individual. He must never be led to think that organization is an end in itself. Whilst we know from our acquaintance with hospital medicine that good medicine can be practised in quite unfit surroundings, it is essential that a trainee should be allowed to work only in surroundings that are at least satisfactory and properly staffed.

The time will not be far distant when practitioners who have undertaken the full gamut of training and have achieved the distinction of membership of the Royal College will be seeking practice vacancies. It is necessary for the success of the scheme of training that these doctors be given due preference when partnership vacancies are being filled. We are at present training 'dedicated' doctors, we must ensure that they will not, at the end of their training, find that others less conscientious have beaten them in the race for full partnership in a general practice. The college journal can help in this respect. The classified advertisement columns are at the disposal of members seeking partners and assistants and could be used more frequently for this purpose.

REFERENCES

- The future general practitioner*, (the fourth report of a working party). Reports from general practice, No. 14. March 1971.
 Horder, J. P. (1971). Training for general practice. *Journal of the Royal College of Physicians*. London, 5, 187.

MISS IRENE SCAWN

AT the conclusion of the business of the publication committee held on Sunday, 13 December, Miss Scawn was presented with a silver fruit basket to mark the termination of her connection with the college Journal. In making the presentation the President said there was a time when the present Journal existed in the form of a type written foolscap sheet published by Dr Pinsent's office. Towards the end of 1953 the Research Committee took over the increasing number of tasks previously borne by Dr Pinsent alone. It was at that time Dr McConaghey took on the publication of the Committee's Research News Letter. The College did not know how fortunate it was when Miss Scawn agreed to help Dr McConaghey with this new task as she had done previously with other secretarial work. By her skill and business acumen there can be no doubt that Miss Scawn played a fundamental rôle in bringing the Journal to its present state of world renown. Whatever the future may hold it can be said with certainty that without Miss Scawn it would have had no past.

On behalf of the officers of Council, the administrative secretary, members of the Publications Committee and Editorial Board, and from the whole College, Dr Watson asked Miss Scawn to accept a very lovely piece of silver as a token of their admiration and gratitude for her inspired craftsmanship in helping to create the Journal of RCGP. He said that if she looked at it closely she would find no inscription—only the hallmark for 1835. It was hoped that with the inner eye she would read in this gift somewhere a far deeper message than any members could put into words. He added "We can only say thank you to you for sharing so many of your active years".

Miss Scawn, in reply, said she was overwhelmed. Whatever she had been able to do for the College and the Journal, she had done willingly and loved it. She had many happy memories which she would cherish and the silver would remind her of her term in the College always. She paid tribute to the work done by Drs Pinsent, Watson and Swift in the early days of the Journal: also to Dr Lawson who had a very difficult time in his first year as chairman of the Publications Committee. Her heartfelt thanks went to Mrs McConaghey for her patience over the years. In conclusion, she paid special tribute to Dr Hunt, to Mrs Phillips and to the secretariat at the College.