

are 5 x 5 cm. (2in. x 2in.) colour transparencies.

The talks may all be hired for 14 days on short term loan or arrangements can be made to have them on long term loan.

71-44 *Still's disease*—Dr Barbara Ansell. 32 slides. 15 minutes.

71-64 *Local injection of steroids*—Dr A. C. Boyle. 18 slides. 25 minutes.

71-61 *Complications and extra-articular manifestations of rheumatoid arthritis*. Dr A. G. S. Hill. 19 slides. 30 minutes.

71-62 *The painful foot*. Dr J. A. Cosh. 42 slides. 22 minutes.

71-93 *Examination of the musculo-skeletal locomotor system*. Dr F. Dudley Hart. 23 slides. 20 minutes.

71-94 *Systemic lupus erythematosus*. Dr F. Dudley Hart and Dr R. Taylor. 32 slides. 32 minutes.

For further details please write to: Medical Recording Service Foundation, Kitts Croft, Writtle, Chelmsford, CM1 3EH. Telephone: Chelmsford 421475 (STD 0245).

AUSTRALIAN FAMILY PHYSICIAN

The Council of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners has decided that the College Journal previously known as *Annals of General Practice* should be renamed *The Australian Family Physician*. At the same time the page size will be increased to 28 x 21.4 cm (11in. x 8½in.).

POSTAL COURSE

The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners is starting a postgraduate postal correspondence course.

Doctors will be able to assess themselves in their own homes by written examination, and consider examination remarks provided by a board of examiners of the College.

In Memoriam

E. W. GOODWIN, Leicester.

T. O. MCKANE, Great Easton, Essex.

J. N. W. RITCHIE, Belfast.

POPULATION OF

ENGLAND AND WALES

A written parliamentary answer in February 1972 stated that the preliminary report of the 1971 Census records the population of England and Wales as 48.7 million.

MEDICAL NEWS

PERSONAL CHAIR IN GENERAL PRACTICE

The Department of Family Medicine in London, Ontario, Canada in association with the College of Family Physicians of Canada has created a personal chair for D. L. Crombie, *O.B.E.*, *M.D.*, *F.R.C.G.P.*

He will be particularly concerned with the development of a programme measuring the use of the present record systems, teaching and research purposes both in the university and general practice setting. The appointment is for a period of 12 months beginning on 1 July, 1972.

Dr Crombie was the 1971 James Mackenzie lecturer, is honorary director of the research unit of the Royal College of General Practitioners and is now Vice-chairman of the Council.

HEALTH EDUCATION DIPLOMA

The University of Leeds is offering a new Diploma in Health Education starting in October, 1972. The syllabus will include: the historical background and development of health education; human growth and development; the causes and prevention of diseases; the principles, methods and media of education, health education in particular; and practical work. It is hoped that this course will remedy a long-felt want in British medicine.

THE SCOTTISH COUNCIL FOR POST-GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

The Scottish council for postgraduate medical education has formed a working party to study 'the organisation of post-graduate medical education in the light of the new Scotland Health Service bill'. This working party will have only one general practitioner who will be Dr J. A. R. Lawson, *F.R.C.G.P.*, from Dundee.

INVALID VEHICLE SERVICE

More severely disabled people are to have the option of driving their own car with a Government allowance.

It is estimated that at present about 18,000 people have three-wheeled invalid vehicles and about 8,000 people have cars from the Department of Health and Social Security.

It is thought that about 10,000 more people

are expected to benefit under the new arrangements.

GENERAL PRACTITIONER PAPERS

1. BANGMA, P. (1971). General practitioner and contraception. *Huisarts en Wetenschap*, **14**, 481-8. (English summary only. 1969 survey among 528 general practitioners).
2. BAYLIS, E. M., HALL, M. S., LEWIS, GILLIAN and MARKS, V. (1972). Effects of renal function on plasma digoxin levels in elderly ambulant patients in domiciliary practice. *British Medical Journal*, **1**, 338-41.
3. BRIDGES-WEBB, C. (1971). Respiratory diseases in the Australian morbidity survey, 1969-70. *Medical Journal of Australia*, **2**, 1175-9.
4. BROWN, D. C. & YANG, K. (1972). Childhood urinary tract infections in family practice. *Canadian Family Physician*, **18**, 39-41 (Jan.). (Specimens collected from 690 patients under 15 years of age—1 June, 1967 to 31 May, 1968).
5. GAU, D. W., HORN, R. F. H., SOLOMON, R. M., JOHNSON, P. & LEIGH, D. A. (1972). Streptococcal tonsillitis in general practice. *Practitioner*, **208**, 276-81. (202 patients).
6. GOMEZ, J. R. & GOMEZ, G. (1972). Depression in general practice. Comparison between thrice daily amitriptyline tablets and a single sustained-release capsule at night. *British Journal of Clinical Practice*, **26**, 33-4.
7. GOODMAN, M. (1971). The changing pattern of measles. *Community Medicine*, **126**, 333-6. (Epidemic Nov. 1969—Sept, 1970 discussed).
8. KERKHOF, P. D. (1972). Assistance in undesired pregnancy in general practice. *Huisarts in Wetenschap*, **15**, 8-12. (English summary only. Ten general practices, 52 undesired pregnancies, over period 1969-70).
9. MACGREGOR, S. W., HEASMAN, M. A. & KUENSSBERG, E. V. (1971). The evaluation of a direct nursing attachment in a north Edinburgh practice. Edinburgh: Scottish Home and Health Department.
10. McMILLIN, W. P. (1971). Triamcinolone acetonide ('kenalog') in the treatment of cases of hay fever and its effect on pituitary-adrenal axis. *Ulster Medical Journal*, **40**, 176-9. (A trial in own practice of 28 patients).
11. MARSH, G. N., McNAY, R. A. and WHEWELL, J. (1972). Survey of home visiting by general practitioners in North-east England. *British Medical Journal*, **1**, 487-492. (190 general practitioners from the N.E. England Faculty of the Royal College of General Practitioners record details of home visits over a two week period in 1969).
12. PERKIN, J. M. (1972). Illness seen in general practice. *Medical Digest*, **17**, No. 1, 21-32. (Diagnoses made in 1970 analysed).
13. SEDDON, J. H. & DUFF, M. F. (1971). Hand-foot-and-mouth disease: Coxsackie virus types A 5, A 10, and A 16 infections. *New Zealand Medical Journal*, **74**, 368-373.
14. SEILER, E. R. (1972). Sleep problems in children. *Practitioner*, **208**, 271-6. (252 children. Parents sent questionnaire).
15. SMITH, A. & JACKSON, H. (1972). Recurrent urinary infections in a girl. *British Medical Journal*, **1**, 428-429.
16. TRACEY, J. B. (1972). Chest tamping for the mobilization of bronchial secretions. *Practitioner*, **208**, 281-3.
17. WALSH, D. (1972). Group practice in Sydney and Mount Gravatt. *Medical Journal of Australia*, **1**, 74-77.

IN PARLIAMENT

Contraception

Mr Kinnock asked if the Secretary of State for Social Services would introduce legislation to permit partners in a marriage to obtain contraceptive medicines and devices without the written consent of their spouses.

Mr Allison, for the Department, replied, "No". Mr Kinnock then asked about general practitioners "Who if they proffer contraceptive assistance take the risk of being prosecuted for conspiracy?" Mr Allison replied that, "Strictly speaking, these are ethical matters between general practitioners and their patients and there is no statutory provision requiring consent".

Confidentiality of records

Dr Summerskill asked the Secretary of State for Social Services whether he was satisfied that in group practices the confidential nature of patients' medical records was being respected.

Sir Keith Joseph replied, "The preservation

of the confidentiality of patients' medical records is a cardinal point of medical ethics and I am sure that, whatever the form of practice organisation all general practitioners are fully aware of their responsibilities in this respect".

Soil pollution

Mr Greville Janner asked the Secretary of State for Social Services whether he would hold an enquiry into the effect of polluted soil on the health of those whose homes are built upon it. He stated that "apart from the researches of a Dr Pinsent of the Royal College of General Practitioners there appears to be no information available about the long-term effects on life and health living on toxic soil".

Mr Allison replied, "The honourable and learned gentleman I think knows that there is a good deal of current research into all aspects

of environmental pollution and we are very closely in touch with the research".

Mental Health

The Secretary of State for the Social Services has announced that the Government grant to the National Association for Mental Health has been doubled to reach £50,000 per annum.

Domiciliary midwives

Mr Pavitt asked the Secretary of State for Social Services about basing domiciliary midwives on hospitals instead of on local authorities. Sir Keith Joseph, in a written answer, replied "I am willing to consider any scheme for the integration of midwifery services on a local basis provided that it takes adequate account of the wishes of patients, staff and employing authorities, and I have approved schemes in some areas".

RATES FOR COLLEGE ACCOMMODATION

Rates for college accommodation, including breakfast, will be charged as follows from 1 January, 1972:

Single room	£3 per night
Double room	£5 per night
Flatlet (Bed-sitting room for two, bathroom and dressing room)	£7 per night, or £40 per week
Self-contained flat (Double bedroom, sitting room, kitchen and bathroom)	£8 per night, or £45 per week

Members are reminded that children under the age of 12 years cannot be admitted, and dogs are not allowed.

Members and associates may, subject to approval, hire the reception rooms for meetings and social functions. The charges for these are:

Long room (will seat 100)	£30 for each occasion
Damask room (will seat 50)	£20 for each occasion
Common room and terrace	£20 for each occasion
Dining room and kitchen	£10 for each occasion

A service charge of ten per cent is added to all accounts to cover gratuities to domestic staff.

For the convenience of members, four car-ports, outside 14 Princes Gate, have been rented by the College and may be hired at 50p per 24 hours.

Enquiries should be addressed to **The Royal College of General Practitioners, 14 Princes Gate, Hyde Park, London, SW7 IPU.** (Tel: 01-584-6262). Whenever possible bookings should be made well in advance.