

MEDICAL NEWS

APPOINTMENTS

Regional Adviser

Dr Robin Catlin D.M., M.R.C.G.P., has been appointed regional adviser for the North-east Metropolitan region, London.

Dr Catlin is adviser to the Chelmsford vocational training scheme which by being linked with St. Bartholomew's Hospital is the first of the three-year schemes at a London teaching hospital. He is also adviser to the Chief Constable, Essex and Southend on Sea Constabulary.

Consultant adviser

Professor P. S. Byrne, O.B.E., F.R.C.G.P., has been appointed consultant adviser in general practice to the Department of Health and Social Security.

Nottingham University

Dr D. Metcalfe, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.G.P., Associate Professor of family medicine at the University of Rochester, U.S.A., has been appointed senior lecturer in general practice at the University of Nottingham.

FIFTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON GENERAL PRACTICE

The fifth world conference on general practice is to be held in Melbourne, Australia, October 1-7, 1972. Among the subjects that will be examined will be the problem-orientated medical record, the integration of doctors, police, ambulance and allied personnel for a comprehensive road accident service, and post-graduate education for doctors.

Several world authorities will be speaking on these subjects including Dr Lawrence Weed of Cleveland, Ohio; Dr K. Easton general practitioner, Yorkshire; Dr John Corley, Chief examiner for the Canadian College of Family Physicians; and Miss Christine McGuire, Professor of Medical Education in the University of Illinois, U.S.A.

Programme and registration forms are available from the Secretariat, Fifth World Conference on General Practice, 254 Albert Street, East Melbourne, Victoria, Australia 3002.

AREA BOUNDARIES FOR THE REORGANISED NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for the Social Services, has made a written statement on the boundaries of the area and regional health authorities in the reorganised Health Service.

"I envisage no departure from the principles stated in the consultative document on National Health Service reorganisation that outside London the boundaries of the area health authorities should be the same as those of the new non-metropolitan districts.

"Consideration of the boundaries within London is not yet completed. The regional health authorities will be responsible for the groups of health areas outside London shown below. I shall issue guidance on the management arrangements that should apply where health catchment areas overlap the new boundaries when I have received the advice of the current N.H.S. management study later in the year.

"Administrative boundaries will not be allowed to restrict the present freedom of patients to go to the general practitioner of their choice and the most appropriate hospital."

Region 1: The counties of Cumbria, Durham, Northumberland, Teesside and the metropolitan districts in Tyneside.

Region 2: The counties of Humberside, North Yorkshire and the metropolitan districts in West Yorkshire.

Region 3: The Counties of Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and the metropolitan districts in South Yorkshire.

Region 4: The counties of Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk.

Region 5: The counties of Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire.

Region 6: The county of Essex.

Region 7: The counties of East Sussex and Kent.

Region 8: The counties of Surrey and West Sussex.

Region 9: The counties of Dorset, Hampshire and Wiltshire.

Region 10: The counties of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire.

Region 11: The counties of Avon, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucester and Somerset.

Region 12: The counties of Hereford and Worcester, Salop, Staffordshire, Warwickshire and the metropolitan districts in the West Midlands.

Region 13: The county of Cheshire and the metropolitan districts in Merseyside.

Region 14: The county of Lancashire, and the metropolitan regions in Greater Manchester.

Regions 5, 6, 7, and 8 will also include London areas.

REVIEW BODY

The review body on doctors' and dentists' remuneration chaired by the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Halsbury F.R.S. reported in June 1972.

It has specifically excluded any attempt to provide for inflation in advance and its recommendations are to take effect from 1 April, 1972.

An increase of about seven and a half per cent has been recommended for general medical practitioners and most grades of staff in the hospital service.

The members of the review body were Alastair Down, *O.B.E., M.C., T.D.*, Deputy Chairman of British Petroleum; Professor R. H. Graveson, *C.B.E.*, Q.C. Professor of Law, King's College, London; Ian W. McDonald Esq., Chairman of Lloyds and Scottish Finance Ltd., Sir Peter Menzies, Chairman of the Electricity Council; Professor Peter Moore, Academic Dean, London Graduate School of Business Studies; and Professor J. R. Sargeant, Head of the School of Economics, Warwick University.

CONFERENCE OF LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEES

The annual conference of local medical committees, at its meeting in June 1972, passed a resolution asking the General Medical Services Committee to "make strenuous efforts to have sufficient schemes of vocational training for general practice introduced in order to ensure that, by a definite date, not later than 1977, vocational registration for general practice can be implemented."

HEALTH PROFESSIONS' FORUM

A meeting of the Health Professions' Forum on the European Economic Community was

held on 7 June 1972 at the Royal College of Nursing.

Senior spokesman for the 25 organisations present passed a resolution urging the Secretary of State for Social Services, Sir Keith Joseph, Bart., to clarify whether the proposed community directives would apply to nationals in the health professions within member countries as well as to health workers moving from one country to another.

Sir Keith said that he thought it was unlikely that any of the directives affecting the health professions would be implemented before 1 January 1973 by which date Britain would be a full member and thus have a vote in the Council of Ministers.

He hoped that harmonization of standards would be upwards and noted that employing authorities in the United Kingdom would always retain the right to appoint only those candidates whom they considered suitable.

The other main question discussed by the Forum was the desirability of migrant health practitioners having to undergo a period of adaptation in the host country. The issue was the maintenance of professional standards.

The Royal College of General Practitioners and several other organisations favoured a period of adaptation which would include linguistic, cultural and professional elements, but the difficulty of formulating a precise concept of adaptation was also appreciated by the Forum, particularly by the representative of the British Medical Association.

It was agreed that a further meeting of the Forum would be held in the autumn at the Royal College of General Practitioners.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

The South-east England Faculty of the Royal College of General Practitioners is holding a study day on 4 October, 1972 at the Post-graduate Centre, Kent and Sussex Hospital, Tunbridge Wells, to consider vocational training.

The object is to draw lessons from the experiences of various training schemes in the area covered by the Faculty and to define objectives for the future. It is expected that it will be organised consisting of trainers, trainees, clinical tutors and others to discuss different aspects of the subject. The course is open to general practitioners, clinical tutors and medical officers of health.

Applications should be made to: Dr P. M. Higgins, M.R.C.G.P., The Department of General Practice, Guy's Hospital Medical School, London Bridge, SE1 9RT.

Obituary

WILLIAM HYWEL MORGAN

J.P., M.R.C.G.P., L.S.A.

It is with deep regret that we record the death of this Welsh doctor on 9 May, 1972. He was educated at Barry Grammar School and the Welsh National School of Medicine, Cardiff, qualifying in 1941.

After a term on the house at Cardiff Royal Infirmary and Haverfordwest, he enlisted in the R.A.M.C. in which he served for five years, reached the rank of Major, and was appointed a D.A.D.M.S.

After leaving the Forces, he served as an assistant in general practice at Splott, Cardiff. In 1948, he became a principal in a busy single-handed practice with a main surgery at Whitchurch Road in the City. There he remained for the whole of his working life, being overtaken by ill-health in 1969. In the following year his health improved and, helped by a colleague, who later became his partner, he resumed his professional duties. He died after a short illness.

As a first-rate family physician, Hywel had many and varied interests. A senior ex-Army medical officer he was, appropriately enough, appointed Civilian Medical Practitioner in charge of the troops at Maindy Barracks, Cardiff. For a short time H.M. Coroner for the East Glamorgan area of South Wales, he was also, for many years, an able Chairman of both the Ministry of National Insurance and Ministry of Pensions medical boards.

In the field of medical politics, administration, and organisation, he had few equals. He was, in turn, honorary secretary and chairman of the Local Medical Committee. He served for 16 years on the Cardiff Executive Council and its sub-committees as well as championing the cause of his confrères on other important committees. His contribution to this field of medical activity was incalculable. Fearless in debate, he conducted his arbitrations and inquiries with a courtesy, skill and vigour that always commanded universal respect.

For many years he was a staunch, loyal and valuable member of the B.M.A. He not only served on the Divisional Executive Committee, but was elected a representative in 1963. In 1968 he held office as Vice-chairman and, in the following year, Chairman of the Cardiff Division.

OMBUDSMAN AND GENERAL PRACTICE

An amendment was moved in parliament when the National Health Service (Scotland) Bill was being considered. This would have brought complaints against general practitioners within the scope of the Ombudsman. The amendment was defeated by nine votes to seven.

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT AND ORGANISATION

Plymouth

A second course on practice management and organisation will be held in Plymouth on 14-15 October 1972. The last course was heavily over-subscribed and applications should be made to: Medical Postgraduate Dean, University of Bristol Senate House, Bristol BS8 1TH (*see advertisement*).

Northern Ireland

The first course to be organised on management by the Northern Ireland Staff Council for general practitioners is being held on 2-6 October, 1972 for one week at Ballygally Castle Hotel, Larne. It is designed to help those general practitioners concerned in the administration of the health services or health centres. Applications to: Dr N. D. Wright, 107 Botanic Avenue, Belfast BT7 1JP.

REGIONAL ADVISERS

The regional advisers in general practice have now formed a group. Dr G. Swift, *O.B.E.* has been elected chairman and Dr D. J. Price secretary.

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL CENTRE

A new postgraduate medical centre has been opened at Dartford and will form part of the Joyce Green Hospital. The centre is also to be used by dentists, veterinary surgeons and pharmacists.