

Three months' visit to the U.S.A. and Canada to study problems of health, behaviour and disability.

Dr W. J. Stephen (Wells, Somerset). Two months' visit to Japan to study the organisation of primary medical care.

Dr A. J. Tulloch (Marsh Gibbon, Oxford). Three months' visit to the U.S.A. and Canada to study the development and use of a more sophisticated record system on general practice.

#### REFERENCE

The Nuffield Foundation (1972). 26th Annual Report p.73

### COMMITTEE ON DISTINCTION AWARDS

Sir David Trench, C.C.M.G., M.C., has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Social Services and the Secretaries of State for Scotland and Wales as the lay member and vice-chairman of the advisory committee on distinction awards.

The present number of distinction awards available for consultants is 3,455—enough for slightly more than one consultant in three.

## Obituary

### FRANK BEDO HOBBS

*O.B.E.*, B.A., M.D., M.R.C.P., M.R.C.G.P.,  
D.P.H.

Dr Frank Bedo Hobbs died suddenly at Farnham on 25 August, 1972, within a few weeks of his 75th birthday. Born at Maidenhead, he was educated privately owing to a tubercular joint infection. He subsequently went to Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, obtaining his B.A. in 1918. He qualified from St. Thomas's Hospital with the Conjoint Diploma in 1919, taking the M.B., B.Chir., in 1921 and the D.P.H. in 1922, proceeding to the M.D. (Cantab.) and M.R.C.P. in 1924.

After holding various house appointments, among them house physician at St. Thomas'

and at the London Chest Hospital, he spent a period as a ship's surgeon on the Blue Funnel Line. In 1926 he joined an old-established general practice in Farnham, Surrey, the senior partner of which was the late Dr James Hussey. In addition to an extensive practice, Dr Hobbs held the appointments of Medical Superintendent and Senior Physician at Farnham Hospital and was Medical Officer of Health to the Farnham Urban District Council—probably the last general practitioner to hold a public health appointment.

He was a founder member of the Royal College of General Practitioners and a member of the B.M.A. In 1964 he retired from active practice and was appointed O.B.E. in the following year.

Frank Hobbs was a man of many parts and, in addition to his clinical acumen and keen postgraduate studies, he was a most efficient and kindly administrator. As a sportsman he was an outstanding tennis player and had played for his college and hospital and for the Chiswick Park Club. He was also an excellent shot and was shooting regularly up to the end of the last season.

His hobbies included joinery and photography, at both of which he had considerable skill.

Frank Hobbs was a man of tremendous energy and wide interests and, in spite of a crippling and often painful disability during his later years, he travelled abroad and enjoyed life. He was a man with a great gift of friendship and will be very much missed by his colleagues and friends, both young and old, for his warm-heartedness and sage advice. He was a sincere Christian and a regular attendant at Parish church.

He married in 1928 and is survived by his wife, Elsie, the daughter of the late Dr George Scriven, his two sons and a daughter, his elder son being in the church and his younger a doctor. To them we extend our deep sympathy.

D.O.H. and W.H.S.