

systems of medical care; to report on their experience to the profession in the United Kingdom.

Applications for these fellowships are now invited from members or associates of the College who are principals in general practice in the United Kingdom of at least three years' standing, but who are under 38 years of age at the time of their application.

Enquiries should be made to the Secretary of the Royal College of General Practitioners, 14 Princes Gate, Hyde Park, London SW7 1PU. The closing date is 31 May 1975.

#### COLLEGE TIES

College ties are available as follows:

Green silk, 8.9 cms (3½") width, all-over owl design .. .. .	£2.95
Black terylene, 6.35 cms (2½") width, all-over owl design .. .. .	£1.27

#### Fellows only:

Navy terylene, 8.9 cms (3½") width, single owl design .. .. . £1.77

Prices include value added tax at eight per cent and there is a small additional charge for postage and packing.

Ties may be obtained from 14 Princes Gate, or by post from the Appeal Secretary. If ordering by post please do NOT send payment in advance. An invoice will be enclosed with the tie/ties.

#### M.R.C.G.P. EXAMINATION

The next written examination for the M.R.C.G.P. will be held in May 1975. All enquiries should be addressed to the Examination Secretary 14 Princes Gate, Hyde Park, London SW7 1PU.

### MEDICAL NEWS

#### SIR CHARLES HASTINGS PRIZE

The Sir Charles Hastings Prize certificate and £125 has been awarded by the British Medical Association for systematic research and record in general practice. The winner in 1973 was Dr Ian Gregg, F.R.C.G.P. of London for his entry entitled *The role of acute episodes of respiratory infection in the pathogenesis of chronic obstructive bronchitis*.

#### CHARLES OLIVER HAWTHORNE PRIZE

The Charles Oliver Hawthorne Prize certificate and £100 for the runner-up in the Sir Charles Hastings prize competition has been awarded to Dr K. D. Salzmann of Reading for his entry *A labour-saving manoeuvre*. (This will be published in this *Journal*).

#### COMMON MARKET

Proposals put forward by the European Union of General Practitioners for the amendment of the draft Doctors' Directives to permit the recognition of formal postgraduate training and qualifications in general practice have been adopted by the Standing Committee of Doctors of the E.E.C. and sent to Brussels.

These proposals would permit the recognition by other Member States of specific postgraduate training for general practice when the

period of training is of not less than two years duration, is both theoretical and practical, is carried out at an approved institution or health establishment and in part with an approved general practitioner in general practice.

#### AMERICAN BOARD OF FAMILY PRACTICE

More than 1,700 physicians took the American Board of Family Practice certifying examination in October 1974. Nearly 6,000 physicians have been certified by the board since the first examination in 1970. About 97 per cent of all family physicians in Minnesota are members of the American Academy of Family Physicians.

#### THE COLLEGE OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS OF CANADA

Membership of the College of Family Physicians of Canada is now 3,664 members, which is an increase of 395 members during the last year.

This College has now decided that before granting final approval of a residency training programme, all teachers of family medicine shall be required to be members of the College.

#### AUSTRALIAN FAMILY PHYSICIAN

Dr G. R. O. Walpole has been appointed Editor of *Australian Family Physician*. He

has had wide experience in the Australian College and has been a member of the Victoria Faculty Board for many years and was Vice-Chairman in 1974. He has also been a College Censor and Chairman of the Accreditation Committee of Victoria, and Secretary of the newly-formed Accreditation Committee of Council. He has also been Chairman of the Editorial Board of *Australian Family Physician* since its inception.

#### VOCATIONAL TRAINING ALLOWANCES

In Scotland in the year 1971-72 £12,103 was paid in vocational training allowances. This rose to £35,014 in the year 1972-73.

#### DRIVING WITH CARDIAC PACEMAKERS

The Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) Amendment Regulations 1973 which came into operation on 1 January 1974 allow some patients with heart disease whose condition has been brought under control by the fitting of a pacemaker can be given a licence to drive provided they satisfy some specified conditions.

These are prescribed under Section 35 of the regulations:

- (a) that their driving a vehicle is not likely to be a source of danger to the public;
- (b) that the applicant has made adequate arrangements to receive regular medical supervision by a cardiologist throughout the currency of the licence and is complying with these arrangements.

The regulations can be obtained through booksellers or from H.M.S.O. Bookshops, price 5p.

#### NEW GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

Of the admissions as unrestricted principals in England and Wales to the year ending 30

September 1973 over a third were born outside Great Britain.

Of those general practitioners who withdrew from general practice the same year, 27 per cent were born outside Great Britain.

#### OVERSEAS DOCTORS

Dr D. Owen speaking for the Secretary of State in Parliament, recently announced that 25 per cent of doctors practising in the National Health Service in Great Britain in 1973 were born overseas.

#### CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN SOCIAL WORK

The budget for the Central Council for education and training in social work is expected to increase to £650,000 by 31 March 1975, and increase again to just over £1,000,000 by 31 March 1976.

#### RURAL MEDICINE

The sixth International Congress of Rural Medicine will be held at Churchill College, Cambridge, from 21-27 September, 1975.

This Association encourages interest and research into the occupational health of those who work in agriculture, horticulture, and forestry and people who live in rural areas.

All enquiries should be sent to Walter Davis Esq., The Bureau of Medical Practitioner Affairs Ltd., Francis House, King's Head Yard, Borough High Street, London SE1 1NA.

#### CORRECTION

*Illness and general practice* by Bentsen, Bent Guttorm. The price of this book is \$10 and not \$16 as stated in the *July Journal*.

### CORRESPONDENCE

#### AN INTERNATIONAL INDEX AND BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR FAMILY/GENERAL PRACTICE

Sir,

A vast amount of the literature and scientific articles relating to our discipline have not been recorded in the *Index Medicus* and this has disadvantaged our development in no small degree. I wish to report that a committee of the World Organisation (WONCA) in which your College is a member has been established, led by Professor McWhinney, Western Ontario, Canada, who has already established a library and supplemented by

the Family Medicine Programme library in Victoria, Australia.

I have been motivated to write this letter after reading your unnamed reviewer's scathing article on *General Practice and its future in Australia*. A first report of the Australian Medical Association Study Group on Medical Planning which appeared in your May issue No. 142 and which has just landed on our southern shores.

H. J. Wright has written an equally frank review of Barlow's book on *British General Practice* (same issue) and was obviously exasperated and indeed mortified that such a book would have a "world