

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