

The instruments displayed by Messrs Keelers now include an electrocardiograph, and the peak flow meter and peak flow gauge.

The Medical Recording Service have returned their study box with tape recorder and slide viewer to the practice organisation room and slides on several different subjects can be viewed.

The Epidemic Observation Unit has a record of their current activities and some of the recording methods.

There are now a large number of handouts on various activities of the College and also various aspects of organisation.

MEDICAL RECORDING SERVICE FOUNDATION—NEW TAPE SLIDES

Life and sex for wheelchair people. 74-202. Lady Masham. No slides. 27 minutes.

The importance of play in children—three to six year of age. Dr Mary Sheridan. 48 slides. 29 minutes.

An opportunity class for children. 74-122. 16 slides. 20 minutes.

Anaesthesia in a health centre. 74-69. Dr Alan Bloomfield, general practitioner. 25 slides. 16 minutes.

One-to-one teaching in general practice. Professor P. S. Byrne. A series of six talks on vocational training for general practice. Each talk is complete in itself.

73-54. A model of the training process. 29 minutes.

74-119. Learning objectives. 34 minutes.

74-8. Talking at, talking with, being talked to. 13 minutes.

74-9. Simulated experience. 24 minutes.

74-52. Counselling. 33 minutes.

74-205. Evaluation and assessment. 25 minutes.

Running a course for trainees in general practice. 74-121. Dr Conrad Harris, general practitioner, Manchester. No slides. 20 minutes.

NEW EXAMINERS

It has been decided that in future when new examiners for the membership examination of the Royal College of General Practitioners are needed advertisements will be placed in the *Journal of the Royal College of General Practitioners*.

DEATHS

Fellows

Bevan, F. A., Woodstock, Oxon.

Munro, J. E. Margaret, Edinburgh.

Skinner, I. P. W., Oxford.

Founder members

Hugh-Jones, Hugh, Pwllheli, Caernarvonshire.
Hughson, Sinclair, North Haven, New South Wales, Australia.

Milne, N. C. F., Kirkoswald, Cumberland.

Newcombe, A. R., London, N.W.11.

Rutter, R. W., Robin Hood's Bay, Yorkshire.

Scott, W. Russell, Weymouth, Dorset.

Member

Kewish, O. K., Fur Tree Gully, Victoria, Australia.

MEDICAL NEWS



Dr Donald I. Rice., F.C.F.P.C.

WORLD ORGANISATION OF NATIONAL COLLEGES, ACADEMIES AND ACADEMIC ASSOCIATIONS OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS/FAMILY PHYSICIANS

Dr Donald I. Rice, F.C.F.P.C., of Toronto has been elected President of the World Organisation of National Colleges, Academies and Academic Associations of General Practitioners/Family Physicians (WONCA). He was installed during the sixth world conference held in Mexico City in November 1974.

Dr Rice is Executive Director of the College of Family Physicians of Canada and was named President-Elect of the Canadian Cancer Society in June 1974. He was also recently appointed Councillor of the Section on Family and General Practice of the Pan

American Medical Association Inc.

A native of Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, Dr Rice attended Dalhousie University in Halifax and entered general practice in that city after graduation.

President-elect

Dr Stuart Carne, General practitioner, London, the Honorary Treasurer of the Royal College of General Practitioners, was elected President-elect of the World Organisation of National Colleges and Academies of General Practice (W.O.N.C.A.) at the meeting in Mexico.



Dr E. V. Kuenssberg C.B.E., F.R.C.G.P.

Dr E. V. Kuenssberg, C.B.E., F.R.C.G.P., General practitioner, Edinburgh, has been awarded the Hippocratic Medal by the International Society for General Practice.

Dr Kuenssberg is a former Chairman of Council of the Royal College of General Practitioners and has recently completed a visit to Europe as a Wolfson professor.

He has published numerous papers in the *British Medical Journal* and the *Journal of the Royal College of General Practitioners*.

The medal was awarded at the Annual Congress of the International Society and the citation referred to Dr Kuenssberg's meritorious service for general practice.

NEW UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER

Dr C. Burns, J.P., F.R.C.G.P., General practitioner, Ballymoney, Northern Ireland, has been appointed Pro-Chancellor of the New University of Ulster.

EXETER UNIVERSITY

Three more part-time clinical senior lecturers in general practice have been appointed to the Department of General Practice in the Postgraduate Medical Institute of Exeter University. These appointments complete the present establishment and were effective from November 1974:

Dr K. J. Bolden, M.A., M.R.C.G.P.,
D.Obst.R.C.O.G.,

Dr M. S. Hall, B.Sc., M.R.C.G.P.,
D.Obst.R.C.O.G.,

Dr R. V. H. Jones, M.A., M.R.C.G.P.

**SCOTTISH GENERAL PRACTITIONER
RESEARCH SUPPORT UNIT**

Dr D. Dingwell, Glenrothes, Fife, was appointed as Research Associate to the above Unit on 1 December 1974.

**FUTURE TRENDS IN GENERAL
PRACTICE**

A weekend residential course is being held at the Lancaster Postgraduate Medical Centre on 22/23 March 1975. The subject is *Future trends in general practice*. The course is approved for Section 63 and applications should be sent to The Secretary, Postgraduate Medical Centre, Ashton Road, Lancaster, LA1 4RR.

**THE AUSTRALIAN COLLEGE OF
GENERAL PRACTITIONERS**

The Australian College of General Practitioners has decided to admit members of the Royal College of General Practitioners to membership provided that they have passed the M.R.C.G.P. examination.

CONTRACEPTION

Mrs Barbara Castle, Secretary of State for the Social Services, recently announced that she had been able to allocate health authorities an extra £1,000,000 in the second half of this financial year to help them meet the severe demand at contraceptive clinics. This £1,000,000 was in addition to the £12,000,000 allocated in September which were to ensure that health authorities could meet the full cost of all their community services when they took them over from local authorities in April 1974.

RESEARCH IN SCOTLAND

The Secretary of State for Scotland, Mr William Ross, has awarded grants totalling £97,524. The money will be paid from National Health Service funds, on the recommendation of the advisory committee on medical research. None of these projects is being undertaken by a general practitioner.

GENERAL PRACTICE FINANCE CORPORATION

The General Practice Finance Corporation lent over £2½ million to 230 general practitioners in Great Britain during the financial year ended 31 March 1974. Over 3,800 doctors have received advances since the scheme started in 1967. The current lending charge is 16 per cent a year.

ABORTIONS

There were 169,362 legally notified abortions

in England and Wales in 1973. Of these 110,568 were for residents, of whom slightly less than half had had no previous live-born children.

BIRTHRATE

The number of live births born legitimately fell by 14 per cent in England and Wales in the years 1970 to 1973, while illegitimate live births fell by ten per cent.

The crude birth rate of all live births per 1,000 population in the United Kingdom fell to 13.9 in 1973. This can be compared with other countries as follows:

The Republic of Ireland—22 per thousand, Canada 15.5, United States of America 14.9, Luxembourg 10.9 and West Germany 10.2.

The infant mortality rate in England and Wales was 17 in 1973. Other European countries with lower infant mortality rates included France (15) and the Netherlands (11).

CORRESPONDENCE

GENERAL PRACTITIONERS AND SOCIAL WORKERS

Sir,

The article *Social Workers and General Practitioners* which appeared in the November *Journal* is a much needed and balanced appraisal of the difficulties that an established caring profession and a young developing one experience in coming to terms both with each other and with their respective roles in society.

While continuing research and planning are essential for progress, it is in continuing dialogue and in working together that social workers and doctors have the best opportunity for understanding each other's knowledge, roles and skills.

In this Training Unit we have been working closely with general practitioners within our health district for six years.

During this time 47 social work students have been attached to general practitioners during their fieldwork placements. Learning has been a two-way process in which both disciplines have gained in understanding of each other's approach to caring.

However, during these years only *one* trainee general practitioner has chosen to spend a comparable time in this Unit (Smith, 1973). If one can do this why not many more? Is it too much to ask that others might be encouraged to do the same?

We are sure that trainee general practitioners would be welcomed by many student units. Such a shared training experience would provide an exchange of ideas, knowledge and skill in practice and would go a long way towards removing some of

the myths surrounding both professions. In the long term we believe this would lead to a better service to the patient/client who, after all, is the sole reason for our professional existence.

LIZ BUDDEN, MARY POWELL (MRS.)
Student Unit Supervisors

Social Work Training Unit,
South Birmingham Health District,
Moseley Hall Hospital,
Alchester Road,
Moseley,
Birmingham 13.

REFERENCES

- Ratoff, L. *et al.* (1974). *Journal of the Royal College of General Practitioners*, **24**, 750-760.
Smith, D. (1973). *Journal of the Royal College of General Practitioners*, **23**, 692-696.

Sir,

Len Ratoff, Anne Rose, and Carole Smith (November *Journal*) must be congratulated on their detailed analysis of the inter-professional problems of social workers and general practitioners. It is unfortunate that the detail tends to obscure the basic problem.

The foundation of modern medicine is objective and scientific. Doctors ideally make technical diagnoses which form the basis of action and from which outcome can be predicted. A diagnosis of pneumonia implies a prescription for antibiotics resulting in a cure. Failure to provide the antibiotic either results in spontaneous resolution or death depending on the age and resistance of the patient.