

Department of Family Medicine, University of Western Ontario.

CLOSURE OF COLLEGE ACCOMMODATION

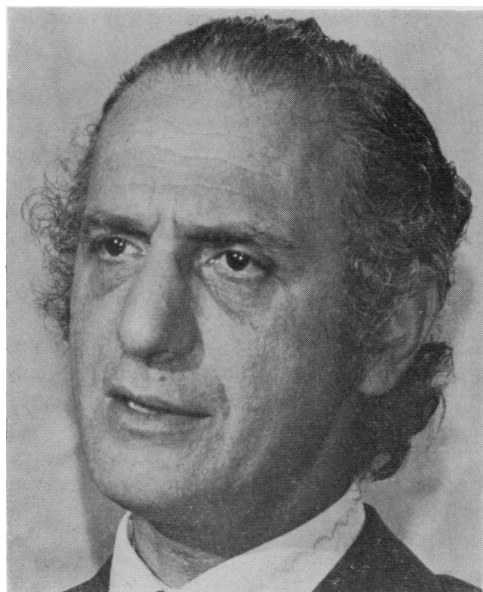
College accommodation this year will not be available from 13 August 1976 to 29 August 1976, while the housekeeper is on holiday. It will re-open on 31 August 1976.

CORRECTION

In the March issue of the *Journal* the summary of Council proceedings reported that the Education Committee's document on the extension of hospital posts for vocational training, presented by Professor M. L. Marinker, "was approved by the Council". In fact this document was received as a working document and approved for further discussion with interested parties.

MEDICAL NEWS

ST GEORGE'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL, LONDON



Dr Paul Freeling

Dr Paul Freeling F.R.C.G.P., General practitioner, Southall, Middlesex, has been appointed Senior Lecturer in General Practice at St. George's Hospital Medical School, London.

Dr Freeling is the Nuffield Tutor for the Royal College of General Practitioners and is directing the Nuffield Course organised by the Royal College of General Practitioners and the Department of Education at Brunel University.

Dr Freeling was one of the six authors of *The Future General Practitioner—Learning and Teaching* and becomes the fourth of the six to lead an academic department of general practice in Great Britain.

He is joint author of *The Doctor/Patient Relationship*, the second edition of which was published earlier this year, and he has written several other papers on the behavioural sciences in relation to general practice and medical education, several of which have appeared in this *Journal*.

Dr Freeling starts his appointment part time in June and becomes full time at St. George's on 1 September 1976.

JOINT SUB-COMMITTEE ON SCREENING IN MEDICAL CARE

Dr J. Tudor Hart, F.R.C.G.P., General practitioner, Port Talbot, Glamorgan, Wales, has been appointed a member of the Joint Sub-Committee on Screening in Medical Care of the Standing Medical Advisory Committee of the Department of Health and Social Security.

THIRD CONGRESS ON THE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF AMBULANT DISEASE

Dr J. Tudor Hart, F.R.C.G.P., General practitioner, Port Talbot, Glamorgan, Wales, attended the third Congress on the Epidemiology of Ambulant Disease at Neu Brandenburg in the German Democratic Republic in April 1976.

LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY

Dr D. M. D. Lambert, M.R.C.G.P., General practitioner, Keighley, Yorkshire, has been appointed Senior Lecturer in General Practice at Liverpool University.

Dr Lambert has been in general practice in Keighley, Yorkshire since 1952. He is Chairman of the Education Committee of the Yorkshire Faculty of the Royal College of General Practitioners, and recently completed the six weeks of the first Nuffield course.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

The Pharmaceutical Society was recently addressed by Professor D. C. Morell, F.R.C.G.P., Professor of General Practice at St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School, London.

Professor Morrell presented the view that the public had a great need for self-medication and that the pharmacist had an important role in assisting them.

He also considered that pharmacists also had an important role to play in helping to minimise drug interactions.

HOME CONFINEMENTS

The percentage of births occurring in Great Britain at home has steadily fallen in recent years. The percentage at home was 33 per cent in 1961, 24 per cent in 1966, ten per cent in 1971, eight per cent in 1972 and six per cent in 1973.

REFERENCE

Central Statistical Office (1975). *Social Trends*. London: H.M.S.O.

PRIORITIES IN THE HEALTH SERVICE

The Secretary of State for Wales, Mr John Morris, Q.C., M.P., has announced that the needs of the elderly, the mentally ill, and the children's services will receive top priority in the next five years.

In general there will emphasis on prevention rather than cure, treatment at home and in the community and an evening-out of geographical variations in provision.

ALCOHOL

Mr Michael Meacher, Joint Parliamentary Secretary at the Department of Health and Social Security, has reported that in England and Wales between 1969 and 1974 the consumption of wines had almost doubled and that of spirits had increased by 80 per cent.

Hospital admissions for alcoholism had been increasing by more than ten per cent a year since 1969. The number of people convicted of drunkenness offences and/or drink and driving offences was increasing steadily, with a relatively greater increase in the proportion of young people.

UNWANTED PREGNANCIES

Lord Wells-Pestell, the Government spokesman on health and social security in the House of Lords, recently noted that the figures for notified abortions, illegitimate

births, and pre-nuptial conceptions for young single women, when compared with the total number of young, single women in the same age bands, showed a fall in the three years 1972, 1973, and 1974 for all young women who were 16 years old or more. There was a fall for young single women between 16 and 19 of about ten per cent and a fall for single women aged 20 to 24 of about 15 per cent.

BRITISH NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

Dr David Owen, Minister of State for Health, stated in April 1976 that between 1949 and 1974 the expectation of life at birth rose from 66.3 years to 69.1 years for men and from 71.0 years to 75.3 years for women. "No one will claim that this is all due to the National Health Service, but it is also significant that the infant mortality rate was halved during the same period, and the maternal mortality rate fell to one ninth of its former level. In short, millions of people throughout this period experienced a quantifiable increase in the quality of their lives."

THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

The National Health Service is now the largest single employer in the United Kingdom and it employs about three-quarters of a million people.

Salaries and wages cost 76 per cent of National Health Service expenditure on hospitals and community health services in England in 1974/75.

HOME TREATMENT OF RENAL FAILURE

The proportion of kidney disease patients on home dialysis is higher in Britain than anywhere else in the world.

PAY RISE FOR NURSES

The Nurses and Midwives Whitley Council have agreed to increased earnings of £6 per week for nursing grades in the National Health Service.

This settlement covers about 440,000 staff in Britain with effect from 1 April 1976.

First year student/pupil nurses will now be paid £1,872 per year. The maximum for staff nurses will be £2,958 per year and nursing sister II (ward sister or district nurse) £3,864 a year.

INCOME OF TRAINEES

The Minister of State for the Department of Health and Social Security has reported that the average weekly earnings of senior house officers in 1975 varied between £67.8 and £75.0 per week.

He estimated that this would rise in 1976 to a minimum of £82.1 per week and a maximum of £91.6. These figures include an allowance for earnings from extra-duty allowances and are based on the average full-time staff on 1 January each year.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The second editorial in the March *Journal One thousand up!*, commented on the number of trainers and trainees in general practice in October 1975.

These figures were obtained from the Council for Postgraduate Medical Education in England and Wales.

MALE HEALTH VISITORS

The Council for the Education and Training of Health Visitors has decided that from September 1977 it shall be a requirement for men to have obtained an acceptable obstetric qualification, as is the case with prospective women students, before starting health visitor training.

GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL REGISTRATION FEE

The annual retention fee payable by registered medical practitioners to the General Medical Council is being increased from £5 to £8 with effect from 1 May 1976.

CORRECTIONS

In the February issue of the *Journal* it was reported that Dr D. J. G. Bain had been awarded an Upjohn Travelling Fellowship to study Child Health in Developing Countries.

This should have read to Study Child Health in New Towns and Developing Communities.

In the March issue of the *Journal* Dr E. J. C. Kendall's name was wrongly printed as Rendall, and this error is greatly regretted.

In Dr M. W. Adler's article (March *Journal*), the second line of the summary read "screening for moderate hypertension (i.e. diastolic blood pressure equal to or above 100 mm Hg)" but should have read "(diastolic blood pressure equal to or below 110 mm Hg)".

Obituary

ROBERT PATRICK MAYBIN

M.D., F.R.C.G.P.

Dr Robert Patrick Maybin died on 19 January 1976 at the age of 59.

He was a founder member of the College, a Fellow, and a former member of College Council and in 1972 he delivered the William Pickles Lecture on *Health Centres and the Family Doctor*, which was published in this *Journal*.

He made a significant and valued contribution to the Northern Ireland Faculty, as a long serving member of the Faculty Board, as secretary of the Board, and as Provost. He had also been a member of Irish Council in its early years.

Educated at Wallace High School, Lisburn, Co. Antrim, he studied medicine at the Queen's University of Belfast graduating M.B., B.C.H., B.A.O., in 1938. As a Captain in the Royal Army Medical Corps, he served in North

Africa, Italy, and Yugoslavia and was mentioned in dispatches.

Following the war he proceeded M.D. in 1947 and in 1949 started in single-handed general practice in Ballylesson, a village on the outskirts of Belfast. In this rural practice, he was among the first to record and publish data about his practice. He was also among the earliest to see the value of nurse and health visitor liaison and had a social worker attachment as early as 1956.

In 1963, Dr Maybin was appointed Medical Adviser to the Northern Ireland General Health Services Board, succeeding the late Dr J. M. Hunter, a member of the first Council of the College. In this capacity he came into contact with all general practitioners in Northern Ireland and exerted a considerable influence on the renaissance of general practice in the province. He was closely associated with the development of