

COLLEGE NEWS

Dr Julian Tudor Hart

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Dr Julian Tudor Hart, F.R.C.G.P., General Practitioner, Glyncoirwg, Glamorgan, has been appointed Sir Harry Jephcott Visiting Professor to the University of Birmingham, attached to the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, to assist in the teaching of general practice for the academic year 1976-1977.

**MEDICAL RECORDING SERVICE
FOUNDATION**

The Medical Recording Service Foundation has produced some non-medical tapes, which might be appropriate for Christmas presents. *The Story of the Cutty Sark*, recorded by Frank Carr, former Director of the National Maritime Museum. 35 slides. Cat. no. 73-15. £13.45.

The York Psalter, recorded by Sir Charles Illingworth, traces the history of the medieval illuminated book given to the University of Glasgow by William Hunter. 40 illustrations. 18 minutes. Cat. no. 69-58. £14.53.

William Hunter's Incunabula, also recorded by Sir Charles Illingworth, describes many fifteenth century books in the Hunterian Museum in Glasgow. 22 slides. Cat. no. 71-5. £10.42.

MEDICAL NEWS**SIR JOSEPH STONE**

Sir Joseph Stone, General practitioner, London, was made a life peer in Sir Harold Wilson's resignation Honours List.

Sir Joseph Stone was educated at Llanelli Grammar School and Cardiff University and qualified at the Westminster Hospital, London, in 1925.

He held casualty officer and house surgeon appointments at the Westminster and was subsequently Medical Officer at St George's-in-the-East Hospital from 1926 to 1932. He then settled in general practice in Cricklewood and Hampstead.

HEALTH SERVICE OMBUDSMAN

Mr Geoffrey Harold Weston, C.B.E., F.H.A., has been appointed Deputy Commissioner with effect from January 1977.

DR H. T. N. SEARS

Dr H. T. N. Sears, M.D., F.R.C.P., M.R.C.G.P., General practitioner, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire, was elected Fellow of the Royal

College of Physicians of London in April 1976.

Dr Sears works in rural general practice in Cheshire and holds a clinical assistantship in the Department of Medicine at the University of Manchester.

It is thought that Dr Sears is the eighth general practitioner to have been elected to the F.R.C.P. London.

DR P. A. PARISH

Dr P. A. Parish, M.D., F.R.C.G.P., has been appointed Professor of Clinical Pharmacy at the Welsh School of Pharmacy, Cardiff.

Dr Parish was formerly Senior Medical Research Fellow, the Medical Sociology Research Centre, University College, Swansea, before being appointed a visiting professor at the University of Minnesota.

Dr Parish has been particularly interested in prescribing by general practitioners and in the role of pharmacists in the therapeutic team.

His publications include Supplement Number 4 to the *Journal of the Royal College of General Practitioners* (1971), *The prescribing of psychotropic drugs in general practice*.

DR KATHERINA D. DALTON

Dr Katherina D. Dalton, M.R.C.G.P., General practitioner, London, is a member of the Sub-committee on Toxicity, Clinical Trials and Therapeutic Efficacy of the Committee on Safety of Medicines.

DR D. R. WALLACE

Dr D. R. Wallace, General practitioner, Shiskine, Isle of Arran, has been awarded an M.D. from the University of Edinburgh for his thesis written from general practice on *The effect of visitors as patients on the work of a Scottish Island practice.*

NEW PRIZES FOR TRAINEES*Welsh Council*

The Welsh Council of the Royal College of General Practitioners has offered a prize for trainees which will be awarded in August each year. This will consist of books or equipment and will be open to all trainee general practitioners in Wales during the preceding year. The prize will be awarded for the best project written in a form suitable for publication in the *Journal of the Royal College of General Practitioners.*

Marwood prize

S. F. Marwood, M.D., F.R.C.G.P., M.R.C.P., has made a generous endowment to the Department of General Practice at the University of Exeter to provide an annual prize, which will consist of a silver medal and medical books or equipment to be awarded to the trainee who makes the most outstanding contribution to the University of Exeter's vocational training scheme for general practice.

THE LIDDLE PRIZE

The Liddle Prize of £250 is offered to public competition by the London Hospital Medical College.

The prize will be awarded to the candidate who submits the best paper(s), thesis, or essay, completed within two years prior to the closing date on any aspect of *Preventive Medicine.*

The examiners will be appointed by the Academic Board of the London Hospital Medical College and the closing date is 31 December 1977. Entries should be addressed to the Dean, the London Hospital Medical College, Turner Street, London E1 2AD.

SCOTLAND

The number of general-practitioner principals in the National Health Service in Scotland rose in 1975 from 2,744 to 2,794, with the average list size falling from 1,997 to 1,962.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON POSTGRADUATE TRAINING FOR GENERAL PRACTICE

The Joint Committee on Postgraduate Training for General Practice and the Royal College of General Practitioners has now approved the Hammersmith Vocational Training Scheme for a period of five years.

The following vocational training schemes have been re-approved for a period of five years: Bury St Edmunds, Cardiff, Ipswich, North Humberside, Northwick Park, Wakefield, and Worthington.

THE SOCIETY FOR PSYCHOSOMATIC RESEARCH 20TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The twentieth Annual Conference of the Society for Psychosomatic Research will be held at The Royal College of Physicians, 11 St Andrew's Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4LE, on 15 and 16 November 1976. Enquiries should be addressed to: The Secretariat, Academic Department of Psychiatry, St Mary's Hospital, Harrow Road, London W9 3RL.

WHOOPIING COUGH VACCINATION

Whooping cough vaccination and the possible risk of serious neurological complications have been a source of much debate within the medical profession for many years. Recently the controversy has been brought to the public eye by discussion in the press and on television, and parents are now frequently refusing to have their children immunised. The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation continues to recommend whooping cough vaccination, but doctors and nurses are being asked some very difficult questions about the risks involved.

The Department of Health and Social Security Sub-Committee on the Complications of Vaccination is supporting a new study which aims to measure the relative risk of encephalopathy and severe brain

damage in recently immunised children compared with controls. It will be called the National Childhood Encephalopathy Study and is being carried out by the Department of Community Medicine of the Middlesex Hospital Medical School.

The clinical details of cases are being obtained from hospitals. General practitioners will be asked for some additional information about these children after their discharge and about control children. It is intended a health visitor should visit the mother of each child at home to complete a simple questionnaire. The child's general practitioner, and the hospital consultant where appropriate, will be asked for permission for this visit.

THE COUNCILS FOR POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

The Councils in England and Wales, in Scotland, and in Northern Ireland are setting up a centre to advise doctors on opportunities for postgraduate medical education and training in the United Kingdom. This centre will bring together several separate agencies which are at present helping doctors and will incorporate the service previously provided by the British Medical Association for non-members.

The B.M.A. will, however, continue to advise its own members and members of affiliated organisations.

This centre will be run for the three Councils by the Council for Postgraduate Medical Education in England and Wales at its office at 7 Marylebone Road, Park Crescent, London, NW1 5HA (Tel: 01-637 5766). Additional medical and secretarial staff are now being appointed and the service will start on 1 October 1976.

GENERAL PRACTICE FINANCE CORPORATION

The General Practice Finance Corporation lent £1,715,000 to 138 separate loans to general practitioners working in the National Health Service during its last financial year. This was a continued fall in new business since the Corporation lending rate rose to 16 or 17 per cent.

The total advance since the Corporation began lending in May 1967 is now over 16½ million and so far 4,461 doctors have received loans.

The Corporation notes that there is a continuing trend for a higher proportion of applications to be for new purpose-built premises.

The three regions in which the greatest number of loans were taken up in 1975/76 were: North-west Thames, West Midlands, and Wessex, and the regions with the lowest number of loans taken up were: Mersey, Wales, Northern, and South-west Thames.

THE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL PRACTICE, UNIVERSITY OF EXETER

The Department of General Practice in the Postgraduate Medical Institute of the University of Exeter was formally opened on 27 April 1976 by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Exeter, Dr H. Kaye. It is thought that this is the first Department of its kind in Europe, being a University Department of General Practice outside a medical school. The staff consists of four general practitioners, who are all part-time senior lecturers in the University of Exeter and who all remain as principals in their own practices. There are four other members of staff of the Postgraduate Medical Institute whose Director is Professor D. Mattingly, F.R.C.P., holds the Chair of Postgraduate Medical Studies at the University.

At the opening ceremony Dr Kaye said how pleased he was at the development of the Department of General Practice in the University and thanked the Department of Health and Social Security for their substantial support, both for the Department itself and the new building, which he opened.

Mr G. Knapman, General Manager of the Medical Sickness Annuity and Life Assurance Society Limited, presented the first £200 of a £1,000 medical research grant



Professor P. S. Byrne, C.B.E., M.Sc., P.R.C.G.P., planting a seedling from the Hippocratic plane tree in the Island of Cos at the opening ceremony of the Department of General Practice at the University of Exeter.

Photo by J. Collins.

which his company was making to support research work in the Department with special reference to medical education.

Professor P. S. Byrne, C.B.E., P.R.C.G.P., the Professor of General Practice at the University of Manchester, spoke as President of the Royal College of General Practitioners and emphasised the importance of academic developments in general practice of this kind. He then planted a seedling of the Hippocratic plane tree from the island of Cos, just outside the Department

The opening ceremony was attended by about 100 people. The activities of the Department include organising a vocational training scheme which currently has 25 trainees and is now the biggest scheme in the South-west Region, teaching programmes in continuing education for social workers and nurses and Research in the Department includes such topics as the role of developmental screening clinics, self-care in a closed community, the measurement of attitudes in vocational trainees.

The staff consists of: D. J. Pereira Gray, Senior Lecturer-in-charge, K. J. Bolden, M. S. Hall and R. V. H. Jones, Senior Lecturers in General Practice.