

1975. A sorry tale it makes—a story of lack of nets, belts, and crawling boards, of unshored trenches, of unsecured ladders, and unsafe roofs. Responsibility was thought to lie with management in 68 cases, with the deceased in 18, and with a fellow worker in two cases. In only 12 accidents was there no clear responsibility. Surprisingly, the report makes no mention of alcohol or other drugs as being even a possible factor.

This report is required reading for those who have a commitment in industrial medicine. It will also provide

valuable material for trainers and trainees. In view of its conclusions, I hope the Health and Safety Executive issues it free of charge to every firm involved in construction—at 90p a time this might be a worthwhile investment.

J. C. MURDOCH

OCCUPATIONAL MORTALITY 1970-1972

*Decennial supplement
Office of Population Censuses and
Surveys*

HMSO
London (1978)

224 pages. Price £4.75

This is the national standard reference for variations in occupational mortality in relation to social class and occupation. It is not light reading and is best used for reference purposes only and as such can be thoroughly recommended for reference libraries. It is particularly valuable as a source for general-practitioner trainees preparing sessions on the influence of social class on health statistics.

D. J. PEREIRA GRAY

OBITUARY

Eileen Phillips HON. FRCGP

FEW institutions have been so well and faithfully served as was the College through the years of its childhood by Eileen Phillips. Mrs Phillips, who was born on 14 July 1905, joined the College staff in 1955 and worked part time as Clerk to the Research Committee for 10 years while at the same time acting as secretary to Lady Docker. She was an extremely fast and accurate typist.

She played a main part in the beginnings of many aspects of the College which are now firmly established and her influence on the course of events in the late 1960s was considerable. When, as often happened, she was faced with unprecedented situations, she handled them with imagination, resourcefulness, and an almost maternal insight.

She became Administrative Secretary in January 1965 and during her five years in that position she never once missed a Council meeting and saw the College take long strides towards maturity. She kept an active interest in the committees with which she had been concerned, especially the Research Committee which she claimed held pride of place in her affections.

She was a good administrator, and this, combined with her warm and loyal personality, resulted in a happy working relationship not only with her staff, but with the many different doctors with whom she had to deal among the early membership. Her welcoming and gracious presence was particularly appreciated by visitors to the College from overseas and the furnishing of the building itself owes much to her good taste. She gave the College much of the furniture in the President's flat.

Honorary Fellowship of the College was conferred upon her at the Annual General Meeting in Leeds in 1971, a year after her retirement, and her dedication to and interest in the College's affairs continued throughout her retirement until her final illness.

She was devoted to her family and her late husband was most generous in his attitude to the demands made by the College on her time and energy.

She leaves a son and a doctor daughter to whom the College extends its deepest sympathy.

Trenchard Louis Robert Hall, MRCGP

DR T. L. R. Hall, who was in general practice in Plympton, Devon, was killed, with his wife, Patricia, and their elder daughter, Mary, in a train accident on 6 July 1978. He was 52.

Bob Hall was born in County Cork, Ireland on 30 January 1926 and was educated at Blundell's School, Tiverton, Devon. He then joined the Royal Sussex Regiment and served in Greece, where he was commissioned.

He entered the London Hospital and graduated MRCS LRCP in 1957. He met his wife, Patricia, whilst she was doing her midwifery training, and they married in January 1960.

In 1960, following hospital house posts at Barnet, Bury St Edmunds, and Bow, Bob Hall entered general practice, first as a trainee, then as a junior partner at Southend-on-Sea. In 1963 he moved to Plymouth and took over a single-handed practice in Plympton, which steadily increased in size. In 1974 he became a member of the Royal College of General Practitioners. Bob Hall always had a flare for practice organization and management, and it was mainly through his enthusiasm and initiative that a large multi-practice health centre was built at Plympton in 1975. He also became very interested in postgraduate training and was appointed Civilian Trainer to Naval Trainees in 1976.

Bob Hall was always a keen and conscientious committee man. He served as Assistant Honorary Secretary, BMA Representative, and Chairman to the Plymouth Division of the BMA. He was also an active