

bridge the gap between the end of their traineeships and the beginning of their establishment as principals. Others said that the College could do more on a national level to help trainees, and wanted to know why the College was not pressing the Government for implementation of the recommendations of the Acheson Report. How concerned was the College about the shortage of SHO obstetric posts and medical unemployment in general?

The main message of the day from those who attended was that we had been slow to communicate to them all that the College does and has to offer them. They liked what they heard—they want to become involved. There is much for the advisers, course organizers and Faculties in the North West Thames Region to do to meet these needs. Are we the only Region to have failed to do so until now?

WILLIAM MCN. STYLES

## Prizes

### Ian Stokoe Memorial Award

The Scottish Council invites applications for the Ian Stokoe Award which is open to any fellow, member or associate of the College. The award is made to encourage high standards in the preparation of material for publication and it is made with special reference to the quality and aptness of the use of illustrations. Priority will be given to

material that has already been published, but consideration will also be given to material that has been used in a lecture given under the aegis of the College or of a Faculty of the College. Unpublished material will also be considered.

Applicants should submit their material either in the original form or as a copy of a reprint of an article: a complete, detailed and precise reference will also be accepted.

Material should be sent by registered post to Dr H. D. R. Munro, Secretary to the Scottish Council, The Royal College of General Practitioners, 2 Hill Square, Edinburgh EH8 9DR, from whom further information may be obtained. The closing date is 31 July 1983.

### Welsh Council Essay Prize

All general practitioners in Wales are invited to enter for the Welsh Council Essay Prize of £100. The Council has set the following subject:

*"According to Social Trends in 1982, by the year 1986, the number of people aged 75 to 84 will increase by about 200,000 (8% more than 1980) and the number of people aged 85 plus will increase by about the same amount (40% more than 1980)."*

*Write an essay on any aspect of the changes noted within the Health Services to cope with this, using your own and other population data experience.*

Entries should be typewritten and submitted under a *nom de plume*, ac-

companied by the author's name and address in a sealed envelope. They should be sent to Dr Derek Llewellyn, Riversdale House, Merthyr Maw Road, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan. The closing date is 1 August 1983.

Please see the January *Journal* for details of the following prizes:

*Anne Hamilton Prize*

*Butterworth Prize*

*Alastair Donald Essay Prize*

*Undergraduate Essay Competition*

The closing date for these four is 31 May 1983.

## Obituary

### Dr Bob Robertson

Dr Bob Robertson, President of the College of Family Physicians of Canada during 1980/1981, died of a heart attack in Edmonton last October. He was aged 47.

Bob Robertson was born in Sheffield and qualified from the University of Liverpool in 1958. He served with the Royal Canadian Air Force from 1959 to 1962 and then settled in Edmonton. He was appointed Assistant Clinical Professor of Family Medicine at the University of Alberta in 1977. He was awarded a Fellowship Ad Eundem of our College at the joint meeting with the College of Family Physicians of Canada in Dublin last April. Dr Robertson is survived by his wife and their four children.

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## MEDICAL NEWS

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### The Outposted Volunteer

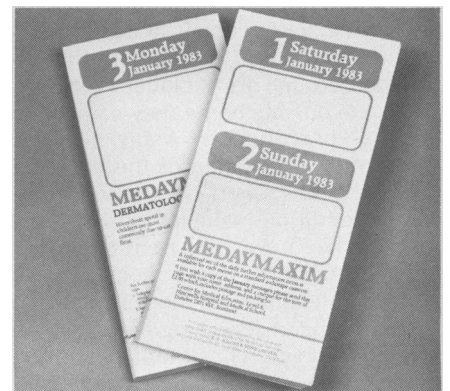
This report of a study of working relationships in voluntary and social services has been published by the Volunteer Centre. It analyses many of the issues likely to arise when paid staff and volunteers attempt to work together. It is based on extensive study of marriage guidance counsellors in Scotland who work from health centres or social work department offices. The author, Maureen Lenn, discovered that volunteers doing identical work won far greater acceptance in the health centres than in the social work departments. Her book should stimulate general practitioners and their colleagues to take a fresh look at the potential of volunteers in primary health care teams.

*The Outposted Volunteer; A Study of Working Relationships between Volun-*

*tary and Statutory Services*, by Maureen Lenn, is available from the Volunteer Centre, 29 Lower Kings Road, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire HP4 2AB. The price is £2.50 plus 25p postage and packing.

### Medaymaxim

The Centre for Medical Education at the University of Dundee has devised 'Medaymaxim' as a way of enabling a general practitioner to participate in continuing education with the minimal commitment of time, and in his own environment. 'Medaymaxim' is a desk pad with two functions—one as a daily memo pad and calendar, and the other as a source of a daily short message providing a practical guideline on an important issue in general practice. Doctors can obtain further information on each daily maxim by dialling for a



recorded message, and monthly audio-cassettes are available with more detailed information. Medaymaxim pads are produced with the support of E. R. Squibb & Sons Limited, and further information about them can be obtained from Jennifer Laidlaw, Centre for Medical Education, The University, Dundee.