

eral Practice Research Unit where he helped colleagues with an interest in research to pursue their ideas. A dedicated teacher of undergraduates and trainees, he imbued in them his love of general practice.

He got great satisfaction from his association with the College which in turn benefited from his support both in his faculty and nationally. He was Provost of the East of Scotland Faculty and represented the faculty on Scottish

Council and on Council. A man of few words, when he spoke it was always to some purpose. His work for general practice and his local community was recognized in the award of the MBE in 1977. He always involved himself deeply in local affairs and after his retirement from active practice he became chairman of the local community council. In this capacity he worked tirelessly to ensure that the local hospital, which was threatened with closure

due to financial cuts, survived. In this as in so many other things, he was successful.

First and foremost he was a family man. His wife Phyllis worked as his partner in the practice and was his constant companion. His son is in general practice in Aberdeen and his daughter is a health visitor in Edinburgh. To them we extend our sympathy.

J. A. R. LAWSON

MEDICAL NEWS

Family Practice—an international journal

Oxford University Press has announced the forthcoming publication of an addition to its range of general practice publications. The new journal, *Family Practice*, which will appear quarterly, is intended to provide a forum for the sharing of ideas and information between doctors working in different countries where not only health care systems but also cultures vary—often considerably.

The journal is designed to be of interest to all working in general practice although having an emphasis on teaching, research and the organization of services. It is intended to appeal also to those working in the fields of epidemiology, public health and medical sociology.

The editor will be Professor J. G. R. Howie. Contributions to the new journal are now welcome and should be sent to Professor Howie at the Department of General Practice, University of Edinburgh, 20 West Richmond Street, Edinburgh EH8 9DX, from whom further information can be obtained.

The first issue will appear in March 1984 and subscriptions will be offered at a reduced rate to members of the College. Information about this will appear shortly.

The United Kingdom Joint Professional Committee for Primary Health Care

The inaugural meeting of this group was held at the Royal College of Nursing on 5 July 1983. It has been set up following a series of informal talks among various organizations representing nurses and doctors about the restructuring of the NHS and its impact on the community services. The organizations represented on the Committee

are the Royal College of General Practitioners, the General Medical Services Committee, the Royal College of Midwives, the Health Visitors Association and the Royal College of Nursing.

The terms of reference of the Committee are to foster and encourage high standards of primary health care by promoting interprofessional teamwork and monitoring the provision of resources. The College's representatives are John Hasler and Bill Styles.

AUTGP Annual Scientific Meeting

The Association of University Teachers of General Practice, the membership of which comprises both full-time 'core' university staff and part-time general practitioner tutors, held its annual scientific meeting in Dundee in July. Seventy participants drawn from almost all the UK medical schools attended this conference, which had as its theme 'Teaching and Service'.

Dr Mary Neville (Dundee) presented a short account of a survey of all UK University Departments of General Practice, carried out to pilot a method for possible use more widely in Europe, to assist WHO.

The conference considered in some detail the 1980 GMC recommendations on basic medical education and the potential role of general practice in assisting undergraduates to achieve the stated objectives. Dr H. J. Wright (Leeds) stressed the complementary nature of undergraduate education and postgraduate training. He undertook to consider the outcome of the conference deliberations (involving planned group work): such commentary might influence a document on undergraduate teaching of general practice currently being prepared for the AUTGP. The large volume of presentations of original work in general

practice required simultaneous operation of two lecture theatres; pre-circulation of summaries of papers made it easier for participants to choose which sessions to attend.

One of the highlights of the conference was the presentation of work carried out by each of three Southampton undergraduates in their fourth year. The professionalism of these presentations was matched by their scientific content, and this innovation was well received by the conference.

At the annual business meeting Dr John Horder was created an Honorary Fellow of the Association.

Next year's Annual Scientific Meeting will be hosted by the Director of General Practice Studies, University of Cambridge.

Standards in health visiting practice

The Council for the Education and Training of Health Visitors has published a booklet entitled *Setting Standards in Health Visiting Practice*. This is an account of a series of workshops held in the Northern Region in 1981/1982.

The booklet can be obtained from Miss A. McClymont, Professional Officer Primary Care, National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting for Scotland, 22 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 1JX.

Institute of Family Therapy

The calendar of workshops and courses planned by the Institute of Family Therapy for October 1983 to June 1984 has recently been published. It can be obtained from The Course Secretary, Institute of Family Therapy, 43 New Cavendish Street, London W1. (Tel: 01-935 1651).