

to make our opinions widely known and for us to lead the way in organizing, and helping others to organize, vocational training for general practice as vigorously as possible. Experiments have already been carried out in vocational training in London and Wessex; a plan of training for general practice has been started in Bristol; and Lancaster and Tyneside among other places are formulating ideas. The College influenced the General Medical Services Committee report on the trainee scheme in an attempt to put this on a realistic footing. All these schemes are being watched with interest by medical schools and medical educationalists. Perhaps we have been wise in acting cannily and allowing ideas to germinate and crystalize.

The College at its annual general meeting has voted unanimously in favour of the need for vocational training for general practice and the way is now open for the College through its working party to weld the results of the various experiments into firm recommendations that will give a strong lead to medical schools and our own faculties throughout the country. The general acceptance and implementation of these standards of pre-practice education will do more to improve the standing, as well as the contentment, of general practitioners than all the alterations of the terms of service and remuneration now being discussed, and will inevitably lead to much improved standards of medical care for the British people.

THE COLLEGE APPEAL

THE second phase of the College Appeal is well under way, and through their faculty boards all members will have heard something of our plans for the future. One principle which every member will understand is that it must be clearly seen that we are doing all we can to help ourselves before we ask for help from others. It is surprising what can be achieved when anyone determines to do all he can to further some object of which he feels strongly, particularly if it is concerned with the general good of the community.

During the next six months the College will make a great effort to put its two major activities, education and research, on a sound financial footing. The success so far achieved is mainly due to the generous support given to the appeal by trusts and industry; members of the College gave little more than ten per cent of the total figure. Before a second approach can be made to industry and others, that a major effort should come from the faculty members themselves, whose interests, and those of general practitioners everywhere, depend upon a successful outcome to this appeal.