

Research Projects

Proposed Study of Epilepsy

Preliminary work has now been completed on the Research Committee's project on the study of epilepsy. A large number of general practitioners will be needed to carry out the observations.

The proforma is very simple and will take only five minutes to complete for most cases. One final follow-up remark will be required at the end of the survey, before the cards are returned to the recorder. The study will last for one year in the first instance.

The practices included in the study will have to be representative of the country as a whole. To ensure this, a list of applicants will be submitted to a statistician for selection. This being so, it may not be possible to include all those who would like to participate, but every effort will be made to accommodate as many as possible.

Any members of the Research Register who would wish to take part in this work should apply to the Recorder *at an early date*. In order to assist in a parallel study some of the practices will be visited by a Psychiatric Social Worker from the Maudsley Hospital, who is an expert in the subject. Applicants to the Research Committee project are asked to state whether or not they are agreeable to assist the P.S.W. should their practice be selected for a visitation.

Applications should be sent to: Dr. C. A. H. Watts, The Limes, Ibstock, Leics.

Scabies

Dr. F. F. Hellier in a letter to the B.M.J. on 10th November 1956, page 1117, draws the attention of the profession to an apparent increase in scabies. In further correspondence with Dr. J. C. Graves, a member of the Research Register of the College, Dr. Hellier has given figures from his clinic at Leeds Infirmary and others supplied to him by the Chief School Medical Officer in Edinburgh. Dr. Graves confirms this apparent increase as far as his own area is concerned and has suggested that only in general practice can the true state of affairs be estimated; he has offered to act as recorder for notifications of scabies.

The Research Committee has agreed that scabies should now be made temporarily notifiable within the membership of the Research Register and members are asked to notify Dr. J. C. Graves, Kitts Croft, Writtle, Essex, of each case of scabies suspected or confirmed during 1957; he would also be glad to hear from any doctor who has seen scabies in the past year. He will acknowledge each such notification and ask for further clinical and epidemiological details.

Please notify Dr. J. C. Graves, Kitts Croft, Writtle, Nr. Chelmsford, Essex.