

the "undistinguished" consultant subsists on a part-time salary based on income rates ruling in the year 1938-9, plus 20%. He is at the present time worse off than the majority of his general-practitioner colleagues.

Any funds available for distribution as a "betterment" factor for consultants are likely to be limited. It would be following accepted principles if in the first instance some increase should be granted to the worst-paid group. Those who are clearly without distinction and are prepared to accept this fact as a permanent disability might well be granted a modest betterment increment as a consolation prize. It is unnecessary to stress the importance of maintaining secrecy in the payment of such awards based as they will be upon the absence of professional merit.—I am, etc.,

Sudbury, Suffolk.

H. BATHURST NORMAN.

SIR,—I have read your leading article on remuneration of consultants (*Journal*, February 27, p. 507) and other correspondence on this subject, and become more and more uneasy at the tardiness with which our affairs are conducted. Your leader offers no hope of an early settlement—in fact, tells us nothing that we do not already know. What we want to know is when are we going to receive our award and how much will it be. To those of us with families to educate these are urgent questions which must be answered soon.—I am, etc.,

Northampton.

T. K. DAVIDSON.

SIR,—We, the undersigned, find the letter of Dr. W. A. Bourne (*Supplement*, March 6, p. 66) quite astonishing. He appears quite content to throw overboard the sheet anchor of the Spens report and its corollaries. He accepts, without apparent demur, the continued absence of the right of arbitration, on which his population income statistics have no bearing.

The present situation arises directly from devaluation; had the 80% of the population received no redress for the fall in the value of money, there might be some substance in his argument. We are not prepared to allow his doctrine to pass unchallenged, because the fulfilment of the Spens recommendations and the grant of the right of arbitration are matters upon which the whole future of successive generations of the profession must depend. We are not aware that the foundations of Parliamentary stability were in any way shaken by the promulgation of the Danckwerts award. That the welfare state appears to survive solely on continuous inflation is a fundamental weakness, but if Parliament cannot stabilize the currency we must hold the administration to its bond, if persuasion fails, by direct action.—We are, etc.,

Dorchester. T. V. COOPER. G. H. TEE.  
A. N. BLADES. R. O. J. CLARK.

## Association Notices

### Diary of Central Meetings

#### MARCH

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| 16 | Tues.  | Anaesthetic Services Subcommittee, Anaesthetists Group Committee, 1.30 p.m.  |
| 16 | Tues.  | Executive Subcommittee, Joint Formulary Committee (at Pharmaceutical Society, 17, Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.), 2 p.m. |
| 17 | Wed.   | Remuneration Subcommittee, Occupational Health Committee, 2 p.m.   |
| 17 | Wed.   | Joint meeting of Public Health and Venereologists Group Committees, 2.30 p.m.  |
| 18 | Thurs. | G.M.S. Committee, 10.30 a.m.   |
| 18 | Thurs. | Dermatologists Group Committee, 12 noon.   |
| 18 | Thurs. | Dermatologists Group Conference, 2 p.m.  |
| 18 | Thurs. | Organization Subcommittee, Central Consultants and Specialists Committee, 2 p.m.   |
| 19 | Fri.   | Joint Committee of B.M.A. and the Magistrates' Association, 10.30 a.m.   |
| 19 | Fri.   | Joint Conference on B.V.A. Memorandum, 1934, 10.30 a.m.  |
| 24 | Wed.   | Assistants and Young Practitioners Subcommittee, G.M.S. Committee, 2 p.m.  |
| 24 | Wed.   | Geriatrics Joint Subcommittee, Central Consultants and Specialists, G.M.S., and Public Health Committees, 2.15 p.m.        |
| 25 | Thurs. | International Relations Committee, 2 p.m.  |
| 25 | Thurs. | Medico-Legal Subcommittee, Central Consultants and Specialists Committee, 6 p.m.   |
| 26 | Fri.   | Charities Committee, 11.30 a.m.  |
| 26 | Fri.   | Hospital Junior Staffing Subcommittee, Central Consultants and Specialists Committee, 11.30 a.m.                           |
| 30 | Tues.  | Waverley Evidence Committee, 11 a.m.   |

### Branch and Division Meetings to be Held

ALDERSHOT AND FARNHAM DIVISION.—At Cambridge Hospital, Aldershot, Thursday, March 18, 8.30 p.m., clinical meeting.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE DIVISION.—At Physiotherapy Department, Lake Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne, Friday, March 12, 8.45 for 9 p.m., meeting. Film: "Senile Obliterative Arteritis of the Legs." Mr. R. T. Grime will give a few comments after the film. Members of adjacent Divisions within the Hospital Group are invited.

BIRMINGHAM DIVISION.—At 154, Great Charles Street, Birmingham, Tuesday, March 16, 8.30 p.m., meeting. Lecture by Mr. Hugh Carson: "Abdominal Emergencies."

BLACKPOOL AND FYLDE DIVISION.—At Savoy Hotel, Queens Drive, Blackpool, Wednesday, March 17, 7.15 p.m., dinner; 8.30 p.m., Dr. M. C. G. Israels: "The Anaemias."

CHELSEA AND FULHAM DIVISION.—At West London Hospital, Hammersmith, W., Friday, March 19, 8.30 p.m., clinical meeting. Papers by Drs. L. S. Konstam, L. P. E. Laurent, and Mr. H. W. Burge. Members of the Kensington and Hammersmith Division are invited.

ENFIELD AND POTTERS BAR DIVISION.—At St. Michael's Hospital, Chase Side Crescent, Enfield, Wednesday, March 17, 8.30 p.m., clinical meeting. Short clinical papers by Dr. J. Hutton Chisholm, Dr. W. D. Hyde, Dr. Gerard Lang, and Dr. C. Allan Birch.

FURNESS DIVISION.—At Duke of Edinburgh Hotel, Abbey Road, Barrow-in-Furness, Friday, March 19, 7.30 for 8 p.m., annual dinner. Male members and male guests only will be attending.

GUILDFORD DIVISION.—At Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, Thursday, March 11, 8.30 p.m., Dr. R. S. Hodge: "The Psychology of Crime."

LEEDS DIVISION.—At the Mansion, Roundhay Park, Leeds, Friday, March 19, 7.30 for 8 p.m., Hot Pot Supper.

MACCLESFIELD AND EAST CHESHIRE DIVISION.—At Dr. C. A. K. Bird's house, Scriven Lodge, Prestbury Road, Macclesfield, Thursday, March 18, 8.30 p.m., meeting. Address by Dr. D. G. Evans: "Whooping Cough."

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH.—At Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Thursday, March 18, 7.15 p.m., clinical demonstration by Dr. T. H. Boon: "Indigestion"; 8.45 p.m., address by Mr. Andrew Logan: "Surgical Treatment of Mitral Disease."

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE BRANCH.—Correction: The notice of a meeting of this Branch printed in the *Supplement* of March 6 (p. 68), stating that the B.M.A. Lecture by Mr. Harold Dodd on "The Perils of Thrombosis" would be delivered at that meeting on March 11, was incorrect. Mr. Harold Dodd's B.M.A. Lecture will be on April 29 at 8.30 p.m.

OLDHAM DIVISION.—At Oldham Hotel, Rhodes Bank, Oldham, Monday, March 15, 9 p.m., meeting. Dr. A. Morgan Jones: "Recent Advances in the Diagnosis of Heart Disease."

SOUTHAMPTON DIVISION.—(1) At Polygon Hotel, Friday, March 19, 7.30 for 8 p.m., annual dinner dance. (2) At Canute Room, Polygon Hotel, Southampton, Wednesday, March 17, 8.30 p.m., general meeting. Address by Dr. F. E. Camps: "The Changing Face of Forensic Medicine in Relation to Murder."

SOUTH MIDDLESEX DIVISION.—At Red Lion Hotel, Hounslow, Wednesday, March 17, 8.45 p.m., meeting. Lantern slide lecture by Dr. R. Donald Teare.

SOUTHPORT DIVISION.—At the Assembly Rooms, Prince of Wales Hotel, Southport, Thursday, March 18, 8.30 p.m., meeting. B.M.A. Lecture by Dr. W. S. C. Copeman: "Treatment of the Rheumatic Diseases."

SUNDERLAND DIVISION.—At Royal Infirmary, Sunderland, Friday, March 19, 8 p.m., meeting. Address by Professor A. M. Claye.

SWINDON DIVISION.—At Goddard Arms Hotel, Swindon, Friday, March 19, 8 for 8.15 p.m., annual dinner. B.M.A. Lecture by Sir Heneage Ogilvie.

WEST BROMWICH AND SMETHWICK DIVISION.—At the Red Cow, High Street, Smethwick, Friday, March 19, 8 p.m., dinner dance (9 p.m., dinner).

WEST HERTS DIVISION.—At Stanbroughs Hydro, Watford, Wednesday, March 17, 8.30 p.m., general meeting. Two films: (1) "Dental Anaesthetics in Adults"; (2) "Dental Anaesthetics in Children."