

time to do things for the individual patient is paid the most. As the Commission says, "We find it hard to believe that in medicine alone [in the context, general practice is understood] there is a complete lack of that selective ability which is exercised in practically all other occupations."

Sir, by refusing to co-operate in working out a reasonable scheme for paying distinguished colleagues at a higher rate than the average, we should be conniving at making permanent a lowered status for G.P.s, both as compared with consultant practice and with other professions. I would beg those who would instinctively oppose any such scheme carefully to read pages 104-24 of the Royal Commission's report (preferably the entire document, which is planned as a whole) and to consider whether such a lower status would not be a worse evil than to risk small errors in selection, such as exist in every field of human exertion.

Perhaps we should all declare our interest in this sort of dispute. Most doctors, of whom I am one, are convinced that they are good and efficient practitioners, often even that they are the only doctor who knows what is best for a particular patient. Let all of us distinguished ones, then, take our chance to be selected for just reward. The rest—what are they but *canes in stabulis*?—I am, etc.,

Bushy, Herts.

D. G. WILSON.

Sir,—Before the profession accepts money from the Treasury (if indeed it is offered) for distribution as distinction awards to G.P.s, I would suggest that they should show their approval in no uncertain manner by postal vote.

The difficulty of assessing distinction in this the most individual branch of medicine with its own special discipline would appear insuperable. A refusal might help to correct some false ideas and create a happier atmosphere in the profession.—I am, etc.,

London, N.8.

JANINA KORNAKA.

Association Notices

Diary of Central Meetings

MARCH

7 Mon.	Arrangements Committee (Auckland, N.Z., 1961), 5 p.m.
9 Wed.	Personal Cases Subcommittee, Public Health Committee, 10 a.m.
9 Wed.	Staff Side, Committee C, Medical Whitley Council, 10.30 a.m.
9 Wed.	Control of Medicines Subcommittee, G.M.S. Committee, 11 a.m.
9 Wed.	Assistants and Young Practitioners Subcommittee, 2 p.m.
10 Thurs.	Maternity Services Subcommittee, G.M.S. Committee, 10.30 a.m.
11 Fri.	Consulting Pathologists Group Committee, 10.30 a.m.
11 Fri.	Library Subcommittee, Science Committee, 11 a.m.
11 Fri.	Consulting Pathologists Group, 2 p.m.
11 Fri.	Science Committee, 2 p.m.
15 Tues.	Central Consultants and Specialists Committee Executive, 10.15 a.m.
15 Tues.	Committee on Training of Medical Students in Obstetrics, 2 p.m.
16 Wed.	Occupational Health Committee, 10.30 a.m.
16 Wed.	Central Ethical Committee, 11 a.m.
16 Wed.	Committee of Management, Annual Clinical Meeting, Middlesbrough, 1960, 2.30 p.m.
17 Thurs.	G.M.S. Committee, 10.30 a.m.
18 Fri.	Public Health Committee, 10 a.m.
23 Wed.	Private Practice Committee, 2 p.m.
24 Thurs.	Organization Committee, 2 p.m.

Branch and Division Meetings to be Held

ABERYSTWYTH DIVISION.—(1) At Marine Hotel, Aberystwyth, Wednesday, March 9, 3 p.m., mannequin parade for doctors' wives. One friend invited. (2) At Bronpadarn, Llanbadarn, Saturday, March 12, 8 p.m., film session: (a) "Haemorrhoids and Early Rectal Cancer"; (b) "Atrial Septal Defect."

ARGYLL AND BUTE DIVISION.—At Stag Hotel, Lochilphed, Argyll, Sunday, March 13, 12.30 for 1 p.m., lunch; 2.30 p.m., meeting to discuss Division business.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE DIVISION.—At Committee Rooms, the Broadoak Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne, Wednesday, March 9, 8.30 p.m., annual general meeting.

BLACKPOOL AND FYLDE DIVISION.—At Savoy Hotel, North Shore, Blackpool, Wednesday, March 9, combined meeting with Blackpool and Fylde Law Society. 7 for 7.30 p.m., dinner; 8.45 p.m., lecture by Dr. G. B. Manning: "Forensic Medicine in the North-west."

CROYDON DIVISION.—At 45, Wellesley Road, Croydon, Tuesday, March 8, 8.30 p.m., general meeting. Dr. Denis Leigh: "Simulation and the Podola Case."

DEWSBURY DIVISION.—At Marmaville Club, Mirfield, Friday, March 11, 7.45 p.m., annual dinner dance.

DONCASTER DIVISION.—At Danum Hotel, Doncaster, Tuesday, March 8, 8 p.m., dinner. Dr. A. L. Hilton: "Recent Trends in Venereology."

DUDLEY DIVISION.—At Bell Hotel, Market Street, Stourbridge, Thursday, March 10, 7.45 for 8.15 p.m., annual dinner. Principal Guest, Dr. D. P. Stevenson (Secretary, B.M.A.). Medical guests invited.

EAST KENT DIVISION.—At County Hotel, Canterbury, Thursday, March 10, 7.30 p.m., dinner; 8.30 p.m., talk by Dr. Mary Barton on the Problems of Infertility, as met in General Medical Practitioners' Patients.

EAST YORKSHIRE BRANCH.—At Quern House, 68, Park Street, Hull, Wednesday, March 9, 8.30 p.m., general meeting.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE BRANCH.—At Hut 6, City General Hospital, Great Western Road, Gloucester, Thursday, March 10, 6.15 p.m., paper and film by Mr. P. Boreham: "Prostatic Surgery." Supper will follow at Fleece Hotel, "Monk's Retreat," Westgate Street, Gloucester.

HALIFAX DIVISION.—At Board Room, Royal Halifax Infirmary, Wednesday, March 9, 8.30 p.m., B.M.A. Lecture by Professor W. I. C. Morris: "Carcinoma of the Cervix."

HAMPSTEAD DIVISION.—At New End Hospital, Hampstead, N.W., Tuesday, March 8, 8.30 p.m., Dr. Isabel Wilson and Dr. H. Stoll: "Implications of the Mental Health Act."

HASTINGS DIVISION.—At Royal East Sussex Hospital, Tuesday, March 8, 8.15 p.m., Mr. N. S. Hooton: "Some Thoracic Surgical Problems."

INVERNESS DIVISION.—At Royal Northern Infirmary, Inverness, Wednesday, March 9, 5 p.m., B.M.A. Lecture by Sir Gordon Gordon-Taylor: "In Retrospect."

ISLE OF MAN BRANCH.—At Ballamona Hospital, Braddan, Isle of Man, Saturday, March 12, 8.30 p.m., B.M.A. Lecture by Dr. J. G. Scadding: "Sarcoidosis."

KENSINGTON AND HAMMERSMITH DIVISION.—At Hotel Rembrandt, Thurloe Place, South Kensington, W., Saturday, March 12, 7.30 for 8 p.m., annual dinner. Guests of honour, Henry Cecil, author, Mr. A. Lawrence Abel, and Dr. L. S. Potter (Assistant Secretary, B.M.A.).

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES DIVISION.—At Nurses' Home, Kingston Hospital, Wolverton Avenue, Kingston-on-Thames, Tuesday, March 8, 8.30 p.m., four films: "Some Aspects of Accessible Cancers."

LAMBETH AND SOUTHWARK DIVISION.—Tuesday, March 8, 2.30 p.m., visit to Scotland Yard.

NUNEATON AND TAMWORTH DIVISION.—At the Red Lion Hotel, Atherstone, Tuesday, March 8, 8.30 p.m., meeting to discuss the Royal Commission's Report. All medical practitioners in the area of the Division are invited.

PETERBOROUGH DIVISION.—At Angel Hotel, Peterborough, Friday, March 11, 8.30 p.m., annual dance.

REIGATE DIVISION.—At Redhill County Hospital, Tuesday, March 8, 7.30 p.m., clinical evening.

SCARBOROUGH DIVISION.—At Nurses' Lecture Hall, Scarborough Hospital, Thursday, March 10, 8.30 p.m., lecture by Dr. Deryck Taverner: "Facial Pain."

SOUTH BEDFORDSHIRE DIVISION.—At Luton and Dunstable Hospital, Friday, March 11, 8 p.m., clinical meeting.

SOUTH MIDDLESEX DIVISION.—At Red Lion, Hounslow, Thursday, March 10, 8.30 p.m., Mr. R. Fabian: "Behind the Scenes at Scotland Yard." Members and their wives are invited.

STOCKPORT DIVISION.—At Davenport Club, Cale Green, Stockport, Tuesday, March 8, 8.30 p.m., address by Dr. W. Love: "Practical Procedures in Domiciliary Midwifery" (Illustrated).

WIGAN DIVISION.—At Lewis's Restaurant, Wallgate, Wigan, Thursday, March 10, 8 p.m., buffet supper, followed by B.M.A. Lecture by Professor J. C. Goligher: "Place of Surgery in the Treatment of Ulcerative Colitis."

WOOLWICH DIVISION.—At Shakespeare Hotel, Powis Street, Woolwich, S.E., Tuesday, March 8, 8.30 p.m., films: (1) "Chronic Bronchitis"; (2) "Bronchial Carcinoma."

YORKSHIRE BRANCH.—At Committee Room, Pinderfields General Hospital, Wakefield, Wednesday, March 9, 8 p.m., meeting of Yorkshire Occupational Health Discussion Group. Dr. E. C. Fear: "Pulmonary Hazards in the Gas Industry."

Correction.—Dr. G. T. Foster-Smith, whose nomination for admission to the Roll of Fellows was endorsed by the Organization Committee (*Supplement*, February 27, p. 92) comes from the South-east Essex Division, not the South-west Essex Division as reported.