

of whom who have had occasion to use such a service are more than satisfied with its facilities—or in the interests of patients who do at least as well as they would with a rota doctor or locum—or of the deputizing organizations who have clearly demonstrated their ability and efficiency at a job that should have been done by local medical committees years ago (though I doubt whether they would ever have done it so well)?

There are several authorities ready to control us, order us about, restrict us and punish us with all the might of the law behind them. There is only one organization whose duty it is to represent us—the local medical committee. We have every reason to expect them to stand up and defend our rights, not to make it more difficult for us to exercise them. This move is of no advantage to the practitioner, and, in so far as one organization has felt constrained to make its terms more stringent in deference to the G.M.S. Committee, has already proved to his disadvantage. Nor is it in the interests of anyone else. So much so that one is tempted to ask whether it was not entirely conceived out of pique at not being in control of a project that should have been organized by the local medical committees years ago. The deputizing organizations have done more for the general practitioner in one stroke than all the local medical committees and G.M.S. Committees have done in 20 years. We can demand that they leave them and us alone.—I am, etc.,

London, W.9.

A. LEWIS.

Association Notices

Diary of Central Meetings

MARCH

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| 22 Tues. | Working Party on "Future of Occupational Health Services," 10.30 a.m. |
| 22 Tues. | Finance Committee, 2 p.m. |
| 22 Tues. | Subcommittee on Regulations under the Mental Health Act, 1959, Psychological Medicine Group Committee, 2 p.m. |
| 23 Wed. | Private Practice Committee, 2 p.m. |
| 24 Thurs. | Organization Committee, 2 p.m. |
| 24 Thurs. | Subcommittee on the Status of Principals in Partnership, G.M.S. Committee, 2 p.m. |
| 24 Thurs. | Charities Committee, 2.30 p.m. |
| 25 Fri. | Radiologists Group Committee, 10.30 a.m. |
| 28 Mon. | Non-professorial Group Committee, 2 p.m. |
| 29 Tues. | Amending Acts Committee, 2 p.m. |
| 30 Wed. | Council, 10 a.m. |

APRIL

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| 6 Wed. | Film Committee, 2 p.m. |
| 7 Thurs. | Agenda Committee for Conference of Consultants and Specialists, 12 noon. |

Branch and Division Meetings to be Held

ABERYSTWYTH DIVISION.—At Hafod Arms Hotel, Devils Bridge, Friday, March 25, 9 for 9.30 p.m., annual dinner-dance.

ALDERSHOT AND FARNHAM DIVISION.—At library, Cambridge Military Hospital, Tuesday, March 22, 8.15 p.m., clinical meeting.

BARNET DIVISION.—At Old Fold Manor Golf Club, Hadley Green, Thursday, March 24, 8.30 p.m., B.M.A. Lecture by Mr. David Stratton: "Antarctic Expedition" (illustrated by coloured slides). Friends are invited.

BARNSELY DIVISION.—At Royal Hotel, Barnsley, Wednesday, March 23, 7.45 for 8.15 p.m., dinner. Ladies are invited.

BOURNEMOUTH DIVISION.—At Carlton Hotel, East Cliff, Bournemouth, Friday, March 25, 7.50 for 8.15 p.m., supper, followed by "Any Questions?" Panel, Mr. W. H. Graham Jessop, Dr. I. H. Jenkins, Dr. J. F. Fisher, a schoolmaster, and one other. One guest with each member only.

CHESTER DIVISION.—At the Blossoms Hotel, Chester, Friday, March 25, 8.30 p.m., B.M.A. Lecture by Dr. Robert Coope: "Literature and Medicine."

CITY DIVISION.—At Mildmay Mission Hospital, Austin Street, E., Tuesday, March 22, 8 p.m., clinical meeting, followed by short general meeting. Members of St. Pancras Division and guests are invited.

EAST DENBIGH AND FLINT DIVISION.—At Wynnstay Hotel, Wrexham, Thursday, March 24, meeting in conjunction with Wrexham Clinical Society. 7.30 p.m., dinner: 8.30 p.m., B.M.A. Lecture by Dr. J. F. Wilkinson: "Recent Advances in the Treatment of Blood Diseases."

EAST SOMERSET DIVISION.—At Crown Hotel, Wells, Thursday, March 24, 7.45 for 8 p.m., annual dinner. Preceded by general meeting at 7.15 p.m., election of officers and short statement and

initial discussion on Report of Royal Commission on Remuneration.

ENFIELD AND POTTERS BAR DIVISION.—At George Hotel, Enfield Town, Wednesday, March 23, 8.30 p.m., extraordinary business meeting.

GREENWICH AND DEPTFORD DIVISION.—At St. Alfege's Hospital, Vanbrugh Hill, Greenwich, S.E., Thursday, March 24, 8.30 p.m., annual clinical meeting.

LEIGH DIVISION.—At Courts Hotel, Church Street, Leigh, Tuesday, March 22, 8.30 p.m., Mr. R. Thornley: "Haematuria."

LEWISHAM DIVISION.—At Committee Rooms, Lewisham Hospital, S.E., Friday, March 25, 8.30 p.m., Dr. James Cyriax: "Manipulative Medicine."

LONDONDERRY DIVISION.—At Board Room, Altnagelvin Hospital, Londonderry, Thursday, March 24, 8.15 p.m., address by Dr. W. A. Gillespie: "Epidemiology and Control of Hospital Cross-infection."

MIDLAND BRANCH.—At Nurses' Recreation Hall, Dudley Road Hospital, Dudley Road, Birmingham, Friday, March 25, 8.15 p.m., meeting of clinical and pathological section.

MONMOUTHSHIRE DIVISION.—At House of Commons (by kind invitation of Rt. Hon. Peter Thorneycroft, P.C., M.P.), Saturday, March 26, annual dinner, preceded by tour of Palace of Westminster at 6.15 p.m.

OLDHAM DIVISION.—At Oldham Hotel, Rhodes Bank, Oldham, Monday, March 21, Dr. A. Morgan Jones: "Coronary Thrombosis."

SCARBOROUGH DIVISION.—At Nurses' Lecture Room, Scarborough Hospital, Thursday, March 24, 8.30 p.m., annual general meeting.

SOUTHAMPTON DIVISION.—At Polygon Hotel, Friday, March 25, 7.30 for 8 p.m., annual dinner-dance.

SOUTH BEDFORDSHIRE DIVISION.—At Halfway House, Luton, Friday, March 25, 8 for 8.30 p.m., annual dinner-dance.

SOUTH-EAST ESSEX DIVISION.—At Southend General Hospital, Friday, March 25, 8.30 p.m., B.M.A. Lecture by Mr. A. Dickson Wright: "Momentous Operations."

SOUTH-WEST ESSEX DIVISION.—At Sir James Hawkey Hall, Woodford Green, Thursday, March 24, 7.45 p.m., B.M.A. bridge drive.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH.—At Sully Hospital, Glamorgan, Thursday, March 24, 3 p.m., joint clinical meeting with Cardiff Division.

SOUTH-WEST WALES DIVISION.—At Stepney Hotel, Llanelly, Friday, March 25, 7.30 for 8 p.m., dinner. Speaker, Mr. Roderick Bowen, Q.C., M.P. Wives and friends, especially legal friends, are invited.

STOCKPORT DIVISION.—At the Guildhall, Stockport, Friday, March 25, 7.30 for 8 p.m., 4th annual dinner. Male guests, medical or non-medical, invited.

TOWER HAMLETS DIVISION.—At Mile End Hospital, Bancroft Road, E., Friday, March 25, 3 p.m., clinical meeting.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS DIVISION.—At Kent and Sussex Hospital, Thursday, March 24, 8.30 p.m., 54th annual general meeting.

TYRONE DIVISION.—At New Clinic, Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital, Omagh Sunday, March 27, 3 p.m., A.G.M.

WAKEFIELD, PONTEFRACT, AND CASTLEFORD DIVISION.—At Monk Fryston Hall Hotel, South Milford, Friday, March 25, 8.30 for 9 p.m., annual dinner-dance.

WANDSWORTH DIVISION.—(1) At St. James' Hospital, S.W., Tuesday, March 22, 8.30 p.m., annual general meeting. (2) At South London Hospital for Women, Friday, March 25, 8.15 for 8.30 p.m., B.M.A. Lecture by Sir Cecil Wakeley: "Colonic Obstruction" (illustrated).

WEST SOMERSET DIVISION.—At Wessex Room, the Mermaid Hotel, Yeovil, Thursday, March 24, 7.15 for 7.30 p.m., dinner: 8.15 for 8.30 p.m., B.M.A. Lecture by Mr. W. Gissane: "Some Medical Problems in the Prevention and Treatment of Injuries from Accidents."

WEST SUSSEX DIVISION.—At Dolphin and Anchor Hotel, Chichester, Wednesday, March 23, 6.30 p.m., general meeting. Film: "Inquiry into General Practice"; 8 p.m., dinner; 9 p.m., business meeting.

WILTSHIRE BRANCH.—At Roundway Hospital, Devizes, Sunday, March 27, 10.45 a.m., general meeting to consider Report of Royal Commission. Discussion to be opened by Dr. S. Wand (Chairman of Council). All medical practitioners in the area are invited.

Meetings of Branches and Divisions

CHELSEA AND FULHAM DIVISION.—A general meeting was held on February 16 with Mr. D. H. Sandell in the chair. Twenty-seven members and guests were present. The general meeting was followed by a special meeting in which the speaker was Dr. W. Patrick Griffin, and the subject "Observations of a Doctor in General Practice in the National Health Service To-day." At the end of his talk Dr. Griffin proposed, and Dr. R. Castillo seconded, that doctors should return, unstamped, all advertisements for drugs to the senders without discrimination, and indicate that they did not wish to accept circulars or receive representatives. After discussion, Dr. Griffin's motion was voted on and lost.

Correction.—The heading to the second column in the table in Dr. E. R. S. Hooper's letter (*Supplement*, March 5, p. 106) should have been: "8½ N.H.D.—Present Scale," and not "8½ N.H.D."