

## MEDICAL NEWS

### Committee on Hospital Complaints

The Department of Health and Social Security has announced the membership of the committee set up by Sir Keith Joseph (see *B.M.J.*, 13 February, p. 413) to review the present system for investigating hospital complaints. Its chairman, already announced, is Mr. Michael Davies, Q.C., Recorder of Derby. The members are: Miss Mary Appleby (general secretary, National Association for Mental Health), Mr. Barry Askew (editor, *Lancashire Evening Post*), Professor Kathleen Bell (professor designate of social studies at Newcastle University), Mr. Stanley Berwin (member of board of governors, Hammersmith and St. Mark's Hospitals), Professor M. Kogan (professor of government and social administration at Brunel University), Mr. R. H. Morton (legal adviser, Liverpool Regional Hospital Board), Mr. F. Pethybridge (secretary, Manchester Regional Hospital Board), Miss Audrey Prime (staff side secretary, General Whitley Council for the Health Services of Great Britain), Dr. John Revans (S.A.M.O., Wessex Regional Hospital Board), Sir John Richardson (chairman, Joint Consultants' Committee), Miss Ann Shearer (journalist), Mrs. Margaret Stacey (member, Welsh Hospital Board), Miss P. A. I. Vick (chief nursing officer, Mansfield Hospital Management Committee), Mr. M. Wheeler (group secretary, High Royds Hospital Management Committee), and Miss Olive Williams (joint secretary, National Association of Leagues of Hospital Friends).

### University Planning

By 1973-74 the total capacity of universities in Great Britain will be about 285,000, divided between arts-based and science-based studies in the ratio 41:59. Commenting on this in its *Annual Survey* (H.M.S.O. Cmnd. 4593, price 30p) the University Grants Committee points out that this ratio is the result of policy adopted after publication of the Robbins report in 1963, which recommended a switch towards science.

The biggest single obstacle to further expansion by the universities is seen as the shortage of residential accommodation for students. The proportion of students attending their "home" university is growing less each year, and at the same time there is increasing pressure on lodgings from institutions other than universities.

In the field of medical education schemes have been agreed with the universities for expansion to an intake of 3,700 students by 1975. The new school at Leicester should take its first students in that year.

### Changes to the Q.I.D.N.

The Queen's Institute of District Nursing has announced changes in its structure, and in future there are to be three categories of membership. In addition to corporate membership (initially for local health authorities), the new scheme offers personal membership for the first time under the two new styles, professional membership (for members of the nursing profession in Britain and overseas), and associate membership (for members of allied professions and others with health service interests). The intention is to provide a

service for all who work together in the health and welfare services. The Institute plans to convert its headquarters into a cultural and educational centre and it is hoped that nurses and doctors in the domiciliary field will find membership worthwhile.

### People in the News

Dr. R. E. Kelly, dean of the Institute of Neurology, London, is visiting the new medical school in Valparaiso, University of Chile, to advise on the development and running of its new neurology unit. While there he will lecture at several universities in Chile and then carry out short advisory visits to Sao Paulo and Brasilia in Brazil.

### COMING EVENTS

**"Environmental Influences on Reproduction."**—One-day multidisciplinary symposium, 24 May, Royal Society of Medicine, London. Registration forms (closing date 3 May) and details from Dr. R. E. Lister, Inveresk Research International, Inveresk Gate, Musselburgh, Midlothian.

**Brunel University.**—Course, "Horizons in Virology," 4-6 May, Uxbridge, Middx. Fee £12 (non-residential). Details from the head, Department of Biology, Brunel University, Woodlands Avenue, Acton, London W3 9BX.

**"Motivation of Children's Learning."**—National conference of the Nursery School Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 8 May, Edinburgh. Details from the association, 89 Stamford Street, London S.E.1. (Tel. 01-928 7454.)

**"Endocrinology in Obstetrics and Gynaecology."**—One-day teaching course, 12 May, 9.30 a.m., St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School. Fee £1 (including refreshments). Details from Dr. M. G. Brush, Department of Gynaecology, St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School, London S.E.1. (Tel. 01-928 9292, extn. 2462.)

**European Association of Internal Medicine.**—First conference, 13-15 May, London, N.W.1. Details are obtainable from the association's Conference secretary, c/o Royal College of Physicians of London, 11 St. Andrew's Place, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1.

**"Deafness in the Elderly."**—Day symposium, 14 May, London S.W.1. Details from the British Society of Audiology, 1 Birdcage Walk, London S.W.1. (Tel. 01-930 7476.)

**Indian Medical Association (Great Britain).**—Annual dinner and dance, 22 May, St. Ermin's Hotel, London S.W.1. Guest of honour, Sir John Richardson. Tickets (£3.15) and particulars from Dr. M. S. Kataria, 25 Cromwell Road, Beckenham, Kent. (Tel. 01-650 2964.)

**III International Seminar on Cancer Prevention and Prophylaxis.**—30 May-5 June, Rome. Details from the International Research Centre on Precancer Conditions, 121 Piazza Porta Pia, 00198 Rome, Italy.

**European Contact Lens Society of Ophthalmologists.**—First scientific congress, 2-4 June, at Royal College of Surgeons of England. Details from the congress secretary, Moorfields Eye Hospital, High Holborn, London W.C.1.

**International Symposium of Geriatric Ophthalmology.**—30 May-1 June, Italy. Details from the Secretary, Dr. B. Bellan, Ospedale Oftalmico di Torino, Via Juvarra 19, 10122 Turin, Italy.

**Third Harden Conference.**—"Cell Nucleus," 12-17 September, Wye College, Ashford, Kent,

organized by Biochemical Society. Fee £37.50 (including full board). Applications by 8 June and details are obtainable from the Biochemical Society, 7 Warwick Court, London WC1R 5DP.

**"Brain Mechanisms of Sleep."**—Course sponsored by N.A.T.O., 24-30 June, Belgium. Numbers are strictly limited and details are obtainable from the secretary, N.A.T.O. Summer Course, Fondation Born-Bunge pour la Recherche, F. Williotstraat 59, B-2600 Berchem-Antwerp, Belgium.

### SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

For attending lectures marked \* a fee is charged or a ticket is required. Applications should be made first to the institution concerned.

#### Tuesday 13 April

**INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY.**—At Hammersmith Hospital, 2 p.m., Mr. A. Fisher: Small for Dates; 3 p.m., Dr. K. D. Dalton: Minor Menstrual Problems. (Admission by ticket only, obtainable from Secretary, Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Chelsea Hospital for Women, London, S.W.)\*

**ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL COLLEGE.**—5 p.m., Dr. P. H. Connell: Drug Dependency.

#### Wednesday 14 April

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS.**—5.30 p.m., postgraduate museum demonstration by Dr. P. E. Hughesdon: Pathology of Endometriosis.

#### Thursday, 15 April

**ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.**—5.15 p.m., Dr. M. Filshie: Prostaglandins in Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

**ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.**—5 p.m., Hunterian lecture by Professor L. Wise: Peptic Ulcer—a Reappraisal of its Aetiology.

**ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY.**—At Medical Buildings, Foresterhill, 5 p.m., Marnoch memorial lecture by Professor J. I. Loewenthal (Sydney).

#### Friday 16 April

**NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE REGIONAL NEUROLOGICAL CENTRE.**—At Newcastle General Hospital, 5.30 p.m., Dr. M. Marshall: Anaesthetic and other Factors affecting Intracranial Pressure.

### UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

#### CAMBRIDGE

M.D.—P. J. Cotton, C. R. M. Prentice, R. L. Himsforth, R. J. White, P. J. Noble.

M.Chir.—R. G. Pulvertaft.

Ph.D.—*In the Faculty of Medicine:* W. K. Blenkinsopp, F. R. Engmann.

M.B.—B. R. H. King, B. E. Owen, R. D. Yarrow, C. R. B. Bayliss, D. Bostock, W. I. C. Morgan, S. Curson, R. G. G. Russell, J. W. Hawkswell-Curtis, D. R. Taylor, J. M. Ruddock, R. D. Craig, B. G. Gazzard, P. J. Milewski, N. P. Hudd, R. G. Farquharson, Judith M. de la Hoyde, Ruth Curson, D. K. Lawrence, P. J. Webb, H. A. Chadwick, D. Gordon, A. J. F. Fletcher, Norma J. Rink.

### CORRECTION

#### Professor W. D. Newcomb

We regret that the initials at the end of the obituary of Professor W. D. Newcomb (27 February, p. 508) were incorrectly printed. They should have been R. R. W.

### Notice to Authors

When original articles and letters for publication are not submitted exclusively to the *British Medical Journal* this must be stated.

Correspondence on editorial business should be addressed to the Editor, *British Medical Journal*, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR. Telephone: 01-387 4499. Telegrams: *Aitiology, London, W.C.1.*

Authors wanting reprints of their articles should notify the Publishing Manager, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, WC1H 9JR, on receipt of proofs.