

take heavy capital commitments to practise from modern surgeries.

### London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine department of community health

With a view to strengthening the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine's department of community health and the centre for extension training in community medicine, Dr E Rosemary Rue has been appointed temporary head of the department and will be on secondment from her post as regional medical officer to the Oxford Regional Health Authority for one to two years. Her principal task will be to lead discussions with University College Hospital Medical School and Middlesex Hospital Medical School (in the light of the Flowers Report's recommendations) and with the NHS.

### Fellowship abroad

A part-time fellowship to study abroad is offered to a paediatrician of senior registrar or junior consultant grade by Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children, Dublin, and the Irish and American Paediatric Associations. The closing date is 31 August. Details from Professor E J Guiney, Children's Research Centre, Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children, Crumlin, Dublin 12.

### Helping with women's problems

Women's Health Concern aims to help women with gynaecological and related problems through its inquiry service, publications (see *BMJ* 1979;ii:1068-9), and counselling services. Trained nurse counsellors, it says, can relieve some of the problems caused by lack of communication between doctors and patients in busy practices; while some practices may set up their own counselling centres. WHC is holding one-day introductory counselling courses on premenstrual syndrome and related topics for doctors and nurses at the department of gynaecology, St Thomas's Hospital, London SE1, the next being on 25 September. In London WHC itself offers general counselling, psychotherapy (by doctors' referral), and relaxation therapy. Further details about the one-day courses and about WHC from Joan Jenkins, 16 Seymour Street, London W1H 5WB (01-486 8653).

### Booklet about breast examination

"Self-awareness and closer understanding of breast diseases will help all women" is the basis of a new booklet produced by BUPA—*Breasts and the Importance of Breast Examination*. The latest in the BUPA Health Promotion Centre's "Facts About" series, the booklet may be obtained from the centre, Battle Bridge House, 300 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8DU (01-837 6484), price 65p (no stamps).

### Communication: competition for students

The Nuffield Provincial Hospital Trust is awarding annual prizes of £100, £60, and £40 for the three best essays written by medical

students on any aspect of communication affecting medicine. Three copies of the essay, which should be typed and 2500-3000 words long, should be sent to the Secretary of the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust, 3 Prince Albert Road, London NW1 7SP, by 31 March 1981. The essay should concern some aspect of communication between members of the medical profession on the one hand, and patients, their relatives, other members of the health care team, or the general public on the other. The essay must be based on a review of published or original work, or both. Special credit will be given for originality.

The competition is open to registered undergraduate medical students of any school in the United Kingdom, at any stage of the curriculum, and will be assessed by a panel appointed by the Trust, which hopes to announce the results of the first competition in June 1981. Essays should be accompanied by a covering letter stating the full name and address of the author, the medical school that he or she is attending, and the stage of the curriculum that he or she has reached.

### Research directory for social sciences

*Social Sciences*, volume 3 of *Research in British Universities, Polytechnics and Colleges*, published by the British Library (402 pages, £10), is a directory of current research in the social sciences in every university and polytechnic in the United Kingdom as well as in government and other bodies.

### People in the news

Sir Edward Abraham has been awarded the Royal Society's Mullard prize and medal for his outstanding role in the development of the cephalosporin group of antibiotics.

Sir Douglas Black, PRCP, has become chairman of the research committee of the British Digestive Foundation.

Professor A A Glynn has been appointed consultant medical microbiologist director of the Central Public Health Laboratory from 1 October.

Dr J W Black has been awarded the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London's Galen Medal in Therapeutics for 1980 in recognition of his outstanding work on drugs for use in clinical conditions, particularly beta-blockers.

### Correction: Trans-Care International—erroneously worded advertisement

In an advertisement placed by Trans-Care International in the issue of 2 August (p i) it was stated that a discount offer to BMA members for private road ambulance transport of patients had been granted "official permission." No such permission has been granted by the British Medical Association or any other "official body" and the *BMJ*, which accepts responsibility for this error, regrets that readers were misled.

### COMING EVENTS

**Ashton Postgraduate Medical Centre**—Surgical study day on "The groin," 29 October, Ashton-under-Lyne. Details from the postgraduate secretary of the centre, Tameside General Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire OL6 6RJ.

**International Hospital Federations**—Details of study visits to hospitals and primary health care in German Democratic Republic, 10-17 May 1981, and Mexico, 21-29 July, 1981; child health services in Canada, 31 May-12 June 1981, and fire safety in hospitals and homes for the elderly, England and Scotland, 8-18 September 1981; course for senior managers from developing countries, 8-18 September 1981, London; IHF regional conference, 27 February-4 March 1981, Dubai; and 22nd International Hospital Congress, 18-23 October 1981, Sydney, Australia, are now available from Mr Miles Hardie, IHF, 126 Albert Street, London NW1 7NX. (Tel 01-267 5176.)

### SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

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

#### Thursday, 14 August

**INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY**—At Queen Charlotte's Hospital, 12-15 pm, Dr Rosemary Stephens: Prenatal diagnosis.

### BMA NOTICES

### Armed Forces Committee

The constitution of the Armed Forces Committee allows for the co-option of two representatives, one of whom should preferably be of specialist status, from the medical branch of each of the three Services, such representatives being of the rank of major, surgeon lieutenant-commander, squadron leader, or below. Last session the following members were co-opted:

Royal Navy: Surgeon Lieutenant-Commander M O'Connell and Surgeon Lieutenant-Commander D C B Holt.

Army: Major R H Jago.

Royal Air Force: Flight Lieutenant S R Lightfoot and Flight Lieutenant F J Mills.

Serving medical officers are now invited to nominate members of the BMA in the armed Forces in the above-mentioned ranks for co-option to the committee for the 1980-1 session. The members named above are eligible for reappointment provided that their rank is not now above that of major or equivalent.

Nominations should be sent to the Secretary, British Medical Association, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP, by Monday, 1 September 1980. Nominees will be informed of the co-options made by the Armed Forces Committee following its first meeting after the closing date.

J D J HAVARD  
Secretary

### UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

#### SHEFFIELD

**Promotions**—Dr S S Blechen (reader in medicine); Dr S L B Duncan, Dr A Singer (readers in obstetrics and gynaecology); Dr B L Brown (senior lecturer in human metabolism and clinical biochemistry); Dr A Clark (senior lecturer in medical microbiology).

### CONSULTANT APPOINTMENTS

**NORTH-WESTERN RHA**—Dr D A Watson, Dr B S Sahal (anaesthetists); Dr P A Vice (physician with a special interest in diabetics); Dr P V Harrison (dermatologist); Dr W P G Turch (physician).

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