

NEWS AND NOTES

Guidance for Social Workers

The British Association of Social Workers has published a code of practice for those social workers and their supervisors concerned with the care of children at risk of assault by their parents. The recommendations, which appeared in *B.A.S.W. News* of 4 September, are part of a longer report from a working party from the child and family care section of the B.A.S.W., which will be published in full later in the year.

The code stresses the high priority that should be given to cases where a child may be at risk; when an incident of possible child assault is reported a visit must be made that day by the social worker concerned. In cases of absence, the person receiving the report should make sure that the supervisor is told about it so that immediate action can be taken. Ultimately it is the supervisor's responsibility to ensure that any child alleged to be ill-treated is visited on the day the allegation is made, the code continues. It recommends that medical examination should be arranged at once unless there is substantial evidence that the injury was sustained accidentally.

The code also emphasizes the importance of multidisciplinary teamwork and the need for social workers to be aware of the scope of the specialist knowledge of other professionals.

Commenting on the detailed recommendations, the *B.A.S.W. News* says that "the standards will seem high, almost impossibly so, to many conscientious, overworked social workers trying to cope with excessively large work loads. . . . The code of practice can be used by social workers to put pressure on their employers to provide the staff, money, training, and resources necessary to achieve this level of practice."

Deutsche Medizinische Wochenschrift

This month sees the 100th anniversary of the publication of the first issue of the *Deutsche medizinische Wochenschrift*, now the most widely read weekly medical journal in the German language. The *D.M.W.* has satellite editions in other languages—Greek, Italian, and Spanish—and its original articles have summaries in English, German, and Spanish.

Among fundamental papers published in the *D.M.W.* have been contributions by Koch, Wassermann's description of his serological test for syphilis, and Reiter's account of his syndrome; we have no doubt that these high standards will be maintained into the 21st century.

London Medical Orchestra

The London Medical Orchestra will resume rehearsals in Christ Church School, Cosway Street, London N.W.1 at 7 p.m. on 23

September. New members of the orchestra are welcome, especially string players, and particulars are available from Mrs. A. P. Mason, 102 Hamilton Terrace, London N.W.8 (tel. 01-286 4367).

B.M.A. NOTICES

Full-time Medical Teachers and Research Workers Committee

In the election of one full-time non-professional Scottish representative of the Full-time Medical Teachers and Research Workers Committee of the Association to the Representative Body for the session 1975-6 (28 June, p. 766), Dr. N. S. Clark of Aberdeen University was elected.

Applications are now invited for three consequential vacancies for full-time non-professional representatives on the above committee from the other universities in Scotland with medical schools, namely, Dundee, Edinburgh, and Glasgow, for the session 1975-6.

All members of the Association who hold full-time non-professional appointments at the medical faculties of these universities are eligible to nominate and vote in these elections. Candidates must hold full-time non-professional appointments at the same university as their nominators but need not be members of the Association.

Nomination forms for the elections are obtainable from me at B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR, and candidates should please state in respect of which university they are applying. Completed forms must be returned not later than first post Monday, 6 October 1975, preferably recorded delivery.

In the event of a contest voting papers will be issued later.

DEREK STEVENSON
Secretary

Diary of Central Meetings

SEPTEMBER	
14 Sun.	Welsh Committee for Hospital Medical Services, 2 p.m.
16 Tues.	Central Committee for Hospital Medical Services, 11 a.m.
18 Thurs.	General Medical Services Committee, 10 a.m.
19 Fri.	Full-time Medical Teachers and Research Workers Committee, 10.30 a.m.
24 Wed.	Practice Premises and Organization Subcommittee (G.M.S.) 10.30 a.m.
24 Wed.	Central Committee for Hospital Medical Services, 10 a.m.

OCTOBER	
1 Wed.	Liaison Committee between G.M.S. Committee and R.C.G.P., 2.30 p.m.
2 Thurs.	General Purposes Subcommittee (G.M.S.), 10.30 a.m.
3 Fri.	Board of Science and Education, 10.30 a.m.
7 Tues.	Armed Forces Committee, 2 p.m.
16 Thurs.	General Medical Services Committee, 10 a.m.
16 Thurs.	Anaesthetists Subcommittee (C.C.H.M.S.), 2 p.m.

Branch and Division Meetings to be Held

Members proposing to attend meetings marked* are asked to notify in advance the honorary secretary concerned.

Buckinghamshire Division.—At Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Saturday, 20 September, 8 p.m., sparkling wine party.*

East Kent Division.—Joint meeting with Canterbury and District Section of the B.D.A. at Kent Postgraduate Medical Centre, Canterbury, Thursday, 18 September, 8.30 p.m., to discuss the Government's Consultative Document concerning the separation of private practice from N.H.S. hospitals.

East Norfolk and Norwich Division.—At Norfolk

and Norwich Hospital, Monday, 15 September, 8.15 p.m., a.g.m.

East Surrey Division.—At Redhill General Hospital, Tuesday, 16 September, 8.30 p.m., meeting to discuss the separation of private practice from N.H.S. hospitals.

Enfield Division.—At Enfield District Hospital (Chace Wing) Postgraduate Centre, Wednesday, 17 September, 8 p.m., special meeting to discuss the separation of private practice from N.H.S. hospitals.

Londonderry Division.—At Altnagelvin Hospital, Wednesday, 17 September, 8 p.m., a.g.m.

South-east Essex Division.—At Garons No. 2 Banqueting Suite, Tuesday, 16 September, 7.30 for 8 p.m., dinner lecture by Dr. Myre Sim: "Pornography—an Illustrated Lecture."* (Guests are invited.)

Swindon Branch.—At Restaurant, Hambro House, Friday, 19 September, 7.30 p.m., buffet supper.*

Tunbridge Wells Division.—At Tunbridge Wells Postgraduate Centre, Wednesday, 17 September, 8.30 p.m., special general meeting to discuss the separation of private practice from N.H.S. hospitals. At Kent and Sussex Hospital, Friday, 19 September, 7.30 p.m., joint supper meeting with the Pharmaceutical Society.*

Wigan Division.—At Medical Institute, Thursday, 18 September, 8.30 p.m., business meeting.

Corrections

Sexual Problems in Disorders of the Nervous System Part I

We regret that in this article (23 August, p. 480) an error occurred in the following sentence under "Fertility," which should have read: "As a consequence of a spinal injury with complete denervation of the sacral centres women experience little sensation during intercourse, but, in contrast to male paraplegics, their fertility and their ability to have children are usually unaffected."

Orphenadrine Dependence

We regret that an error occurred in the letter from Dr. M. E. Shariatmadari (23 August, p. 486). The publisher of the book cited in the first reference is the English Universities Press, not Macmillans as stated.

Surgery of Male Sexual Disorders

We regret that the table to show organic causes of impotence mentioned in Mr. Pryor's article (6 September, p. 586) was omitted. We give it below:

Congenital:	absence of fibrosis of corpora cavernosa
Traumatic:	spinal cord injury, fractured pelvis, surgical (abdominal perineal resection, sympathectomy, cystectomy)
Vascular:	priapism, arteriosclerosis (Leriche syndrome)
Neurological:	spinal cord lesions, peripheral neuropathy
Endocrine:	diabetes, hypogonadism
Pharmacological:	parasympathetic blockade, sympathetic blockade.

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: *Atiology, 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.

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