

Medical birthday honours

Among the members of the medical profession whose names appeared in the Queen's birthday honours list were the following:

DBE (Civil)—Professor J K Lloyd.

Knights Bachelor—Professor B G Burton-Bradley (Papua New Guinea); Professor R Shields; Professor E D Williams.

CB (Civil Division)—Dr W D Thornton.

CB (Military)—Surgeon Rear Admiral D A Coppock; Air Vice Marshal R T B Jones.

CVO—Dr A B Gilmour.

CBE (Civil Division)—Dr E P Allen (New Zealand); Professor K D Bagshawe; Dr J G Ball; Dr J L T Birley; Professor I A D Bouchier; Professor D S Cole (New Zealand); Professor J Marshall; Professor G R Seward.

CBE (Military)—Surgeon Captain R J Carmichael.

OBE (Civil Division)—Dr R S Atkinson; Dr J Bhageerutty (Mauritius); Dr M P Cole; Dr J K Davidson; Professor A St J Dixon; Professor P D Marsden; Dr W A Norris; Dr C A Veys; Dr C Waine; Dr A L Whiteson.

OBE (Military)—Surgeon Commander J R N Curt; Lieutenant Colonel R A F Garnett.

MBE (Civil Division)—Dr J R Burt; Dr D R Hamilton (Papua New Guinea); Dr F D Hutchinson; Dr J C Jefferson; Dr H M Rapport; Dr L Ratoff; Dr R D Winch.

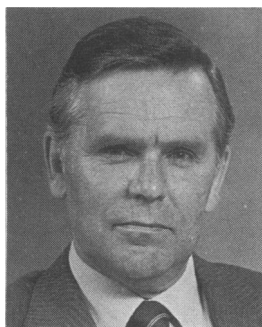
QSO—Dr E J B Kjestrup (New Zealand).

Mr J H Warden, the *BMJ*'s parliamentary correspondent, was awarded the OBE.

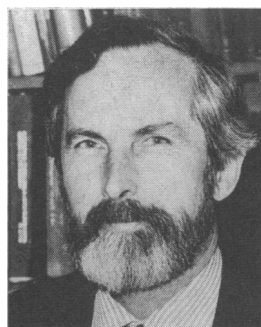
The photograph of Dr J L T Birley was supplied by Belgrave Press Bureau.



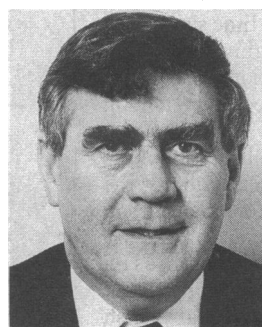
Dame June Lloyd



Sir Robert Shields



Sir Dillwyn Williams



Dr J G Ball



Dr J L T Birley

Confidential inquiry into pain relief in labour

For a week beginning 25 June the National Birthday Trust will conduct a confidential study throughout the United Kingdom to assess the use and regional variations in the current practice of pain relief for women in labour. Data will be collected on

- The availability of analgesia in all places of confinement
- Separate assessments of the effectiveness of analgesia by the women, their supporters, the midwives, and the doctors
- A comparison between the woman's assessment and those of the professionals
- The use of non-pharmacological methods of pain relief
- The preparation of the couple during pregnancy
- The side effects of therapy.

All the professionals will be asked to assess the effectiveness of the analgesia, and the findings will be reported and published in 1991.

Ethics of gene therapy

Last year United Kingdom health ministers set up a committee "to draw up ethical guidance for doctors on the treatment of generic disorders in adults and children by genetic modification of human body cells; to invite and give ethical consideration to proposals from doctors wishing to use such treatment on individual patients and to provide advice to the United Kingdom health ministers on scientific and medical developments which have a bearing on the safety and efficacy of human gene modification." The committee is now collecting evidence from individuals and organisations. Responses should be sent to Mrs Sue White, administrative secretary; Committee

on the Ethics of Gene Therapy, Room B1210, Alexander Fleming House, Elephant and Castle, London SE1 6BY (tel: 071 407 5522, ext 6980).

Deans recommend policy of "no detriment"

Deans of United Kingdom medical schools have agreed that in future medical schools should adopt a policy of "no detriment" to candidates who list one non-medical choice on the UCCA application forms. In the past the listing of other subjects than medicine has been interpreted as less than total dedication. The result was that well qualified students who narrowly failed to win a medical school place ended up with no fall back position while less well qualified students were offered places.

Floods in Tanzania

The recent floods in parts of Tanzania have affected the provision of health care, and the Medical Association of Tanzania has written to the Commonwealth Medical Association asking for help. The association needs stretchers, camping beds, and antiseptics. These and other contributions may be sent to the president, Medical Association of Tanzania, PO Box 701, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, or to the director general, Muhimbili Medical Centre, PO Box 65000, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Register of primary immune deficiencies

In line with other European countries a register of all patients with primary immune deficiencies is being compiled in the United Kingdom. The compilers of the register would like to hear from

physicians or general practitioners who manage such patients. Registration forms are available from Dr J Gooi, Immunology Department, Blood Transfusion Service, Bridle Path, Leeds LS15 7TW, or Dr H Chapel, Immunology Department, John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford OX3 9DU.

High Blood Pressure Foundation

The High Blood Pressure Foundation, which was launched recently, is based at the department of medicine, Western General Hospital, Edinburgh EH4 2XU. The foundation's aims are to carry out research into hypertension, to educate the general public about the condition, and to improve the liaison between general practitioners and hospitals. Further information is available from the director, Rosalind Newton.

New publications

Guide to Postgraduate Degrees, Diplomas and Courses in Medicine 1990. This is a vital source of information for all those interested in postgraduate medical qualifications and training in the United Kingdom. The information is updated annually and published in association with the National Advice Centre for Postgraduate Medical Education at the British Council by IntelliGene. It contains information on qualifications awarded by medical educational establishments in the United Kingdom and the courses which lead to these qualifications. The publication is arranged according to medical specialty and includes details of the conditions that must be fulfilled before entry to the courses and before candidates can be accepted for the examinations.

The guide, price £9.50 including postage and packing, is available from Dr G M Haddock, IntelliGene, Woodlands, Ford, Midlothian EH37 5RE (0875 320063).