

state that at Bruntsfield Hospital there are only 19 general medical beds available, but did not point out that this represents 5% of all the female medical beds in Edinburgh. In addition to the 19 general medical beds, there are 63 gynaecological and surgical beds which come under the over-all care of the consultant physician. It might be explained that prior to the take-over under the National Health Service there were plans to enlarge and improve the hospital. Mr. Nixon Browne also stated that the consultant physician is used "from time to time" at the Elsie Inglis Hospital. In fact, in a 73-bedded busy maternity hospital there are always at least five in-patients with serious medical complications under the care of the physician, and there are three special out-patient clinics attended by the consultant physician.

Mr. Nixon Browne referred to the regional hospital board as "a responsible statutory body" without mentioning the fact that the board of management of the Southern Hospitals Group, which originally appealed to the Secretary of State against the regional hospital board's decision, is also a statutory body with powers delegated to it under the Act. This appeal was also supported by two other statutory bodies—namely, the Edinburgh Health Executive Council and the local medical committee—as well as by the regional consultants and specialists committee. The fact that out of three statutory bodies one only is referred to as being "a responsible statutory body" would appear to require some explanation.

The arbitrary decision of the regional hospital board has caused widespread dismay in Edinburgh and, indeed, throughout Scotland, and in an endeavour to initiate legislative and/or other action a mass meeting has been organized by all the supporting bodies. The local medical committee strongly supports this effort, to the extent that it is contributing to the expenses of the meeting. Finally, Mr. Nixon Browne pointed out that a woman consultant surgeon was recently appointed to our group, and cited this appointment as evidence that there was no sex prejudice. I should like to make it clear, however, that this surgeon, who was my successor, was appointed to the post at Bruntsfield Hospital only, whereas at the time of my retirement I was also consultant surgeon at the newly established acute male surgical unit at the Longmore Hospital. This latter post went to a male surgeon.—I am, etc.,

Edinburgh, 12.

GERTRUDE HERZFELD.

BRITISH MEDICAL GUILD

Meetings to be Held

BATTERSEA AND WANDSWORTH.—At the Assembly Room, Wandsworth Town Hall, S.W., Tuesday, April 16, 8.30 p.m. Address by Dr. Frank Gray.

HEREFORD.—At Woolhope's Society Room, Public Library, Broad Street, Hereford, Sunday, April 14, 3.15 for 3.30 p.m. Dr. A. V. Russell (Member of Council, B.M.A.) will address the meeting.

Association Notices

Diary of Central Meetings

APRIL

- | | | |
|----|--------|--|
| 16 | Tues. | Scholarships Subcommittee, Science Committee, 11.30 a.m. |
| 16 | Tues. | Organization Committee, 2 p.m. |
| 17 | Wed. | Occupational Health Committee, 10 a.m. |
| 18 | Thurs. | S.R.M. Agenda Committee, 9.30 a.m. |
| 18 | Thurs. | G.M.S. Committee, 10.30 a.m. |
| 25 | Thurs. | Central Ethical Committee, 2 p.m. |
| 25 | Thurs. | Joint Committee of the B.M.A. and the Magistrates' Association, 2 p.m. |
| 26 | Fri. | Welsh Committee (at Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury), 2.15 p.m. |
| 30 | Tues. | Special Conference of Local Medical Committees, 10 a.m. |

MAY

- | | | |
|----|--------|---|
| 1 | Wed. | Special Representative Meeting, 10 a.m. |
| 9 | Thurs. | Trustees of the Dain Fund, 1 p.m. |
| 16 | Thurs. | G.M.S. Committee, 10.30 a.m. |

Branch and Division Meetings to be Held

The following meetings, to which all medical practitioners in the area are invited, will be held to consider the reports of Council and the G.M.S. Committee on the remuneration issue.

COVENTRY DIVISION.—At Out-patient Department, Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital, Tuesday, April 16, 8.30 p.m. Address by Dr. D. P. Stevenson (Deputy Secretary, B.M.A.).

HARROW AND WEMBLEY DIVISIONS.—At Rest Hotel (Carlton Rooms), Kenton Road, Kenton, Monday, April 15, 8.30 p.m. joint meeting. Address by Dr. D. P. Stevenson (Deputy Secretary, B.M.A.).

HENDON DIVISION.—At Lower Welsh Harp Hotel, Edgware Road, N.W., Friday, April 12, 8.30 p.m. Dr. A. Macrae (Secretary, B.M.A.) will be present.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES DIVISION.—At Nurses' Home, Kingston Hospital, Wolverson Avenue, Kingston-on-Thames, Monday, April 15, 8.30 p.m.

NORTH GLAMORGAN AND BRECKNOCK DIVISION.—At Boot Hotel, Aberdare, Sunday, April 14, 3 p.m.

SOUTHPORT DIVISION.—At Assembly Rooms, Prince of Wales Hotel, Monday, April 15, 9 p.m. Dr. E. E. Claxton (Assistant Secretary, B.M.A.) will answer questions.

ALDERSHOT AND FARNHAM DIVISION.—At Northfield Hospital, Aldershot, Thursday, April 18, 8.30 p.m., meeting. Lecture by Mr. C. R. McCash: "Plastic Surgery in an Accident Service."

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE DIVISION.—At Broadoak Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne, Wednesday, April 17, 8.30 p.m., A.G.M.

BIRMINGHAM DIVISION.—At Council Chamber, Council House, Birmingham, Tuesday, April 16, 8.25 for 8.30 p.m., meeting. B.M.A. Lecture by Professor Ian Aird: "ABO Blood Groups and Disease."

BRADFORD DIVISION.—(1) At Midland Hotel, Bradford, Sunday, April 14, 6.30 p.m., special meeting to discuss the remuneration claim. (Members only.) (2) At Medical Societies' Room, Bradford Royal Infirmary, Wednesday, April 17, 8.15 p.m., meeting. Lecture by Mr. R. R. Simpson: "Shakespeare and Medicine."

CAMBRIDGE AND HUNTINGDON DIVISION.—At Lecture Room, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, Tuesday, April 16, 8.30 p.m., meeting to consider report of Council on remuneration issue.

DONCASTER DIVISION AND DONCASTER MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Danum Hotel, Doncaster, Tuesday, April 16, 7.30 for 8 p.m., dinner. Professor C. J. Polson: "External Signs of Violence."

GREENWICH AND DEPTFORD DIVISION.—At St. Alfege's Hospital, Vanbrugh Hill, S.E., Wednesday, April 17, 8.30 p.m., clinical meeting. Members of Woolwich Division are invited.

HYDE DIVISION.—At Lake Section, Ashton-under-Lyne General Hospital, Saturday, April 13, 2.30 p.m., "At Home." Short clinical meeting, with tea, and visit to departments of hospital.

MONMOUTHSHIRE DIVISION.—At St. Mellon's County Club, Tuesday, April 16, 7.45 for 8.15 p.m., dinner-meeting. Speaker: Mr. Eric Robinson. Wives and friends of members are invited.

NORTH-EAST ESSEX DIVISION.—At Red Lion Hotel, Colchester, Monday, April 15, 8 for 8.30 p.m., annual general meeting.

OLDHAM DIVISION.—At Albion Club, Queen Street, Oldham, Monday, April 15, 9 p.m., meeting. Professor C. Fraser Brockington: "A Recent Visit to Soviet Russia."

SCUNTHORPE DIVISION.—At Board Room, Scunthorpe and District War Memorial Hospital, Wednesday, April 17, 8.30 p.m., annual meeting.

SOUTHAMPTON DIVISION.—At Royal South Hants Hospital, Wednesday, April 17, 8.30 p.m., annual general meeting.

STOCKTON DIVISION.—At Stockton and Thornaby Hospital, Monday, April 15, 8.30 p.m., meeting. Lecture by Mr. F. E. Stabler: "Some Experiences with Vaginal Aplasia."

SWANSEA DIVISION.—At Morrision Hospital, Swansea, Tuesday, April 16, 8.15 p.m., meeting.

WINCHESTER DIVISION.—At Nightingale Nurses' Home, Royal Hants County Hospital, Sunday, April 14, 2.30 p.m., meeting. Agenda includes report on remuneration claim, etc.

Meetings of Branches and Divisions

DORSET DIVISION

A meeting was held at the Chest Clinic, Dorchester, on February 1, 1957. Dr. T. V. Cooper was in the chair and 29 members were present. A clinico-pathological conference followed, at which cases presented by Drs. E. B. Jarrett and C. Hollins were discussed, and Dr. T. B. L. Bryan produced photographs of a case of inflammation caused by a garter.

Correction.—In the provisional programme for the Annual Meeting, Newcastle upon Tyne, July 10-19 (*Supplement*, March 30, p. 133), the Section of Occupational Health should have been given as meeting on Tuesday, July 16, not Thursday, July 18; and the Section of Neurology as meeting on *Wednesday*, July 17, not Tuesday, July 17.