

who tended to overlook them and to leave them in casualty departments or ward offices. Samples of drugs and medicaments were often freely available at exhibitions and could be acquired by persons who had no real knowledge of the dangers which could result from taking large quantities of seemingly innocuous substances. Reference was made to a meeting which had recently taken place between representatives of the B.M.A. and the Pharmaceutical Society. At this meeting it had been suggested that no drug samples should be sent except on direct request. This information was welcomed by the Joint Committee and it hoped that a policy on these lines would be adopted. The R.C.N. undertook to advise ward and departmental sisters that they should not accept samples of drugs or medicaments from representatives of pharmaceutical firms and that they should discourage doctors from handing such samples to them for custody.

Intravenous Drugs

Further discussion took place on this matter. The R.C.N. policy is that the giving of intravenous drugs by nurses, even when the needle was in situ, is not a normal nursing

duty. However, the College accepted that with certain safeguards nurses might exceptionally undertake this task if it was necessary in order to maintain the service to the patients. The Committee endorsed the view of its Chairman (Mr. A. STAVELEY GOUGH) to the effect that a registered nurse could administer drugs by the intravenous route provided that the intravenous needle or catheter had been inserted by a doctor and that the nurse concerned had received full instruction from the medical staff on the methods to be used; and that in such circumstances the medical staff must take responsibility for any accident or complication which might arise unless it was due to any negligence on the part of the nurse—for example, if she gave the wrong drug or the wrong dose of a drug.

Other Business

It was agreed that part-time nursing staff had a valuable contribution to make in providing an adequate service to patients and that in the future the health services were likely to become increasingly dependent on part-time staff.

The R.C.N. suggested that, in view of the increasing use of centigrade-scale ther-

момeters and the difficulties which could arise when both centigrade and Fahrenheit thermometers were in use in one hospital, the time had come to adopt as a policy the use of the centigrade scale. It was agreed that this should be the aim, but in view of the cost it was recognized that the process must be a gradual one. In order to assist the process, and to avoid confusion during the transitional period, it was thought that temperature charts should show both scales.

Hastings Wine Club at Southampton

World Travel Service (the M.I.A.—B.M.A. Travel Agency) introduced its services with two travelogue films in the Southampton Postgraduate Medical Centre on 15 March. This was followed by a wine-tasting of clarets, introduced by Mr. Davies of Messrs. Jamieson & Co., for the B.M.A. Hastings Wine Club. Many doctors and their wives enjoyed a social evening, both informative and interesting.

Association Notices

Diary of Central Meetings

APRIL

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| 11 | Tues. | Vocational Training Advisory Committee (G.M.S. Committee), 2 p.m. |
| 11 | Tues. | Executive Subcommittee (Central Consultants and Specialists Committee), 2.30 p.m. |
| 12 | Wed. | Joint Formulary Committee, 10.30 a.m. |
| 12 | Wed. | Working Party on Superannuation for Hospital Medical Staffs, 11 a.m. |
| 12 | Wed. | Joint Food Working Party of B.M.A. and Society of Medical Officers of Health, 2 p.m. |
| 12 | Wed. | Advisory Panel of the Forward Planning Unit, 5 p.m. |
| 14 | Fri. | Committee on the Mental Health Act, 1959, 2.30 p.m. |
| 19 | Wed. | General Medical Services Committee, 10.30 a.m. |
| 19 | Wed. | Occupational Health Committee, 10.30 a.m. |
| 20 | Thurs. | Psychological Medicine Group Committee, 10 a.m. |
| 20 | Thurs. | General Medical Services Committee, 10.30 a.m. |
| 20 | Thurs. | General Purposes Committee, 10.30 a.m. |
| 20 | Thurs. | Psychological Medicine Group Annual Conference, 11.45 a.m. |
| 25 | Tues. | Joint Consultants Committee (at Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists), 10 a.m. |
| 27 | Thurs. | Advisory Panel of the Forward Planning Unit, 3 p.m. |
| 28 | Fri. | Hospital Junior Staffs Group Council, 11 a.m. |
| 28 | Fri. | Chairman's Subcommittee (Joint Consultants Committee (Scotland)) (at 7 Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh), 2.15 p.m. |

MAY

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| 1 | Mon. | Central Consultants and Specialists Committee (Scotland) (at 7 Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh), 11.15 a.m. |
| 12 | Fri. | Senior Registrar and Consultant Establishments Subcommittee (C.C. and S. Committee (Scotland)) (at 7 Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh), 11 a.m. |
| 31 | Wed. | Journal Committee, 10.30 a.m. |

JUNE

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| 14 | Wed. | Annual Conference of Representatives of Local Medical Committees, 10 a.m. |
| 15 | Thurs. | Annual Conference of Representatives of Local Medical Committees, 10 a.m. |

Branch and Division Meetings to be Held

Honorary Secretaries of Branches and Divisions are asked to send notices of meetings to the Editor at least 14 days before they are to be held.

ABERYSTWYTH DIVISION.—At White Lion Hotel, Machynlleth, Saturday, 15 April, 7.30 p.m., dinner; 8.30 p.m., Dr. B. W. Rhodes.
CITY DIVISION.—At Lecture Theatre, Royal Northern Hospital, Holloway Road, N., Tuesday, 11 April, 8.30 p.m., B.M.A. lecture by Dr. W. L.

Neustatter: "The Murder as Seen at First Hand." Members of North-east London Law Society and members of Camden Division, B.M.A., are invited.

CROYDON DIVISION.—At Medical Centre, Mayday Hospital, Tuesday, 11 April, 8.30 p.m., B.M.A. lecture by Dr. D. J. Parr: "Homosexuality, its Problems, Implications, and Treatment."

DEWSBURY DIVISION.—At Queens Hotel, Leeds, Saturday, 15 April, 8 for 8.30 p.m., annual dinner dance.

EAST KENT DIVISION.—At Roman Galley, Thanet Way, Thursday, 13 April, Mr. A. P. Ardouin: "The Deaf Child."

EAST YORKSHIRE BRANCH.—At Grill Room, Royal Station Hotel, Hull, Wednesday, 12 April, 8.45 p.m., meeting to elect representatives to A.R.M., followed by lecture by Professor R. S. Illingworth: "Involuntary Movements."

GLOUCESTERSHIRE DIVISION.—At the Pitville Pump Room, Albert Road, Cheltenham, Thursday, 13 April, 6.30 p.m., Ladies' Night. B.M.A. lecture by Mr. G. B. Mair: "How to be a Doctor, and Stay Happy" (or words to that effect). Guests are invited.

HAVERING DIVISION.—At Nurses' Lecture Room, Oldchurch Hospital, Romford, Friday, 14 April, 8.30 for 8.45 p.m., B.M.A. lecture by Dr. E. Lawson McDonald: "Fresh Perspectives in Coronary Heart Disease."

LEEDS DIVISION.—At Parkway Hotel, Otley Road, Thursday, 13 April, 7.30 for 8 p.m., divisional dinner.

NUNEATON DIVISION.—At Pingles Restaurant, Tuesday, 11 April, 8 for 8.30 p.m., dinner, followed by B.M.A. lecture by Professor D. Hubble: "Lord Moran and James Bosworth." Guests are invited.

TORQUAY DIVISION.—At Ballroom, the Tembani Hotel, Paignton, Monday, 10 April, 8.30 p.m., general meeting.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS DIVISION.—At Elizabethan Barn, Tuesday, 11 April, 7.15 for 7.45 p.m., dinner meeting, Mr. H. G. Hanley: "Male Sterilization."

WAKEFIELD, PONTEFRAC, AND CASTLEFORD DIVISION.—At Pontefract General Infirmary, Wednesday, 12 April, 8 p.m., Dr. K. V. Jackson: "Man's Inhumanity to Man."

WANDSWORTH DIVISION.—At Kings College Hospital Medical School, Sunday, 16 April, 10.30 a.m., clinical meeting for general practitioners.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE DIVISION.—At Board Room, Weston-super-Mare General Hospital, Wednesday, 12 April, 8.30 p.m., annual general meeting.

WEST SUFFOLK DIVISION.—At Everard's Hotel, Bury St. Edmunds, Sunday, 16 April, 6 p.m., combined meeting with West Suffolk Local Medical Committee to consider report of the working party of the G.M.S. Committee on question of payments for special experience and service to general practice. Non-members of the B.M.A. are invited.

WIGTOWNSHIRE DIVISION.—At King's Arms Hotel, Glenluce, Wednesday, 12 April, 7.30 p.m., dinner, followed by Dr. R. W. Logan: "The Laboratory and the General Practitioner."

Correction

In the report of the proceedings of the Disciplinary Committee of the General Medical Council, *Supplement*, 18 March, p. 79, and 25 March, p. 84, at the conclusion of the reports of the cases of Dr. A. C. Ewing, Dr. A. B. B. Culhane, and Dr. D. A. Driffin, whose names were directed to be erased from the *Register*, it was stated that the practitioners had 21 days within which to appeal. This should have read 28 days—in conformity with Section 36 (3) of the Medical Act, 1956.