pointed lecturer in the newly formed department of general practice in Edinburgh in 1963. Since 1967 Dr. Morrell has built up the general practice teaching and research unit at St. Thomas' Hospital. He has pursued research on the patterns of medical care delivery in the community, and factors influencing levels of demand for medical care in general practice.

U.K. Private Medical Care

According to a report on provident schemes in the General Medical Services, Health, Social Security, and National Health Service, current dissatisfaction with the schemes increased by £7-5m. in 1973 compared with 1972. A record total of 121,000 new enrolments is reported, and at the end of 1973 225m. people were covered for the cost of private medical care. The report shows that payments made for accommodation and nursing have nearly trebled since 1968, fees to surgeons to a much lesser extent. The scheme was described as "unsatisfactory" and "unsuitable" for the purpose of insuring against "inpatient services" as well as "outpatient services.

V.A.T. Relief on Donated Equipment

The Value Added Tax (Donated Medical Equipment) Order 1974 was laid before Parliament on 2 August. Its purpose is to provide temporary relief for the supply of medical and scientific equipment purchased with charitable or voluntarily subscribed funds for donation to designated non-profit-making hospitals or research institutions, solely for use in medical research, diagnosis, or treatment. Further information may be obtained from any Customs and Excise V.A.T. office and copies of the order (price 3p) are available from H.M.S.O. or through booksellers.

Commissioned Male Nurses in the Army

The Armed Forces plans to increase the number of male nurses holding commissions. During the next five years 76 serving soldiers of the Royal Medical Corps are to be given short-service commissions as nursing officers. The first 15 of them are to be appointed to military hospitals later this year. Selection is being made from soldiers who are qualified State Registered Nurses and below the age of 39. The R.A.M.C. has about 190 men who are S.R.N.s.

These officers will become lieutenants and eligible for promotion to captain after four years commissioned service and to major after 12.

Festschrift for Sir Stuart Duke-Elder

The April issue of the British Journal of Ophthalmology is a Festschrift dedicated to Sir Stuart Duke-Elder, editor for 25 years. Most of the contributors are ophthalmologists who worked as trainees in the immediate postwar years in his then newly developed Department of Ophthalmology. Sir Stuart is renowned not only for his contributions to research in his subject but also as the author of that unique classic the Atlas of Clinical Ophthalmology. Copies of the Festschrift may be obtained, price £17.50 ($5-25 abroad) including postage, from the Publishing Manager, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR.

COMING EVENTS

Institute for Research into Mental and Multidisciplinary Health—In November a programme of evening talks on "Prevention of Handicap through Antenatal Care" was arranged, and a further series is planned on "Preparation and after care of the infant". The society continues to be open to all those interested in the progress of maternal and child health. Details may be obtained from the secretary, I.R.M.M.H., 16 Fitzroy Square, London W1F 5HQ. (Tel. 01-387 6066.)

Charling Cross Hospital (Pulmonary) Postgraduate Medical Centre.—Copies and details of the programme, September-December, are obtainable from the postgraduate secretary, Charling Cross Hospital, Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8RF. (Tel.: 01-603 2050, extn. 2080.)

Institute of Obstetrics.—Instructive course, "Infective Disorders of Bones and Joints," Wednesdays, 11 September-11 December. Details of this and other courses may be obtained from the Director, Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, National Maternity Hospital, Holmdel Orthopaedic Hospital, 234 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6AD. (Tel. 01-387 5070, extn. 33.)

Cambridge University School of Clinical Research and Postgraduate Medical Teaching—Symposium on "Osteoarthritis and Rheumatism," 16-17 September, Churchill College, intended for consultants, registrars, and postgraduates. (2) Course on common fungal infections for clinicians and medical mycologists. "Medicine at St. Mary's," 24-25 September, Fitzwilliam College. Details of both from the secretary, Cambridge University Medical School, St. John's Road, Cambridge CB2 2QL.

Biochemical Society.—Meeting, 19-20 September, St. Andrews University, organized by the university department of biochemistry. Details from the meetings officer, Biochemical Society, 7 Warwick Court, Holborn, London WC1R 5DF. (Tel. 01-242 1097)

"Red in the Old In Society."—Conference 20-21 September, Royal Society of Medicine, London W1, organized by the Royal Anthropological Institute of the A.R.M. It was stated that a fee would now be payable for cervical smears (27 July, p. 262). This statement was incorrect. The L.M.C. conference had adopted a recommendation from the G.M.S. Committee to press for an amendment of the rules for the payment of fees for taking cervical smears but this has not yet been put to the Department of Health. Should the recommendation be adopted it would be based on a payment to women of 20 years and over, at intervals of three years. In other cases it would cease at the age of 60, provided that at least two previous negative smears had been obtained.

Pain and the Mind

We regret that our report of the lecture given under this title by Professor W. H. Trehawson at the British Medical Journal Annual Conference, London (17 August, p. 325) omitted to state that it was a Wych lecture.

Notice to Authors

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