MEDICAL NEWS

New Professor at St. George's

Dr. A. E. Bennett, director of the health services evaluation group: community hospital programme, in the department of the regius professor of medicine at Oxford University, has been appointed to be the chair of clinical epidemiology and social medicine at St. George's Hospital Medical School, London, from January 1975. Dr. Bennett, who is 43, trained at the London Hospital and graduated M.B., B.S. London in 1955. After house posts at the London and service with the Royal Navy he became medical officer to the Wellcome Foundation Ltd., 1960-64. He was appointed lecturer in clinical epidemiology and social medicine at St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School in 1964 and promoted to senior lecturer in 1968. Dr. Bennett was appointed to his present post in 1970.

Increase in N.I. Payment for Self-employed

The B.M.A. is protesting to the Government about the proposed big increase in national insurance payments for the self-employed which would mean that general practitioners would have to pay £295.52 per year national insurance contributions from 1 April next year as compared with £125-32 at present. In a press statement Dr. Derek Stevenson, Secretary of the B.M.A., said:

"Leaders of general practitioners meeting at B.M.A. House last week pointed out that the increase was nothing less than the imposition of an additional tax on self-employed persons as it would be accompanied by no increase in benefits whatever. "This will harm still further the recruitment to general practice. The latest figures show that British born doctors are just not becoming family doctors any more. The gap is being filled by an increasing proportion of general practitioners from overseas. We are contacting the National Federation of the Self-Employed immediately offering support for action against the imposition of this tax discriminating against self-employed persons."

Association of Clinical Pathologists

At the annual general meeting held on 19 September the following officers were elected: president, Dr. F. Hampson; president-elect, Dr. G. K. McGowan; vice-presidents, Dr. E. J. Lowbury, Dr. E. H. Gillespie; chairman of council, Dr. A. G. Marshall; honorary secretary, Dr. A. C. Hunt; honorary treasurer, Dr. G. W. Pennington.

COMING EVENTS

- East Ham Memorial Hospital Medical Education Centre.—Series of lectures, "Recent Advances," every Friday (so far as possible), 12.30 p.m., from 11 October until before Christmas. Details from the clinical tutor, at the hospital, Shrewsbury Road, London E7 8QR. (Tel. 01-472 3332, ext. 22.)


- Institute of Cancer Research.—Series of oncology seminars, Wednesday evening, October—26 March, Royal Marsden Hospital, London S.W.3. Fee £1 (whole or part costs) for each lecture. Details and application forms from the dean's office, Institute of Cancer Research, Clifton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey SM2 9PX. (Tel. 01-643 8901, ext. 235.)

- B.M.A. (West Denbigh and Flint Division.—Symposium, "Help for the Handicapped," 11 November, Alexander Hall, Rhyl. Details from the secretary of the postgraduate centre, at the hospital.

- Chest and Heart Association.—Day conference, "Vocal and Speech Rehabilitation of the 'Stroke Patient,"' 5 November, Bloomsbury Centre Hotel, London W.C.1. Fee £5 (including lunch). Application forms and details from Wallace and Tyndall Medical Hall, Wellington House, 5 Wellcome Street, London W.C.1. (Tel. 01-831 3012.)

- Radioimmunoassay—Principles, Methods, and Applications to Detection of Antigens and Hormones, 9 November, City University, London E.C.1. Details from Scientific Symposium Ltd., 121 King Street, London W.6 7JQ. (Tel. 01-741 0303.)

- B.M.A. (East Norfolk and Norwich Division).—Day symposium, "Care of the Dying," 9 November, Norwich and Norfolk Hospital, organized jointly with Norwich Medical-Chirurgical Society and North Eastern Division of the Royal College of Medical Education. Details from secretary, N.A.F.H.C., Postgraduate Centre, Norwich, Norfolk N0R 5JA.

SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

- For attending lectures marked * a fee is charged or a ticket is required. Applications should be made first to the institution concerned.

- Monday, 14 October


- Tuesday, 15 October

INSTITUTE OF ROYAL COLLEGE OF CHIRURGICIANS.—4.30 p.m., Dr. D. A. Smith—Radiotherapy.

- Wednesday, 16 October

INSTITUTE OF REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY.—4.30 p.m., Dr. P. G. Goodship—Epidemiol Cell Genetics.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.—5.35 p.m., Ludden lecture by Dr. G. A. Sowby—Management of recurrent miscarriages.

ST. CHARLES'S HOSPITAL, LONDON.—4.45 p.m., Dr. P. T. F. Ford—Medical Negligence.

- Thursday, 17 October

AMHERST UNIVERSITY.—5 p.m, Sir Frank Young, F.R.S.—Insulin: its Discovery and Development. BRITISH INSTITUTE OF RADIOLOGY.—7.15 p.m., Silvina Tener of Radiotherapy Department; R. Kompern—Recent Advances in Acoustical Microscopy.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE.—4.30 p.m., Professor G. C. Cook—Malabscopins in Africa.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—5.15 p.m., Professor J. A. M. M. C. Pemberton—The Effects of the Aberdeen Study of Legal Abortion.

Friday, 18 October

LONDON SECTION, FAMILY PLANNING DOCTORS.—At Royal Society of Medicine, London W.1. 8.15 p.m., Dr. C. R. Kay: The R.C.G.P. Oral Contraceptive Update.

Sunday, 20 October

INSTITUTE OF LABYRINTHOLOGY AND OTOLARYNGOLOGY.—10.15 a.m., Mr. Henry Shaw: Mouth and Throat Cancer.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

BIRMINGHAM

Anatomical. — Mr. C. E. Newman (lecturer, department of surgery); Dr. A. H. Waldron (lecturer, department of social medicine).

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH

The Cullen prize for 1974 has been awarded to Dr. J. Tait, Edinburgh.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNECOLOGISTS

On 28 September Sir Stanley Clayton was re-elected president, Dame Josephine Barnes was elected senior vice-president, and Dr. Robin Murdoch was elected junior vice-president.

APPOINTMENTS

EASTERN HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD, NORWICH.—Mr. M. A. Tugger (chief administrative medical officer).

Corrections

Consideration of Weals

We regret that a printer's error was made in the title of the review of the book Urticaria, Major Problems in Dermatology, Vol. 1, by Robert P. Warin and Robert H. Champion (21 September, p. 817). We should have read "Consideration of Weals," not "Weals," as printed.

Integration of the Disabled

Dr. W. G. Shakespeare has asked us to state that he is a full time general practitioner doing sessional work in local authority health, and not Medical Officer, Bucks County Council, as stated in our news item of 28 September, p. 817.

Leprosy Essay Prize

This prize is offered by the British Leprosy Relief Association, and not by Bristol, as was inadvertently printed (28 September, p. 818). We are asked to state that the title of the essay and the closing date for Edinburgh students have not yet been chosen.

Idiodynsmy to Phenothalins in Phenylbutazone-associated Aplastic Anaemia

The second signatory of the letter on this subject (5 October, p. 48) was Dr. J. Barrett, not "Barratt" as stated.

Oral Contraceptives

In the paper by L. O. Pilgram et al. (31 August, p. 556) we regret that an error occurred in table II. The number of patients on Demulen should have been 1 instead of 7 as printed.

Notice to Authors

When original articles and letters for publication are not submitted exclusively to the British Medical Journal this must be stated.


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