

ing cough notifications had declined from 85,000 in 1957 to 2,400 last year and over the same period the number of deaths had dropped from 87 to two. Such figures illustrated the value of the immunization programme and the work that the joint committee was doing, he said.

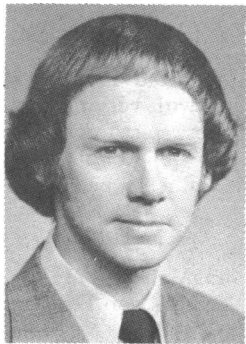
While a vaccination programme of any kind was carried out for the common benefit of society its primary purpose was to protect individuals, he said, and the fact that there was risk involved made it no different from many other medical procedures. The implications of compensation for the ill effects of vaccination where there was no question of negligence were very wide in the medical field, he said, and it was by no means easy either to decide whether disability was due to a particular procedure or what the right level of compensation for different disabilities should be. The view of successive Governments had been that the grant of compensation payments in those cases was not possible.

Mr. Morris stressed the deep concern and sympathy felt for the children who were unfortunate victims of vaccine damage and for their parents and said that action had not been limited to expressions of sympathy. Much had happened in recent years to alter the ways of looking at problems of that kind, he said, and the whole question was under review by the Royal Commission on Compensation and Civil Liability.

MEDICAL NEWS

Chair of Clinical Pharmacology, Manchester

Dr. George E. Mawer, senior lecturer in pharmacology, Manchester University, and honorary consultant physician, Manchester



Royal Infirmary, has been promoted to the chair of clinical pharmacology at Manchester. Dr. Mawer, who is 40, was educated at Blackpool Grammar School and at Edinburgh University, where he graduated in pharmacology in 1958 and in medicine in 1960.

Between 1961 and 1966 he worked in the departments of pharmacology and of therapeutics at Edinburgh. He then joined the department of pharmacology at Manchester and formed strong links with the department of medicine and other clinical units in the Manchester Royal Infirmary. Dr. Mawer's research has been mainly concerned with the handling of drugs in patients with kidney and liver disease, and the development of practical aids to calculate safe and effective doses for individual patients.

British Petition for Soviet Doctor

Nine hundred medical practitioners in Britain have signed a petition expressing concern at the fate of Dr. Mikhail Shtern of

Vinnitsa, in the Ukraine. Dr. Shtern, a well-known endocrinologist, was arrested in May this year and according to reports had been held without access to his family or to legal representation. It was not clear whether the charge against him is medical or political.

The letter of petition has been presented to the Soviet Embassy in London by Conscience, the Inter-Denominational Committee for Soviet Jewry.

Portugal and Cholera

The Department of Health and Social Security has been informed by the World Health Organization that Portugal has declared itself free of cholera from 28 November. Advice to travellers from the United Kingdom to Portugal (*B.M.J.*, 25 May, p. 453) therefore no longer applies.

SI Units

Reprints, with plastic covers, of the article on SI Units by D. N. Baron (*B.M.J.*, 30 November, p. 509) together with conversion scales are now available from the Publishing Manager, British Medical Journal, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR. Price 50p including postage.

Change of Address of R.C.Psych.

From 19 December the new address of the Royal College of Psychiatrists will be: 17 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG (tel. 01-235 2351-5).

COMING EVENTS

Institute of Urology.—Symposium, "Paediatric Urology," 30 January-1 February, jointly with Institute of Child Health. For details see advertisement on page xi.

Basingstoke Area Postgraduate Medical and Dental Society.—Copies and details of the programme, January-April, are obtainable from the postgraduate centre, Basingstoke and District Hospital, Aldermaston Road, Basingstoke, Hants. RG24 9NA. (Tel. Basingstoke 3202, extn. 6177.)

Exeter Postgraduate Medical Centre.—Copies and details of the programme, January-April, are obtainable from the clinical tutor, at the centre, Barrack Road, Exeter, Devon. (Tel. Exeter 70018.)

Centre for Postgraduate Psychiatry, Birmingham.—Details of the programme, including monthly meetings, January-June, are obtainable from the postgraduate secretary, Charles Burns and Uffculme Clinics, Queensbridge Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8QD. (Tel. 021-449 4011.)

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

DUBLIN

M.D.—Beulah R. Bewley, R. G. S. Platts, D. J. Sheridan, H. C. Spratt.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS

M.R.C.Psych.—A. A. Alani, M. K. F. Al-Farekh, A. A. R. Al Husaini, P. E. Bebbington, J. D. Behan, Padma D. Benjamin, B. P. Bishop, J. M. K. Bluglass, Rosemary Bucherat, A. C. Carr, Judith M. Chittenden, Kathleen M. Clark, J. P. Cobb, Rosemarie V. Cope, L. Corbett, C. G. Cumming, Mary M. Darby, Sandra R. Davies, H. A. Dickinson, Christine L. Dunbar, A. El Dein El-Hinnawy, M. O. A. El Marazki, A. R. H. El Rasoul, Alicia Etchegoyen, M. A. Ezzat, D. R. Franks, M. B. Gayner, Maureen T. Gledhill, Goh Choo Woon, E. O. Göktepe, Joan R. Gomez, Pratibha Handa, A. H. Jacques, S.H. Md. S. H. Jaigirdar, D. H. James, P. M. Jefferys, R. W. Jones, R. G. Jones, S. D. Joshua, Shanti Karunakaran, Narinder Kaur, Rosalind A. King, M. A. Kinston, B. B. Kumet, D. R. Kunwar, Itamveeti N. Kutty, J. Lambourn, R. D. Leibl, R. J. McClelland, A. J. Macdonald, D. W. Macdonald, R. O. A. Makanjuola, Margaret R. Malcolm, Rachel E. Maule, R. T. G. Merry,

Yvonne I. Michael, S. A. Montgomery, I. D. Munsadia, R. MacG. Murray, R. K. R. Nair, Antula D. Nikapota, K. P. O'Brien, F. P. O'Donoghue, M. A. Palejwala, H. M. Parhad, S. E. S. Parhad, Quek Seng Lian, K. Rai, P. Randell, B. K. Rathod, B. P. Rigby, R. F. Rockstro, Sowtharaleela Ryan, M. A. F. Saad, Adel Sadek, Lakkapuram M. Sakthivel, Christina F. Salter, E. J. Salter, J. P. D. Scott, Shirley Seaton, M. A. Sevvitt, M. R. Shah, M. E. Shariatmadari, Shum Ping-Shiu, Anne H. W. Smith, B. U. Sreenarasimhaiah, E. F. C. Stamp, A. K. Suri, P. J. K. Swords, Joan Thomson, A. P. Thorley, P. J. M. Urwin, N. A. G. Wagner, T. Walmley, A. C. White, A. P. Whyte, Rosemary W. Williams, J. B. Woolridge, R. M. Wrate, J. J. Wright.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND

F.F.A., R.C.S.I.—Priyatosh Banerjee, B. N. Brady, R. Concannon, F. M. A. Ghandour, J. D. Greaves, I. A. Haggag, J. N. Hamilton, N. T. Kenny, M. A. Khan, Ah Loi Lee, R. M. Mehta, G. N. P. Nolan, S. G. Smith, C. R. Varadarajan, J. M. Watt, V. O. Akinsete.

F.F.R.—J. P. Corry, P. J. Hurley, L. Preger.

APPOINTMENTS

WESSEX R.H.A.(T).—The following consultants have been appointed: Dr. R. B. Buchanan (radiotherapy); Mr. R. E. Butler (ophthalmic surgery); Dr. M. E. S. Hughes (child and family psychiatry); Dr. V. B. Whittaker (rheumatology and rehabilitation).

Corrections

Medical Nemesis

In the leading article on "Medical Nemesis" (7 December, p. 549) the quotation in line 21 should have read: "... the Radcliffe will be forced to continue to choose between its patients. Reluctantly it has chosen neglect for those with non-lethal surgical conditions... the remainder are all patients with priority claims on the hospital's facilities, either as emergencies or needing urgent preventive treatment, and... there will not be room for them all." Footnotes 4 and 5 should have read: Maxwell, R. J., *McKinsey Quarterly*, Spring 1974, p. 2, and Oppenheimer, C., *The Times*, 11 November 1974, p. 16. We regret these errors.

Open Access to Hospital Departments

We regret that a printing error occurred in the letter from Dr. P. A. T. Wood (7 December, p. 594). In the first line of the last paragraph the word "contraindication" should read "contradiction."

Zuckerman Report and Radiology

We regret that a printing error occurred in the letter from Dr. W. R. R. Thursfield and others (7 December, p. 593). In the first line of the last paragraph the word "our" should have read "other."

Prevention of Exercise-induced Asthma by Indoramin

We regret that two printing errors occurred in the paper by Professor S. Bianco and others (5 October, p. 18). In the fourth line of the second paragraph of the Results section the SGaw value 0.088 kPa⁻¹s⁻¹ should have read 0.88 kPa⁻¹s⁻¹, and in table II the value for case 8 at 90 minutes should have read 1.00, not 0.10 as printed.

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